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June 1995

## The Probe, Issue # 155 -- June 1995

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# Understanding the Eastern Coyote - Part II\*

*Thomas N. Tomsa, Jr., USDA-APHIS-ADC, Pennsylvania*

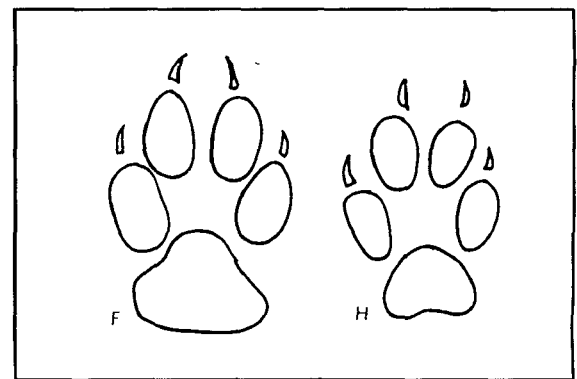
## Coyote/Livestock Conflicts in the East

Coyote damage problems which have surfaced in the Eastern United States in the last decade are not unlike those experienced historically throughout the West. Most eastern coyote damage complaints involve livestock depredations, with hundreds of sheep, goats, calves and other domestic animals killed or injured annually in many eastern states. As might be expected, sheep losses occur more frequently than losses of other types of livestock. According to the New York Agricultural Statistics Service, an estimated 4,734 sheep, valued at \$387,550, were lost to coyotes in New York from 1985-1988. The National Agricultural Statistics Service reported loss estimates of 4,100 sheep in 1990 and 700 calves in 1991 in Virginia. Although sheep losses are more frequent, cattle and calf losses may be more economically significant in some areas. The physical and behavioral characteristics which make eastern coyotes efficient deer predators also enable them to kill calves much larger than those typically considered to be vulnerable to predation. The USDA's Animal Damage Control program (ADC) verified the loss of 1 cow and 29 calves (some exceeding 250 pounds) in Virginia in 1991 and 1992. Nearly as many additional calves were reported missing and suspected lost to coyotes during the same period, but no remains or other evidence were found. ADC experience has shown that calf losses may be more difficult to verify, due to more complete consumption or removal of carcasses. Like many people, coyotes appear to prefer beef to mutton. Often all that remains of a coyote-killed calf carcass is scattered hair, chunks of hide, and a few vertebrae. A similar pattern has been observed in the use of white-tailed deer by coyotes in the Adirondacks (Brock 1992), where a pack dismembers and feeds extensively on its kill, carrying away any uneaten portions for later use. When coyotes kill sheep and lambs, feeding is generally limited to the ribcage and viscera, leaving a substantial portion of the carcass available for diagnostic examination.

## Coyote-Human Interactions

As coyote and human populations continue to expand and as coyotes continue to habituate to humans at the urban-suburban interface, the incidence of coyote aggression toward humans and pets is expected to increase. Reports of coyotes brazenly at-

tacking and feeding on cats and dogs in residential areas during daylight hours have been verified in Maryland, New York (ADC-NY 1988), and Virginia (ADC-VA 1993). This pattern seems to parallel one which began to develop around 1975 in Los Angeles County, California, where suburban homeowners reported coyote behavior including: staring through windows at the family dog or cat; sleeping on a chaise lounge on the back porch; chasing a dog or cat through a "doggie door" into



the kitchen; snatching a dog off the leash; carrying a freshly killed cat down the street; and feeding on a poodle in full view of passing motorists (Howell 1982). Although incidents such as these generate considerable public concern, the consequences of coyote habituation to humans can be much more serious. The literature documents 9 attacks on children between 1 and 5 years of age, who were apparently regarded as prey, during the last 15 years (Howell 1982, Carbyn 1989). One of these attacks that involved a 3-year-old girl in Glendale, California was fatal. At least 4 minor attacks on adults, ages 17-67, have been documented as well (Howell 1982). One case involved a young woman attempting to save her dog from a coyote attack; the others were random attacks on 3 men that were walking, jogging, and skiing, respectively.

In the East, at least 6 incidents involving coyote aggression toward humans have been reported

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*\*Reprinted by permission from "Technical Notes," newsletter of the Northeast Association of Wildlife Damage Biologists.*

# Book Review — “The Dirt Hole and Its Variations”

Stephen Vantassel, NWCOCoorespondent

*The Dirt Hole and Its Variations.* Charles Dobbins, author.

