

# **Are coyotes impacting your business raising livestock in New York? We can help**

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Wildlife Services Program**

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Protecting People  
Protecting Agriculture  
Protecting Wildlife

# OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- Who is Wildlife Services?
- How many coyotes are there?
- How is the livestock industry distributed across New York
- What affect are coyotes having on livestock production?
- What can a livestock producer do about it?
- What can Wildlife Services do about coyote predation?

# Who is Wildlife Services and what do they do?

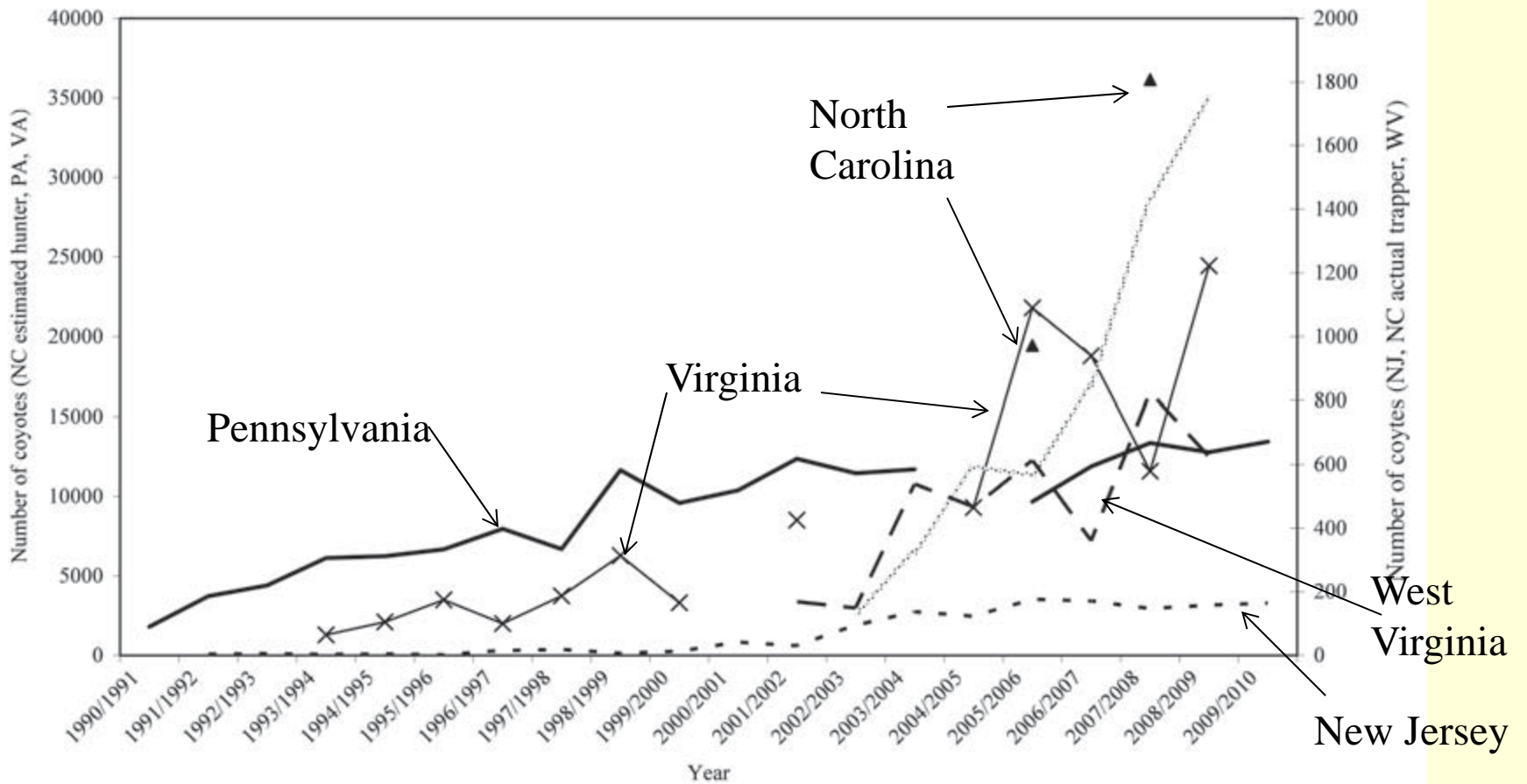
- Non-regulatory service agency
- Alleviate wildlife damage
- Professional biologists and technicians



