

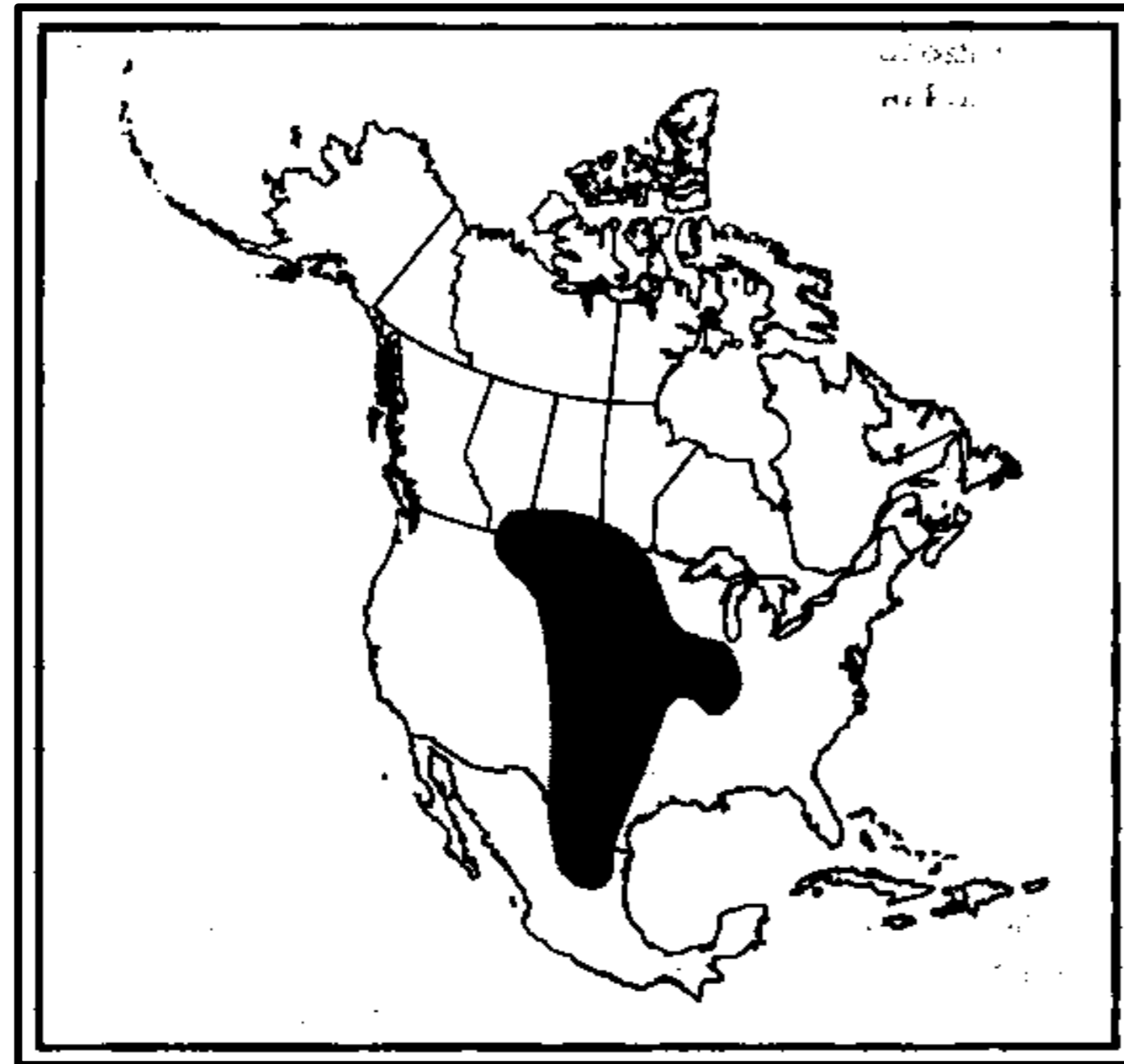
Coyotes: Wildlife You Want?

