

Coyotes (*Canis latrans*): Florida's newest predator



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Coyote range expansion: eradication of wolves



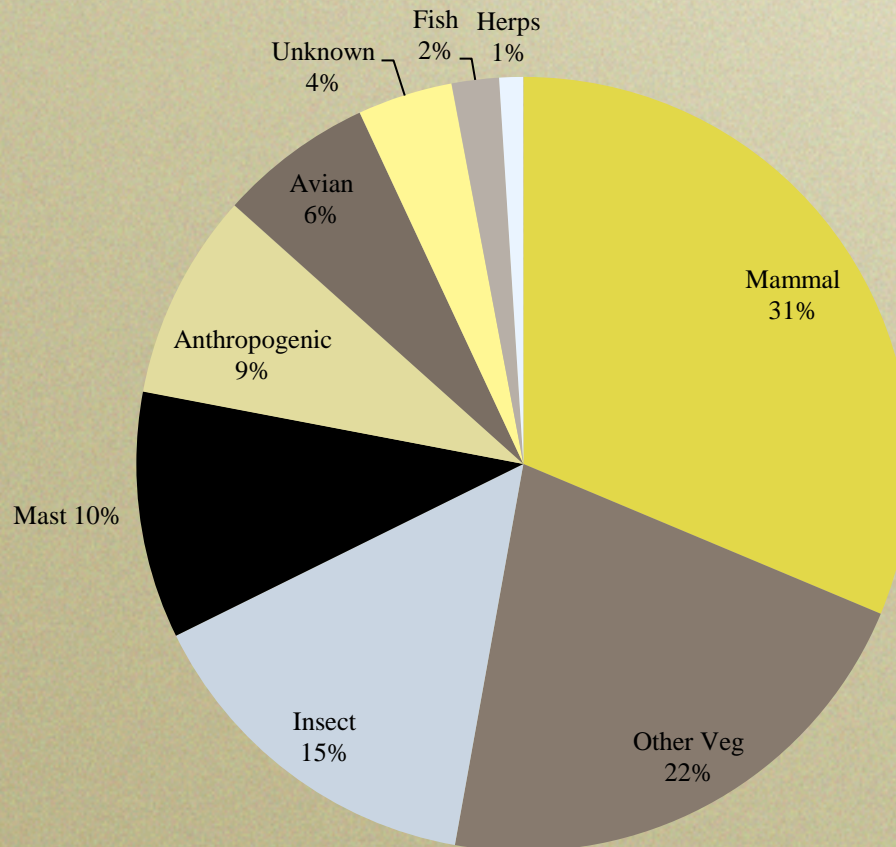
Coyote biology

- § Omnivorous, highly adaptable
- § Adults 25-40 lbs.
- § Home range size:
natural areas ~15 mi²,
urban areas ~3 mi²
- § Mate in Winter
- § Pups in Spring
- § Litter size ~6 pups
- § Both parents care for
young



Coyote diet study

§ FWRI stomach content preliminary results



Preliminary Findings
Frequency of Occurrence of Contents in Coyote Stomachs



Control of smaller predators



Coyote depredation of livestock



Urban coyotes and pet loss



Photo courtesy of Beverley Batts



Dog attacks vs. coyote attacks

- § Coyotes (USA and Canada during 1960-2006):
 - § 3.5 attacks/yr.
 - § 2 fatalities/46 yrs.
- § Domestic dogs (USA):
 - § 1,000 emergency room visits/day
 - § 5 million cases/yr. require medical treatment
 - § 176 fatalities during 2010-2014



www.dogsbite.org



Can we get rid of coyotes?

NO

- § Eradication efforts
- § Breeding dynamics
- § Territorial with high replacement
- § Adaptable and intelligent
- § Here to stay



Coyotes in Florida: some facts

- § Adult coyotes weigh 25-40 pounds
- § Coyotes occur in every state and nearly every large city in the U.S.
- § Attacks by coyotes on humans are exceedingly rare
- § Coyotes will kill cats and small dogs
- § Coyotes can carry rabies, but it is rare



Photo courtesy of Patrick Deck- Tarpon Springs



Coyotes in Florida: some advice

§ Never feed coyotes or any wild animal

§ Prevent access to garbage and pet food

§ Keep cats indoors, have small dogs on a short leash or in a well fenced yard

§ Follow hazing recommendations to consistently frighten coyotes away

§ If a coyote approaches, lift small pets and children off the ground and be prepared to defend yourself (never run)



Photo courtesy of Reinier Munguia- Lakeland



Coyotes in Florida: who should you contact when there is a problem?

§ FWC Regional Office (863) 648-3200

§ Nuisance Wildlife Trapper

<http://myfwc.com/trappers/>



Questions?



FWC photo- Riverview