# How many coyotes are there in New York?

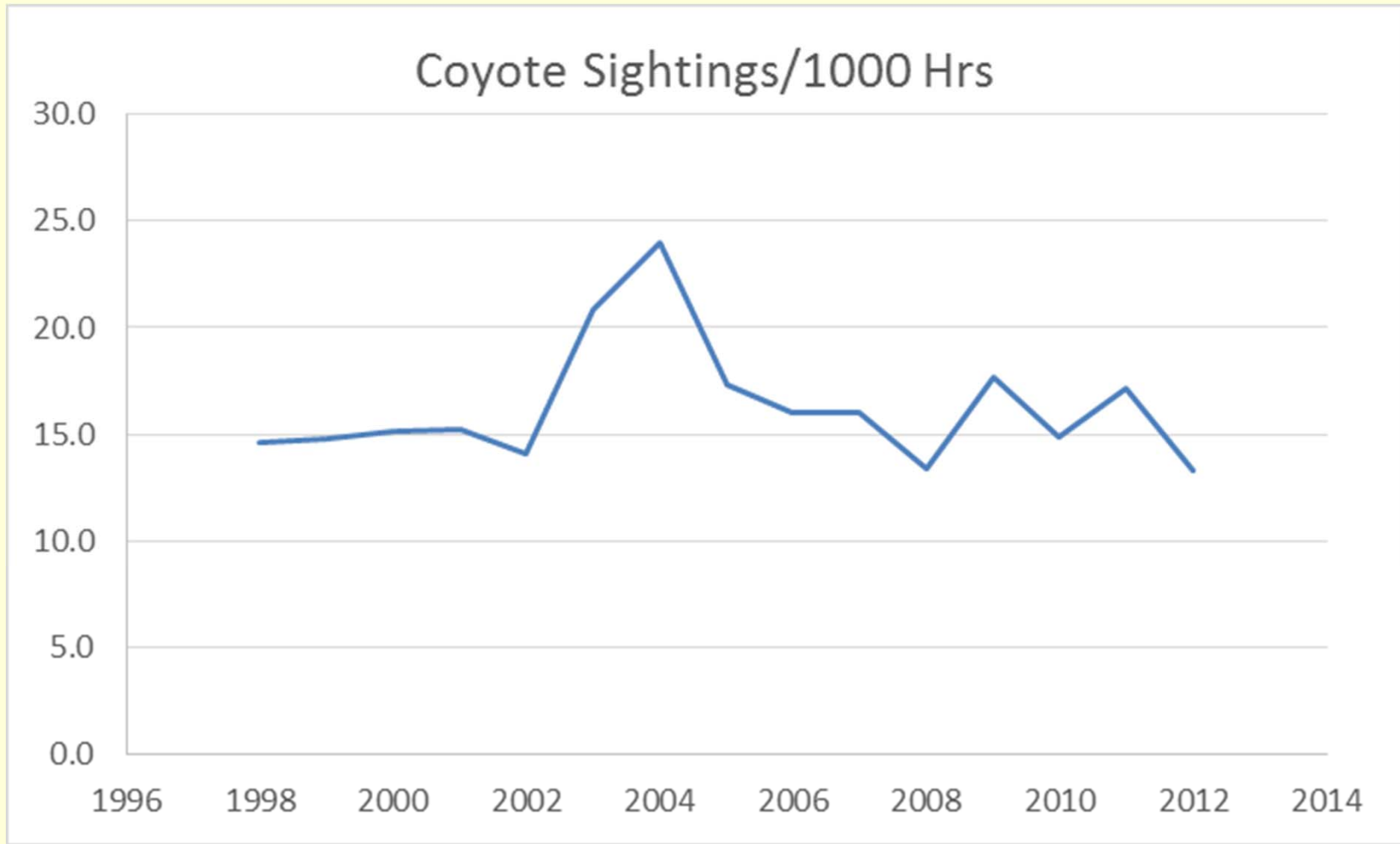
- Where are coyotes distributed?
- Where did they come from?
- Are they increasing in abundance?
- What do they eat?