If you are wanting to learn how to put some creativity in your dirt hole trapping, then this is the book for you. Although land foothold trapping is illegal in my state of Massachusetts, I thought a review of this book would still be informative to PROBE readers. This is especially true in light of the fact that Massachusetts may soon allow padded jaw footholds on land.

*The Dirt Hole and Its Variations* is Charles Dobbins' latest book. This text was written to be a companion manual for his video on the same subject. The chapters follow the order contained in the video and he has included a number at the beginning of each chapter to let the reader know how many minutes into the video this chapter takes place. The book has been written with brevity and clarity. You won't find the text cluttered with self-aggrandizing stories about how many fox Mr. Dobbins caught last season. Like his other books, Mr. Dobbins has written a work that will inform you, not waste your time.

The book opens with the obligatory yet meaningful discussion on needed equipment and trap modification. I believe that reading it would be profitable not only to newcomers (like myself) but for accomplished predator trappers, too. Next, Mr. Dobbins discusses that all important step of proper trap stabilization, underscored by the fact that 10 pages of this 72-page book are dedicated to this topic. I was quite impressed with the way that dirt would be packed under the jaws and frame to prevent jarring and ultimately premature firing. How Mr. Dobbins did this with a trap which would fire if the pan moved 1/32 of an inch without continually catching his fingers is a wonder to me.

Most of the following 50 pages are dedicated to explaining 16 different kinds of dirt hole sets. The variety stems from either exploiting a particular habit of canines or by making a set different enough to reduce trap-wise suspicion. For example, the dirt hole with urine is made knowing that the fox won't work the site because urine means “no food”. However, fox will come by for a quick look. To catch this quick glancing fox, Mr. Dobbins explains how to place small barriers around the trap to encourage the fox to place its foot where you want it. Another technique exploits the manner that gray fox approach a set which Mr. Dobbins contends is different than red fox or coyote. I think scientists who need to capture predators for various studies would do well to glean techniques on their capture from this book.

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## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 16-21, 1995: 10th International Conference on Bear Research and Management.** University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK.

Contact: Harry Reynolds, AK Dept. of Fish & Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599. Telephone (907) 452-1531. FAX (907) 452-6410.

**August 8-10, 1995: Bird Strike Committee—USA 1995.** Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas. Contact: James E. Forbes, USDA/APHIS/ADC, P.O. Box 97, Albany, NY 12201-0097. Telephone (518) 431-4190.

**August 8-10, 1995: Symposium on Repellents in Wildlife Management, Sheraton Hotel, Denver Tech Center, Denver, Colorado.** Includes papers on these topics: *Characteristics of Repellency, Bird and Mammal Repellents, Sensory and Feeding Repellents, Conservation Use Applications, Requirements for New Products, and Future Research Needs.* Contact: Office of Conference Services, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523. Telephone (303) 491-7501 or FAX (303) 491-0667.

**October 8-11, 1995: Annual Conference of The Society for Vector Control, Holiday Inn University Park, Fort Collins, Colorado.** Contact: Justine Keller, P.O. Box 87, Santa Ana, CA 92702, Telephone (714) 971-2421, FAX (714) 971-3940.

**November 5-8, 1995: Seventh Eastern Wildlife Damage Management Conference, Holiday Inn North, Jackson, Mississippi.** Contact: Phil Mastrangelo, USDA/APHIS/ADC, P.O. Drawer FW, Room 200, Forest Resources Bldg., Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. *NADCA Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with this Conference.*

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Your contributions to *The Probe* are welcome. Please send news clippings, new techniques, publications, and meeting notices to *The Probe*, c/o Hopland Research & Extension Center, 4070 University Road, Hopland, CA 95449. If you prefer to FAX material, our FAX number is (707) 744-1040. The deadline for submitting material is the 15th of each month. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of NADCA.

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# ADC News, Tips, Ideas , Publications . . .

## All Texas Counties Quarantined for Rabies

The Texas Department of Health recently announced the approval of emergency rules which designated all Texas counties as a quarantine area to prevent the spread of rabies. According to the Texas Animal Damage Control Program, the quarantine forbids the transport of potentially infected animals within or from the state. The quarantine applies to "any high risk" animal, including dog/wolf crosses, skunks, foxes, coyotes, bats, and raccoons, as well as domestic cats and dogs over three months of age that do not have a corresponding current official rabies vaccination certificate.

