

Coyote bounty kills hit 18,000 in Sask.

Last Updated: Friday, February 19, 2010 | 1:45 PM CT [Comments 267](#)[Recommend 69](#)

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A coyote prowls the Saskatchewan prairie somewhere between Kerrobert and Kindersley. (Submitted by Vera Csada)

Less than four months after Saskatchewan's coyote bounty program was announced, 18,000 coyotes have been killed.

The government gave an update on the Saskatchewan Coyote Control Program on Friday.

Agriculture Minister Bob Bjornerud, who introduced the \$20-an-animal bounty last November, said he's pleased with the number of people who have participated, but he'd like to see a lot more coyotes killed in the weeks ahead.

A government news release said nearly 18,000 coyotes were killed for fur in the previous fiscal year without the government paying people. In an average year, the kill number is around 21,000, according to the Environment Ministry.

Bjornerud said he hopes 35,000 can be killed by the end of March.

"For this to really do the job that we had hoped it would do, we've got to

be at least [at] 30,000, somewhere in that area," he said.

The government will spend \$600,000 if 30,000 coyotes are killed.

People must bring in all four paws to get their money.

The province introduced the program amid widespread concerns that coyotes were destroying sheep, cattle and other livestock.

There have also been concerns about dangers to humans in rural areas. Bjornerud noted that coyotes have become bolder, coming into farmyards during daylight hours while families are working outside.

Some wildlife and environmental groups have expressed skepticism that the bounty would be effective at eliminating the coyotes that prey on farm animals, claiming that only the weaker, slower coyotes would be killed.

The Green Party said the money the province is spending could be better spent helping farmers pay for fences and livestock guardian dogs.

It notes that a bounty program was tried, and cancelled, in Nova Scotia because coyotes simply had bigger litters when their numbers dropped.

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[saskatchewanwinner](#) wrote: Posted 2010/02/23

at 5:14 AM ET Wolves are also becoming very prolific up here...

young children are a nice meal for them...

be careful

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hottest wrote: Posted 2010/02/23

at 2:25 AM ET After reading all the posts here. I haven't read any better solutions other than the one that is taking place right now and I think we can expect to see more programs like this in other provinces. Or if not I'm Thinking about starting a derby.

As for all the comments about this not working well I think the proof is in the past Like when we had a fur trade. In 1982 we were getting 150 dollars for a winter coyote hide and we didn't even have to skin them. Now back then they were also alot more scarce and if they were so called having more pups well it wasn't enough and I'm sure that their food source didn't evaporate.

Conclusion of course the cull will work and it will come along way from eliminating them. Just control them. When you take away one method then you have to come up with another. This is called conservation NOT preservation.

copied and posted 11:26 pm pst

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boboman52 wrote: Posted 2010/02/22

at 3:03 PM ET American79 wrote:

"For Someone so smart you should know POISONS ARE BANNED!"

FYI, dude, poisons are legal in Alberta (where I'm from) if you get the necessary permits. LOL LMAO ROFLMAO YSS

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boboman52 wrote: Posted 2010/02/22

at 3:02 PM ET American79 wrote:

"I spent well out of my 30yrs 17 of them hunting fishing, been a surveyor out west, Spent years with fellow conservation workers done studies (My family and friends are conservation officials)."

Then you shouldn't have any trouble finding data which supports your belief the coyote populations can be controlled by culling, should you?

- [13](#)

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[Canadian79](#) wrote: Posted 2010/02/22

at 2:47 PM ET Dear Bete Noire

I suggest you read the topic before writing!

Or write why you disagree with the coyote problem, until then keep an eye out for your pets as it would be a shame if they ended up as MR coyotes lunch! Tell me how your feelings or perspective would change then!

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