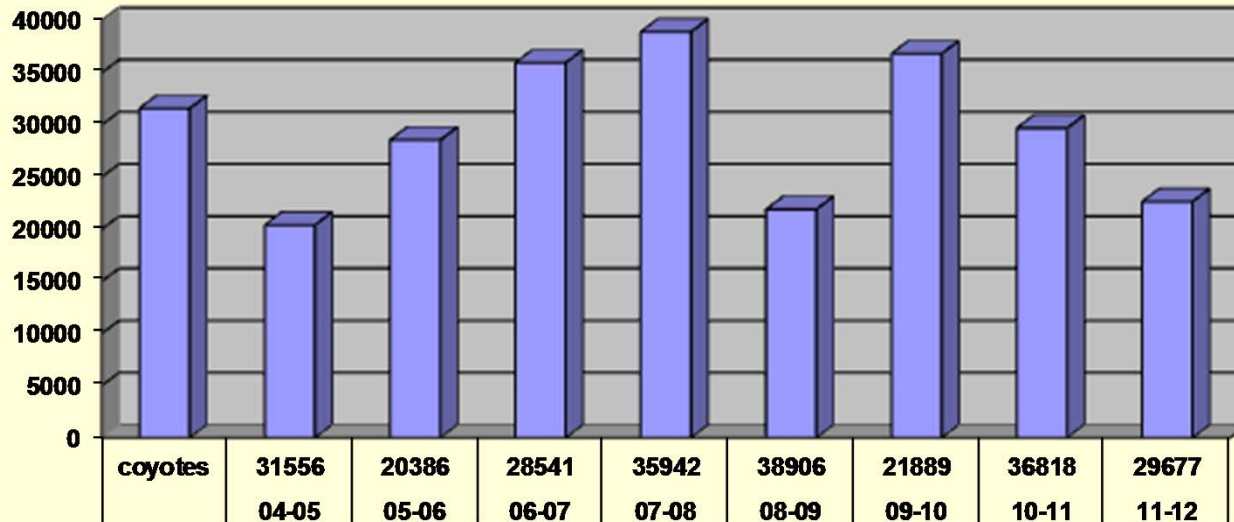
Data from L. Mastro 2011

# New York Bow Hunter Log Survey



# Coyote Population Status

Coyotes Harvested by NY Hunters and Trappers



**Number of coyotes harvested by hunters and trappers in New York according to NYS DEC Bureau of Wildlife Trapper and Small Game Surveys.**

# Coyote Population Status

- Coyotes by the numbers
  - 14,500 breeding pairs 2012.
  - Unknown number of non-breeders
  - Hunters and trappers kill about 29,000 coyotes each season
  - Kill 70% of population for 50 years to cause decline





# Eastern Coyote pelage



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# Diet of the Eastern Coyote



Coyotes are opportunists and attack vulnerable individuals, not necessarily the weak, infirm, or old.

Deer

(70% of diet in June and July)