At the present time, officials are waiting indications that a recent Oral Rabies Vaccine Bait Drop project has slowed the spread of canine rabies.

## Ravenous Vultures Decimating Sheep & Calves on the East Coast

Cattle and sheep producers on the East Coast are on the lookout these days for "...one of the largest flocks of vultures ever seen east of the Mississippi River." According to a report in the April 19 issue of the Fort Collins *Coloradoan*, wildlife officials believe that between 1,500 and 3,000 of the hulking birds nest in a thicket at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant near Radford, Virginia. The vultures, commonly known as buzzards, spend their days flying over nearby farms preying on sheep and live calves. "I've counted about 100 going at a cow," said Richard Frizzell, a local rancher who had already lost 10 calves this year to the bald-headed predators. "It's really quite scary."

Stock producers are finding little relief. While they have tried a variety of scare tactics, such as driving their tractors at full speed at attacking birds, throwing rocks, and setting off fireworks, their losses continue to mount. Black vultures, like most migratory birds, are federally protected by an international treaty signed in 1936. Shooting one can bring a fine of up to \$5,000 and six months in jail.

In the face of increased attacks, the Virginia Farm Bureau has taken the unusual measure of requesting federal permission so that Virginia farmers can shoot the birds. Farmers can apply for a one-year "kill permit," with the requirement of proof that domestic animals were killed or injured by the vultures.

Concern over possible human/wildlife conflict is on the rise. In recent years, wildlife officials from Maryland to Florida have received reports that the aggressive vultures have turned their attention to house pets and small children.

*The editors of The PROBE thank contributors to this issue: John Consolini, Stephen Vantassel, Mike Fall, James E. Forbes, and Wes Jones. Send your contributions to The PROBE, 4070 University Road, Hopland, CA 95449.*

## Four-Year-Old Dies of Rabies

In Washington state's first case of human rabies in 56 years, a four-year-old Centralia girl died in March. Officials believed the child was exposed to the disease after contact with a rabid bat which was found in her bedroom. A report in the March 16, 1995 issue of the *Journal American* stated that the family had not reported the incident because when they discovered the bat, they examined the girl for bite marks and had found none.

When the youngster began to display symptoms, they were at first attributed to family problems. Her father had recently died and she and her brothers and sisters had moved in with an aunt and uncle. Everyone who had possible contact with the child was notified of the danger and were told to seek vaccinations if there was a possibility they had been exposed.

Between 1980 and 1989, 12 human deaths occurred in the United States from rabies. Five cases were acquired within the U.S., while seven were contracted outside the country. The Centralia girl's death is the first human U.S. rabies fatality since 1989.

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## Welcome NUWMA!

It all happened at the NADCA Membership meeting, April 10, 1995, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The National Urban Wildlife Management Association (NUWMA) officially merged with NADCA, to create one larger, more effective organization to work for professional Animal Damage Control. The official merger was jointly announced by Wes Jones, NADCA President, pro. tem. and NUWMA Secretary Kevin D. Clark.

The merger is effective May 1.

The merger will result in several changes. Former NUWMA members will have their NADCA membership extended by eight months (the amount that remained on their NUWMA Membership). Former NUWMA members whose membership has expired will be contacted and offered the opportunity to join NADCA.

Other changes are: (1) NUWMA, which is now officially disbanded, will donate the balance of its treasury to NADCA. (2) Former NUWMA President Mike Godfrey will serve as ad hoc Director and will participate in NADCA meetings and conference calls until December 1995, when elections are held. (3) Former NUWMA secretary Kevin Clark will be appointed to serve on the NADCA Certification Committee, which is currently chaired by Larry Brown. Other former NUWMA members serving on this committee are Lynn Braband and Jim Kruijs. (4) In addition, I will soon appoint an Urban Wildlife Affairs Committee to make recommendations on this specialized area of animal damage control. I would greatly appreciate

*Continued on page 5, col. 1*

# State-Endangered Species: Meaningful Management or Preservationist Politics?

Richard B. Chipman, Wildlife Biologist, USDA-APHIS-ADC, Vermont;  
Co-Editor, Technical Notes

It's hard to pick up a newspaper or magazine these days without seeing something on endangered species. It's one of those emotionally charged wildlife management issues that gets the public and wildlife professionals vehemently expressing their views on property rights, preservation, management, effectiveness, and program costs. Issues are often argued in black and white, with middle of the road opinions quickly trampled.