Peter K. Acker

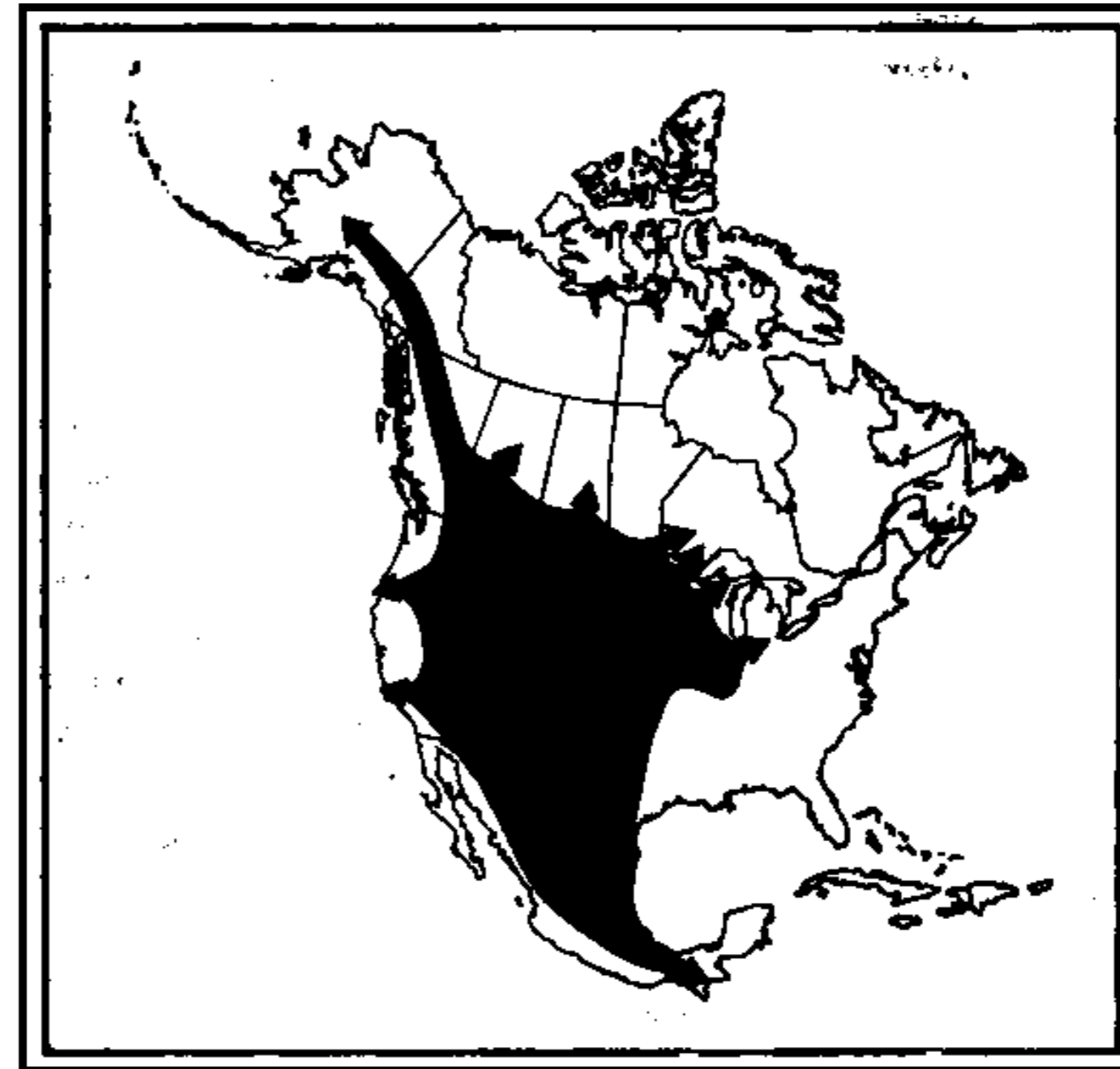


CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