Small rodents

Rabbits

Woodchucks

Insects

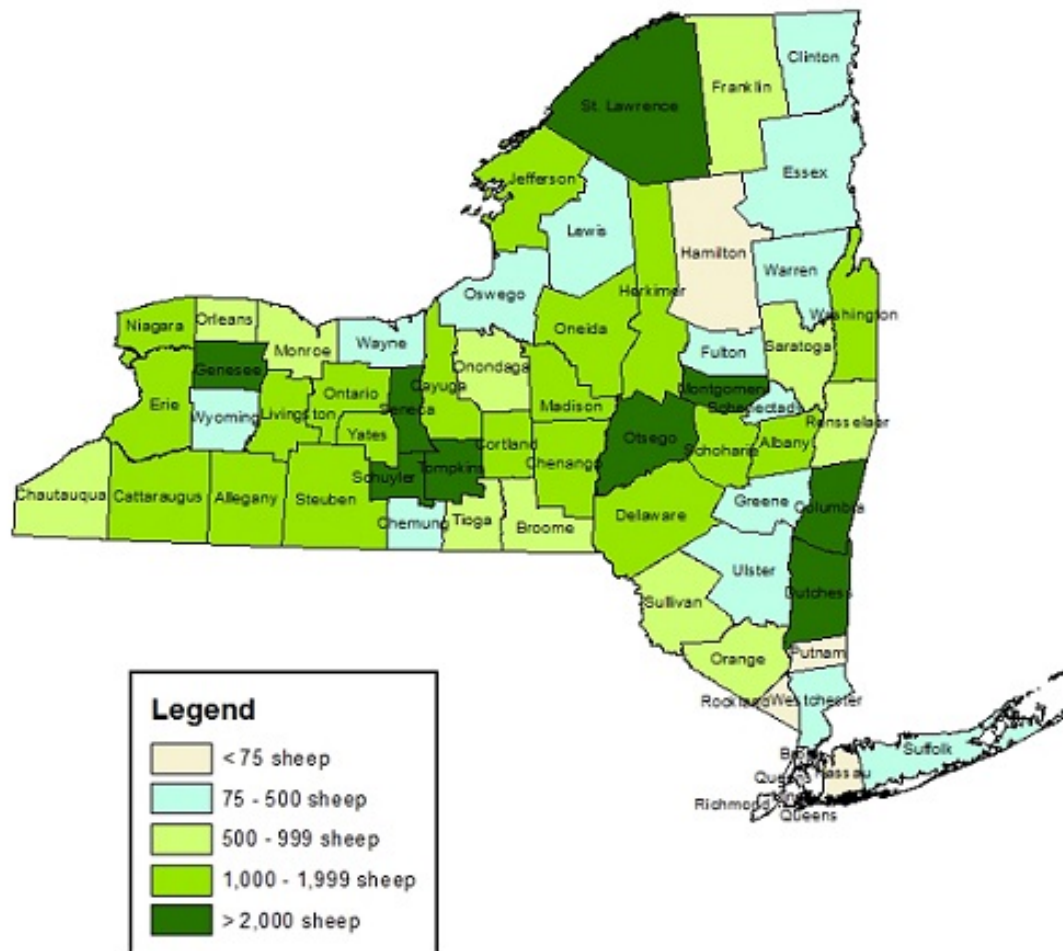
Fruits/berries/grass

Livestock

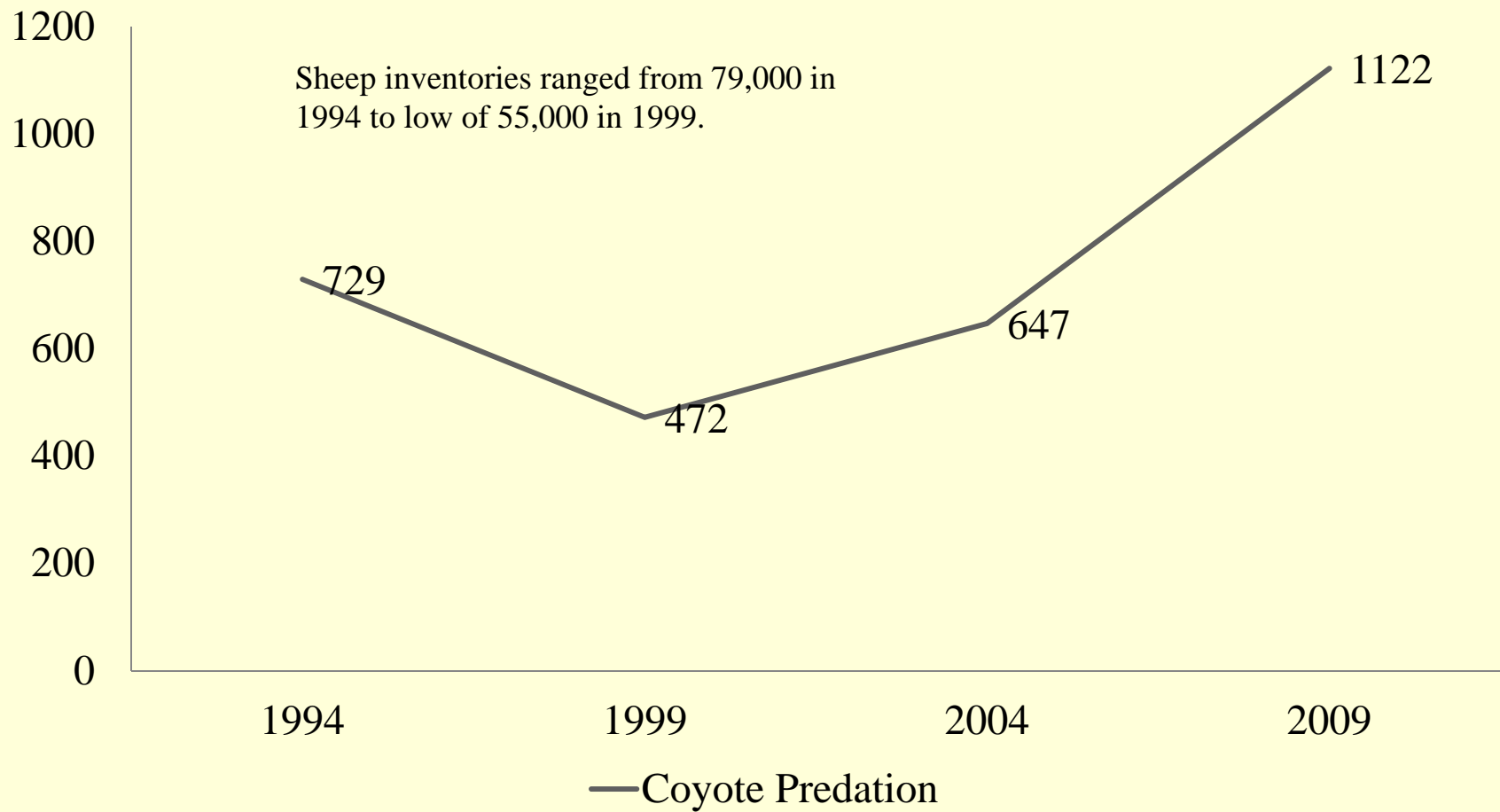