Never have I heard more strident debate on endangered species issues among wildlife biologists than in the area of state endangered species. Providing local protection for globally common species can on the surface seem like management overkill. For instance, in Vermont we have provided special protected status to the misleadingly named common tern and common loon and to game and furbearer species like the spruce grouse and pine marten. Admittedly, this parochial management approach must seem strange to some. In fact, at a recent wildlife conference I heard it remarked by a respected colleague that the concept of a state endangered species was just plain "stupid."

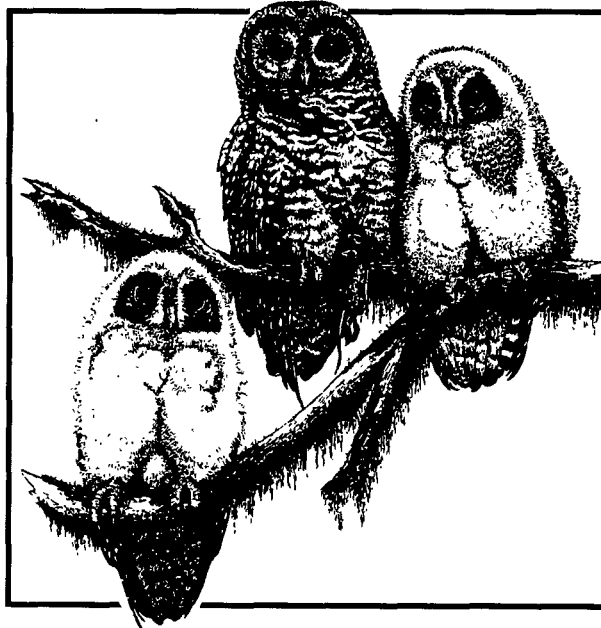
I disagree. There are many good reasons to manage locally rare and peripheral species at the state level. In a recent article in the *Maine Naturalist*, University of Maine professor Mac Hunter outlined five broad reasons why management of globally secure, but locally rare species merit our management attention. He argues that protection of peripheral species is important at the state level because these species: (1) help maintain the full complement of genetic diversity for each species; (2) add to local ecosystem diversity; (3) have societal importance at the local level that may lead to support for other wildlife programs; (4) may act as umbrella species providing protection for other poorly researched species and; (5) can provide a testing ground for management practices that have implications for globally declining species. I would add that by protecting these species we may take a "first line of defense" management approach to guard against further erosion of a species' range. Conceptually, I believe all these justifications for management make good biological

sense and deserve our professional support.

However, when balancing the needs of globally common species with potential risks to human health and safety, it may be undesirable to manage for rare species at the local level that actually create a hazard. State endangered species biologists may press hard for habitat management to promote and protect state listed species on airports, while wildlife damage biologists may feel the only responsible management position is to discourage these species from the airport altogether.

Clearly wildlife managers on both sides of the issue need to guard against a "sky is falling" approach to wildlife management. Despite the fact history tells us that a bird strike may result in the sky actually falling, polarization of the debate among professionals is not in the best interest of the wildlife resource or the public. There is no doubt that there are instances where localized population suppression including state endangered species is warranted to reduce public safety hazards. However, I do not believe it is reasonable, practical or even desirable for us to adopt a standard management mantra that all wildlife on airports regardless of the actual threat or population status of the species need to be reduced or eliminated. In my opinion, that would not meet the definition of wildlife management or our professional responsibilities.

Instead we need to cooperatively address important fundamental questions about wildlife management goals and objectives on airports. I believe that state agencies have a responsibility to clearly outline biologically defensible, long-term management objectives (including state-wide population goals) for state listed species and to be more flexible on management issues that affect human health and safety. On the other side, biologists working to reduce hazards at airports need to realistically look at both state wildlife management goals and the true nature of risks associated with state-listed species. As a general rule, wildlife damage biologists are a very pragmatic group of professionals. We must move forward and find new, quantitative parameters



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# NADCA Membership Meeting

Wes Jones, NADCA Treasurer

The NADCA Membership meeting at the 12th Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshop on April 10 was attended by approximately 40 people. Officers present included our two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and one Regional Director. Treasurer Wes Jones chaired this informal meeting with a goal to gain input from the "grassroots". There was good interaction from present and several new or potential members.

