

Policy Analysis Worksheet

Our Policy Issue Was: WHEN HUMANS & COYOTES COLLIDE

Our Co-Facilitators Were:

Name

Dawn Bergman

Andrea Wyant

Julia Gough

Matt Murphy

Our Subject Matter Expert Was:

Dr. Del Benson, CSU

Our Youth Delegates Were:

Name

Eri Boand

Brittney Bulawa

Jay Chase-Jacobus

Meredith Kittelson

Sean McDonnell

Ashlyn Norberg

Isaiah Sandoval

Alden Tennison

Causative Factors & Discussion Points:

- 1) We have expanded onto land that was inhabited by coyotes
- 2) People are losing \$\$ when they lose livestock to coyotes
- 3) People turn against coyotes when their pets are attacked
- 4) It is costly to deter coyotes without killing them

Data Available / Needed:

- 1) SEE ATTACHED WHITE PAPER
- 2) Subject Matter Expert provided great data & information
- 3) NEEDED DATA - - Need to research how to pass laws @ the state level

Brainstormed Ideas:

- 1) Educate humans (starting with kids)
- 2) Farmers adapt, too (study coyotes)
- 3) Guard dogs for farms
- 4) Compensate those who lose livestock (tax break?)
- 5) Relocate animals to coyote reserve
- 6) Tame the coyotes
- 7) Tax break for farmers

Solutions We Decided Were Best:

- 1) AT THE URBAN LEVEL:
 - a. Educate populace on the following:
 1. Don't give food to wild animals
 2. Keep pets on leash
 3. Food consumption
 - b. Post signs in public places
- 2) AT THE RURAL LEVEL:
 - a. Tax breaks for farmers
 - b. Educate on leashing dogs
 - c. Post signs in public places

How Our Presentation Looks:

Outline, illustrations, four designated presenters. Presenter ONE provided an intro to the issue.

Follow-Up Meeting(s)

DATE: January 12, 2010 @ 4 p.m.

What We Discussed:

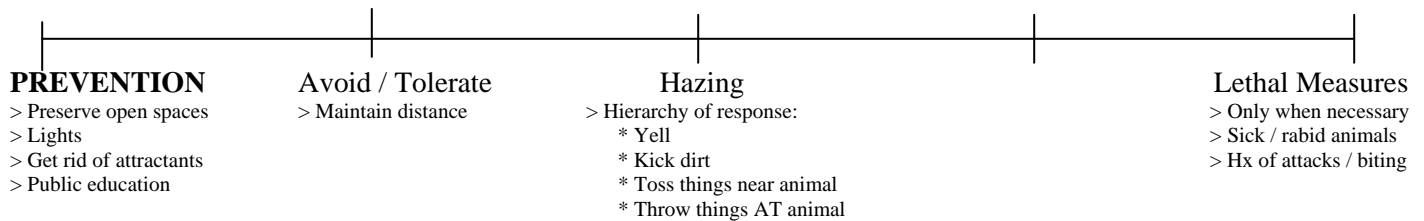
- 1) BEST PRACTICES (national & statewide)
 - a. Identification of hotspots (places where wildlife / human conflict is most likely to occur); AND
 - b. Identification of seasons when wildlife / human conflict is most likely to occur (breeding & pup seasons) plus notification of the public; AND
 - c. Development of public educational materials re how to behave in coyote habitat & reduce attractants / den sites around homes; AND
 - d. Strategic placement of educational materials (geographic & seasonal); AND
 - e. Adopting, implementing & enforcing ordinances to regulate wildlife feeding; AND
 - f. Posting of "No Feeding" signs in high-use recreational areas
- 2) COMPONENTS OF POLICY-MAKING IN THIS TOPIC:
 - a. Respecting the natural rights of wildlife & the importance of predators to ecosystems.
 - b. Assuring safety of humans in communities that overlap wildlife territories.
 - c. Providing for the safety of domesticated animals and/or calculating acceptable losses where human & predator territories overlap.

- d. Calculating the costs to nature & taxpayers in the development of any given policy.

How We Improved / Altered Our Proposal:

1) CONTINUUM OF RESPONSE

- e. The emphasis would be on **PREVENTION** as a way of minimizing costs and damage to wildlife, humans and domesticated animals.
- f. The continuum would look like this:



- g. The focus was on the urban community, with the following policy suggestions:

1. Community Education

- a) Audiences would include schools, businesses, public at large
- b) School approaches would include assemblies, links built into Biology and/or Health curricula, video that would run on school-based TV, materials that students could bring home to parents; the emphasis would be on elementary school-age.
- c) Public approaches would include a Public Service Announcement to air on DC8 and other channels, as well as outreach to 4-H and FFA clubs.
- d) Business approaches
- e) Homeowners Association approaches
- f) TOPICS - - Not giving food to wild animals; keeping pets on-leash and/or supervised; ways to avoid attracting wild animals / dens near homes and businesses (trash containers; pet doors; birdfeeders)

2. Awareness Efforts

- a) Post "No Feeding" signs in high-use recreation / open space areas

3. To Ordinance or Not to Ordinance - - That Was the Question

- a) The following elements could potentially become municipal / county ordinances:
 - Wildlife feeding
 - Free-roaming cats / other pets
 - Animal-proof trash containers
- b) The youth delegates suggest that these practices be VOLUNTARY for now; if voluntary compliance doesn't result in the desired outcomes (zero coyote / human encounters resulting in the death of the coyote or harm to the human; few domesticated animal deaths by coyote), then the youth delegates encourage the Partnership jurisdictions to consider ordinances addressing those three issues.

Next Meeting:

DATE: January 26, 2010, at 4 p.m.

AGENDA:

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Recap Last Meeting's Outcomes
- 3) Finalize Policy Recommendations from the Coyote Control Group
- 4) Design Presentation for the Partnership of DC Gov's
- 5) Practice Presentation as Needed
- 6) Get Ready to Rumble on February 17th!

Last Meeting:

DATE: February 15, 2010, at 4 p.m.

Final Walkthrough