# Distribution of livestock in New York

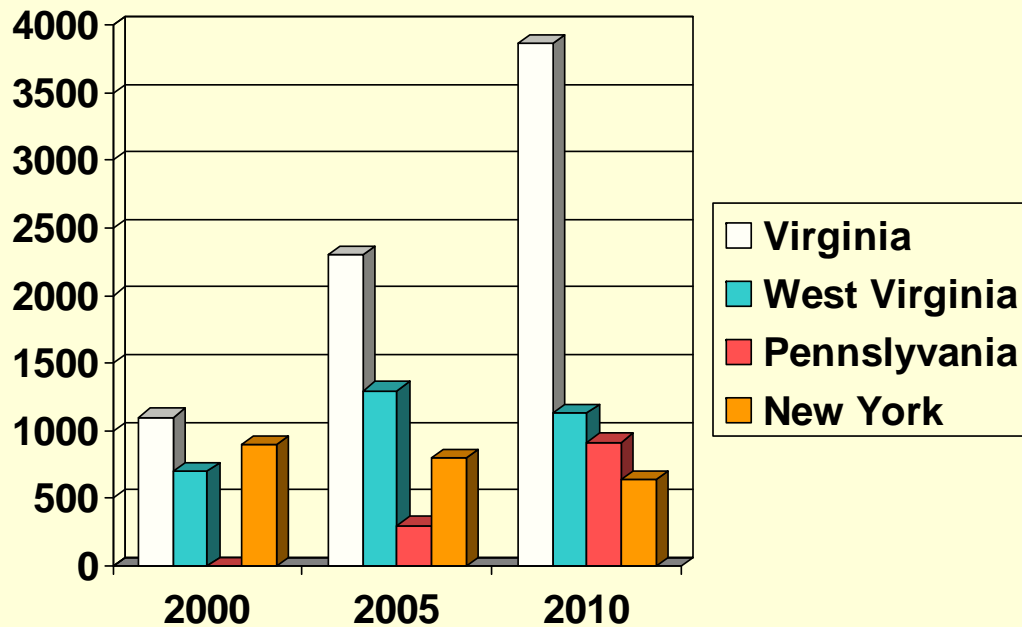
New York Sheep Inventories by County, 2007.