There was some discussion regarding the disbanding of the United Conservation Alliance. We have been a financial supporter of this organization in the past. It was recommended that we do give monetary support to WLF (Wildlife Legislative Fund) instead. At the next teleconference of the Board of Directors a proposal will be made to donate \$250 to this worthy organization.

There was a discussion of "white papers". The Board needs to decide how these drafts, now near ready, should be distributed for revision, editing, or acceptance. Watch these pages for future reports from the chair of this committee, Guy Connolly.

A highlight of the membership meeting was the presentation to NADCA of a check for \$1,000 by Barthell Joseph of Reed Joseph. This distributor of Animal Damage Control supplies has been a staunch supporter of NADCA for many years. Again we thank you, Barthell.

Kevin Clark of National Urban Wildlife Management Association reported to the group that NUWMA was in the final process of merging with NADCA. Current members of NUWMA will be given memberships in NADCA through the end of 1995. NUWMA members that are also NADCA members will have their membership extended appropriately. We were given a copy of their current mailing list. We welcome this action that should strengthen our organization for mutual benefit.

The meeting was ended with the sale of the last of our caps by R.D. Heinen. Those not present are not to be left out, however, as a new supply should be on hand about the time this reaches print.

The next meeting of NADCA members will be the Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi. Check the "Calendar" in these pages for more details as a program is developed.

# Trapping Weasels

James Forbes, NADCA President

As spring slips into summer, weasel trapping has ended but beaver trapping continues. In fact, a colleague told me last month that "the wildlife management dream of reestablishing the beaver in North America is rapidly becoming a wildlife management nightmare." I don't know if that is true. However, there certainly are more beavers than weasels to trap these days.

Speaking of beaver trapping, the Virginia ADC Program is looking to hire a beaver trapper. As Chairman of the NADCA Employment Committee, I provided the Virginia State Director with a set of résumés of NADCA members looking for trapping jobs. I also provided similar sets of résumés on both technicians and wildlife biologists to people with job openings in Florida and Tennessee.

If you would like to take advantage of this service provided by the NADCA Employment Committee, you should contact: James E. Forbes, RD 4, Box 33, Averill Park, New York 12018. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed business-sized envelope and I will send you a set of official NADCA résumés with instructions.

I'm happy to report the merger of NUWMA and NADCA was completed by Wes Jones and Kevin Clark at the NADCA Membership Meeting, held in conjunction with the Twelfth Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshop. You'll find more about the merger, elsewhere in this issue.

Wes Jones tells me that the Twelfth Great Plains Workshop was excellent. This wonderful training experience was co-sponsored by NADCA. You, the NADCA members make possible a lot of excellent training opportunities through your dues, which in part are used to sponsor these meetings. Other upcoming meetings to be sponsored by NADCA are the Symposium on Repellents in Denver (August 8 - 10th), and the Seventh Eastern Wildlife Damage Conference in Jackson, Mississippi, in November.

The NADCA Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with Seventh Eastern in Jackson, Mississippi and I urge all to try to attend. I'd also like to point out that if bird hazard to aircraft reduction is your bag, keep in mind the Fifth Annual Bird Strike Committee—USA Meeting, August 8 - 10, 1995, at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

Well, we are kind of getting off the track of trapping beavers and weasels — so I'd better close. See you next month.

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## Welcome NUWMA

it if anyone interested in serving on this committee would contact me. (5) Former NUWMA state affiliate chapters are being encouraged to become NADCA affiliate chapters. Information on NADCA affiliation has been provided to both of the former New York and Ohio NUWMA chapters.