HISTORICAL RANGE OF COYOTES



PRE-SETTLEMENT

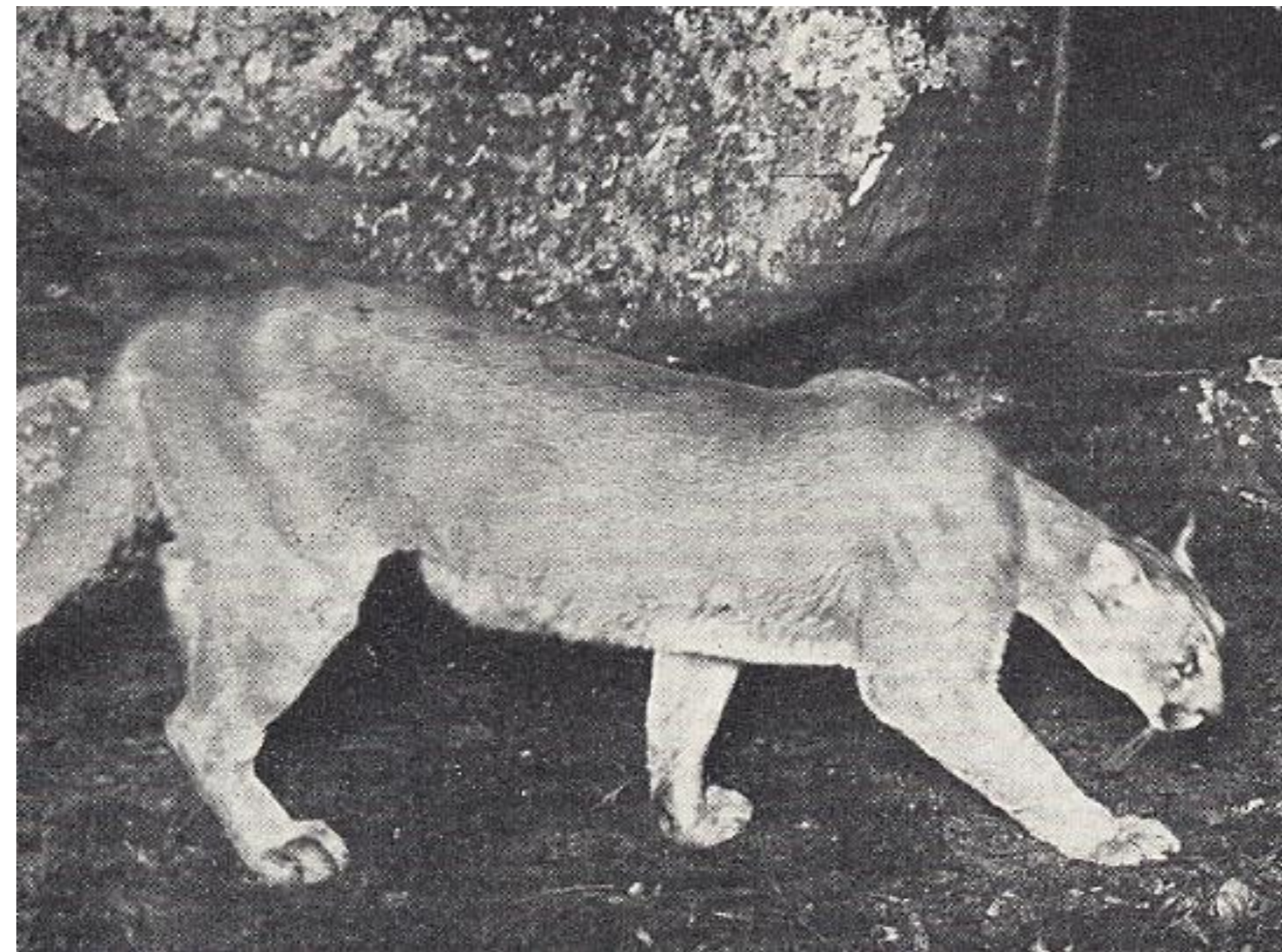