# What effect are coyotes having on people raising sheep in New York?



# Coyote Predation on beef and dairy cows in four northeastern states.



210,000 beef cows in NY  
1,200,000 dairy cows in NY

# Predation Characteristics

- Domestic animals impacted
  - Sheep/lambs, cattle/calves, horses/colts, goats, poultry, fish, llamas, bison, bees, pets
- Predators responsible
  - Coyotes, feral dogs, black bear, red fox
- Types of impacts
  - Killing/maiming, running/injury, stress/behavior impacts



# What can a livestock producer do?

- Fencing
- Animal husbandry
- Dead disposal
- Shed lambing
- Night penning
- Guard dogs, llamas
- Hazing
- Trapping
- Call & Shooting



# What can Wildlife Services do?

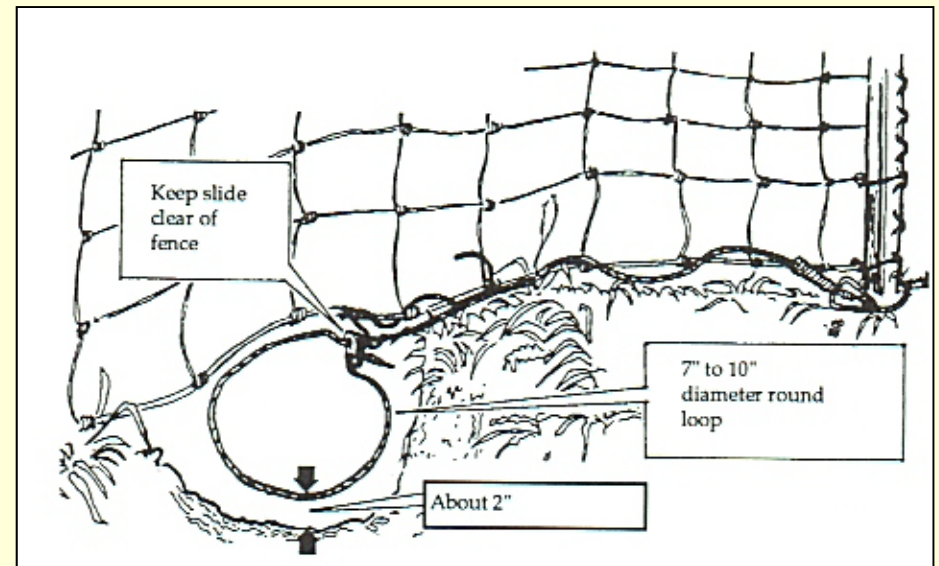
- Technical Assistance
- Place guard dogs
- Workshops
- Trapping
- Cable restraints
- Call & Shoot
- Decoy dogs
- FLIR and Night Vision over bait or calling
- ~~M-44~~
- ~~Livestock Protection Collar~~
- Aerial gunning ??





# Preventative Direct Control on Farms with Historic Problems

- Identify farms with a history of predation
- Conduct site visit, check farm for predator sign mid-winter (January)
- Remove coyotes through early spring to create a temporary void
- Allows young livestock to get larger and better defend themselves prior to reinvasion.



# Responsive Direct Control Where Problems Occur

- Respond to complaint and identify species involved
- Offer technical assistance
- Remove offending wildlife
- Monitor for need of preventative control the following year.



# How do we move forward?

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- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
- 518-477-4837