Finally, I wish to recognize the importance of the former NUWMA and the contribution that it and its members have made to the field of wildlife damage control during the year of its operations. And most importantly, WELCOME TO NADCA, ONE AND ALL! James Forbes, NADCA President

## **Understanding the Eastern Coyote - Part II**

in the last 4 years. Curiously, all of involved adults and only 1 occurred in an urban-suburban environment (Poughkeepsie, New York), where a pedestrian was bitten by a coyote that emerged from a brushy area and then vanished as quickly as it had appeared. The other cases involved 2 separate instances in which hunters were attacked by packs of coyotes in Vermont (Smith 1992), a hunter in Virginia chased from his 4-wheeler into a tree who watched in disbelief as the coyote attacked his ATV (VDGIF report), a trapper working for the Pennsylvania Game Commission on a coyote telemetry study being confronted and chased by an aggressive subject, and a tree service employee working with a brush-clearing crew near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania was attacked by 5 coyotes while negotiating a trail through a powerline cut. In the latter incident the attack behavior was persistent, with 2 of the 5 coyotes pursuing the individual as he attempted to escape. The victim was transported by coworkers to the Poly Clinic in Harrisburg, where he was treated for puncture wounds and lacerations to the arms and legs, given tetanus and post-exposure rabies inoculations.

### **Management Considerations**

Wildlife management agencies in many eastern states have embraced the coyote as a new, valuable wildlife resource, affording it the protected status of "furbearer" or "game animal", and regulate coyote harvests by limiting seasons, methods of take, etc. While such protection is probably unnecessary (the removal of protective regulations would probably result in little or no impact on coyote populations), it demonstrates a responsibility to the resource consistent with the conservation ethic so highly valued by an educated society. In their efforts to promote an attitude of peaceful coexistence, many wildlife managers and officials respond to public concerns about risks posed by coyotes to people, pets, livestock, and natural resources with assurances that these fears are unfounded. Generally speaking, this response may be appropriate. It seems unlikely that economic impacts and threats to human health and safety attributed to coyotes in the East will approach those caused by white-tailed deer, which may be our most valued wildlife resource. However, these individuals and agencies may ultimately be compromising their credibility and shirking a greater responsibility to both the wildlife resource and the public by being unaware of, or ignoring recent history, thereby assuring its repetition. Because of the tremendous amount of publicity they receive, even a small number of coyote-human interactions resulting in injury or death of people or pets will reinforce the "predator stigma" and probably result in significant pressures on managing agencies to shift objectives toward population reduction. Government agencies that manage public use areas may even be held liable for damages resulting from wild animal attacks. Conversely, conflicts that create negative attitudes toward coyotes and wildlife agencies are likely to be minimized if wildlife managers can promote tolerance and appreciation of the species

while at the same time making their audiences aware of potential negative impacts of coyotes, and equipping them to avoid such interactions.

The ability to reduce the impacts of coyote damage on agricultural producers through integrating education and demonstration with on-site technical assistance and limited operations assistance has been demonstrated in cooperative coyote damage control programs in New York (1987-1990) and Virginia (1990-present). Implementation of ADC recommendations including fence improvement and modification, night confinement, livestock guarding dogs, predator frightening devices, and removal of chronic, persistent depredating coyotes using foot-hold traps, neck snares (VA only), and calling and shooting resulted in significant reductions in predation loss rates for cooperating producers in both states (Tomsa and Forbes 1989, VA Coop. Damage Control Program 1991, 1992).

Coyote-human conflicts in residential areas can be minimized if people in these areas are educated as well. Suburbanites should be taught to expect coyotes to adapt to areas around human habitation, and that occasional coyote sightings around these areas are simply an indication that this process is occurring and no cause for alarm. Although most coyotes will never become a threat to people or their pets, bold behavior such as approaching the vicinity of dwellings, people, or domestic animals during daylight hours may indicate an animal has lost its natural fear of people and should be considered unpredictable. While there is still no cause for panic in this situation, reasonable precautions to protect against any possible danger (e.g. avoid leaving small children or pets in the yard unattended) should be considered until appropriate actions can be taken to eliminate the threat. These actions may include: improvement of household garbage containment; reducing the availability of pet foods and free-ranging pets; rodent control; and selective removal of aggressive coyotes in problem areas (Howell 1982).

The documented accounts of coyote attacks on adults (Howell 1982, Carbyn 1989) seem to indicate that in several cases the attack behavior may have been inadvertently aggravated by the behavior of the victims. These attacks may be at least partially attributable to the strong, instinctive "chase" response exhibited by canines when flight behavior is perceived. In most of the cases documented, the victims were walking, running (either recreationally or in an attempt to escape a confrontation with an aggressive coyote or coyotes), or riding a horse or ATV. This evidence suggests that there is a need to teach people how to react to a confrontation where a potential for aggression exists. Biologists should promote standing one's ground; raising and waving the arms and any object available to create the illusion of increased size or height; and acting unafraid will intimidate

most potentially aggressive coyotes. However, succumbing to the urge to run away may invite chase and attack behavior.

A wise wildlife biologist once made the profound observation that "90% of wildlife management is people management" Whoever he was, he would probably agree that if we can manage the behavior of people effectively, and if, through our efforts, people can learn what to expect from coyotes as well as coyotes have learned what to expect from people, we won't have to worry so much about managing coyote damage in the future.

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*Continued from page 2*

## Book Report. . .

The book has a copious amount of clear black-and-white photographs which on the whole do a fine job in showing what Mr. Dobbins is telling. Since Mr. Dobbins has not included an index, I would strongly recommend reading the entire book through before applying any of the techniques. The reason is that the chapters interweave with one another. In order to obtain all the necessary information you will need to read the entire book because what was skipped in one chapter will be mentioned in another. For example, chapters on how to blend a set and utilize dead grass don't occur until the end of the book. So failing to read the whole book may result in making an error in blending or use of dead grass. Fortunately, the book can be quickly read, in about an hour's time.

I have no criticism of this marvelous book except to point out to the reader that Mr. Dobbins doesn't include "the foot down dirt set" as described by Joseph Bauman in his book *How to Trap & Snare Predators* (p.39). I don't know why this set wasn't included (and I am confident that there are others). So let me caution the reader that while this book describes a number of dirt hole sets, don't expect it to be the encyclopedic catalog of all possible dirt hole sets.

You can obtain your post paid copy by sending \$9.00 to Charles Dobbins, P.O. Box 7082 Canton, OH 44705.

Stephen Vantassel, E-mail ADCTRAPPER@aol.com

## Jack H. Berryman 1995 Leopold Award Winner

Jack H. Berryman, former Extension Wildlife Specialist, FWS Administrator, and Executive Director of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife agencies, is the recipient of this year's Aldo Leopold Award. This prestigious award, the highest award presented by The Wildlife Society, was announced and presented at the recent North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, held in Alaska.

Mr. Berryman has been a strong supporter of Extension Fish and Wildlife programs for many, many years and was one of the leaders in getting the former Extension Service, USDA to establish a Natural Resources Unit in 1979. In addition, he established the Office of Extension Education in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and was instrumental in helping get the Renewable Resources Extension Act passed in 1978 and funded in 1982. Mr. Berryman was administrator of the Animal Damage Control program within the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Dept. of the Interior, from 1965 through 1974.

Now retired, Mr. Berryman can be congratulated at 2082 Steeple Place, Lake Ridge, Virginia 22192.

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## Endangered Species

for assigning wildlife hazard ranks and managing these species appropriately. Fortunately, Animal Damage Control biologists in New Jersey have been working on an innovative way of assigning hazard management rankings to birds on the airport. Although the process is still being refined, I look forward to including their ideas in an upcoming issue of "Technical Notes". I applaud them for going out on a limb and breaking new ground in our rapidly changing profession.

Congress recognized the importance of endangered species when it wrote in the first paragraph of the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 that "endangered species of fish, wildlife and plants are of aesthetic, ecological, recreational, educational, historical, and scientific value to the nation and its people." In my opinion, the same holds true for state-endangered species. We, as wildlife damage biologists, need to provide leadership and voice realistic, ecologically sound approaches to balancing society's desire to protect rare, threatened, and endangered wildlife with their concurrent desire to protect public health and safety.

*\*This editorial originally appeared in the summer/fall 1993 edition of "Technical Notes," the newsletter of the Northeast Association of Wildlife Damage Biologists.*



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**Membership Application**

**NATIONAL ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL ASSOCIATION**

Mail to: Wes Jones, Treasurer, Route 1 Box 37, Shell Lake, WI 54871, Phone: (715) 468-2038

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Home

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Office

Additional Address Info: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Class: Student \$10.00 Active \$20.00 Sponsor \$40.00 Patron \$100 (Circle one)

*Check or Money Order payable to NADCA*

Select one type of occupation or principal interest:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pest Control Operator  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USDA - APHIS - ADC or SAT          | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USDA - Extension Service           | <input type="checkbox"/> ADC Equipment/Supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal - not APHIS or Extension   | <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Trapper                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator | <input type="checkbox"/> University             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____             |   |

*The Probe*