1900

COYOTE RANGE POST 1900



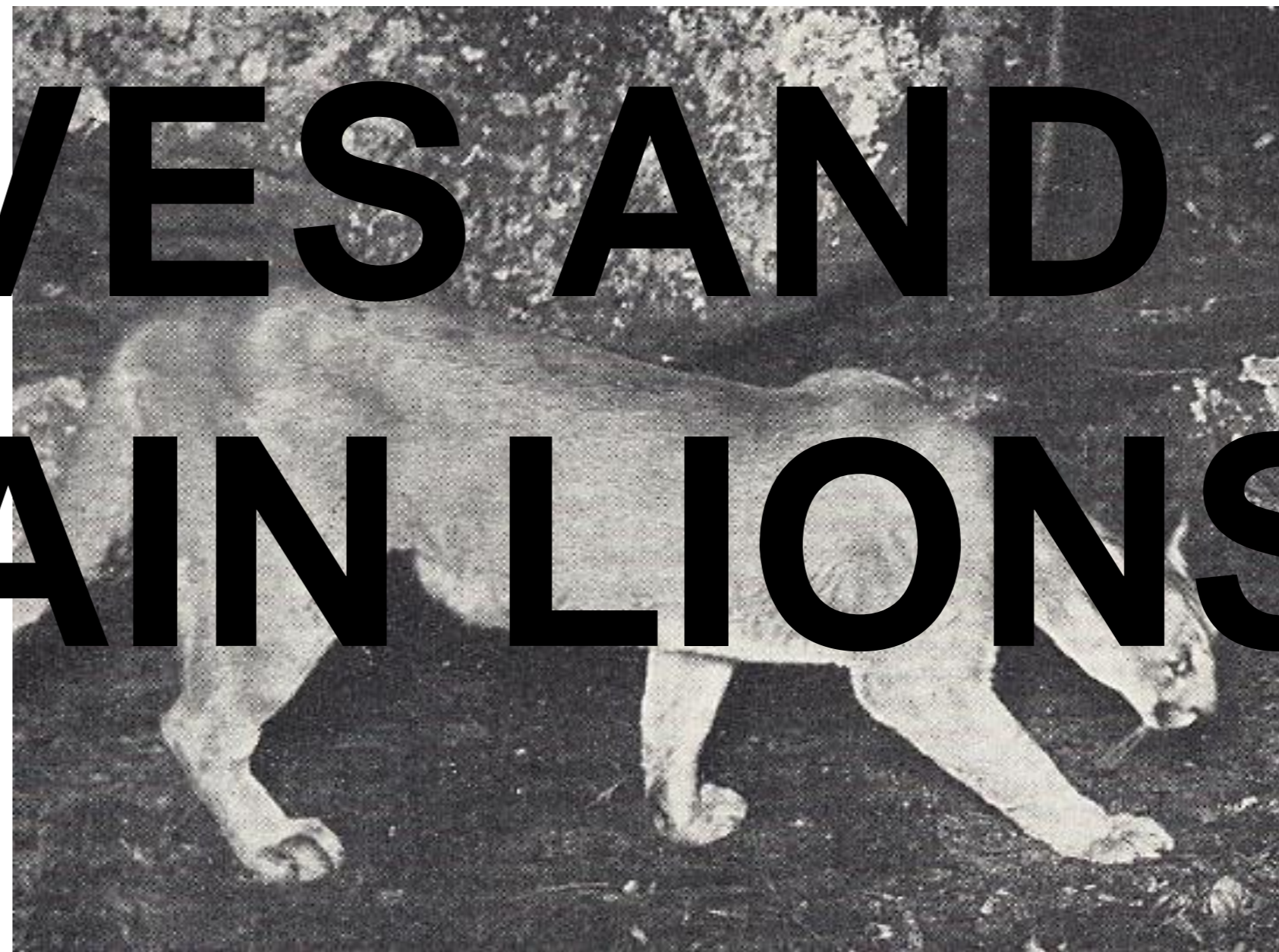
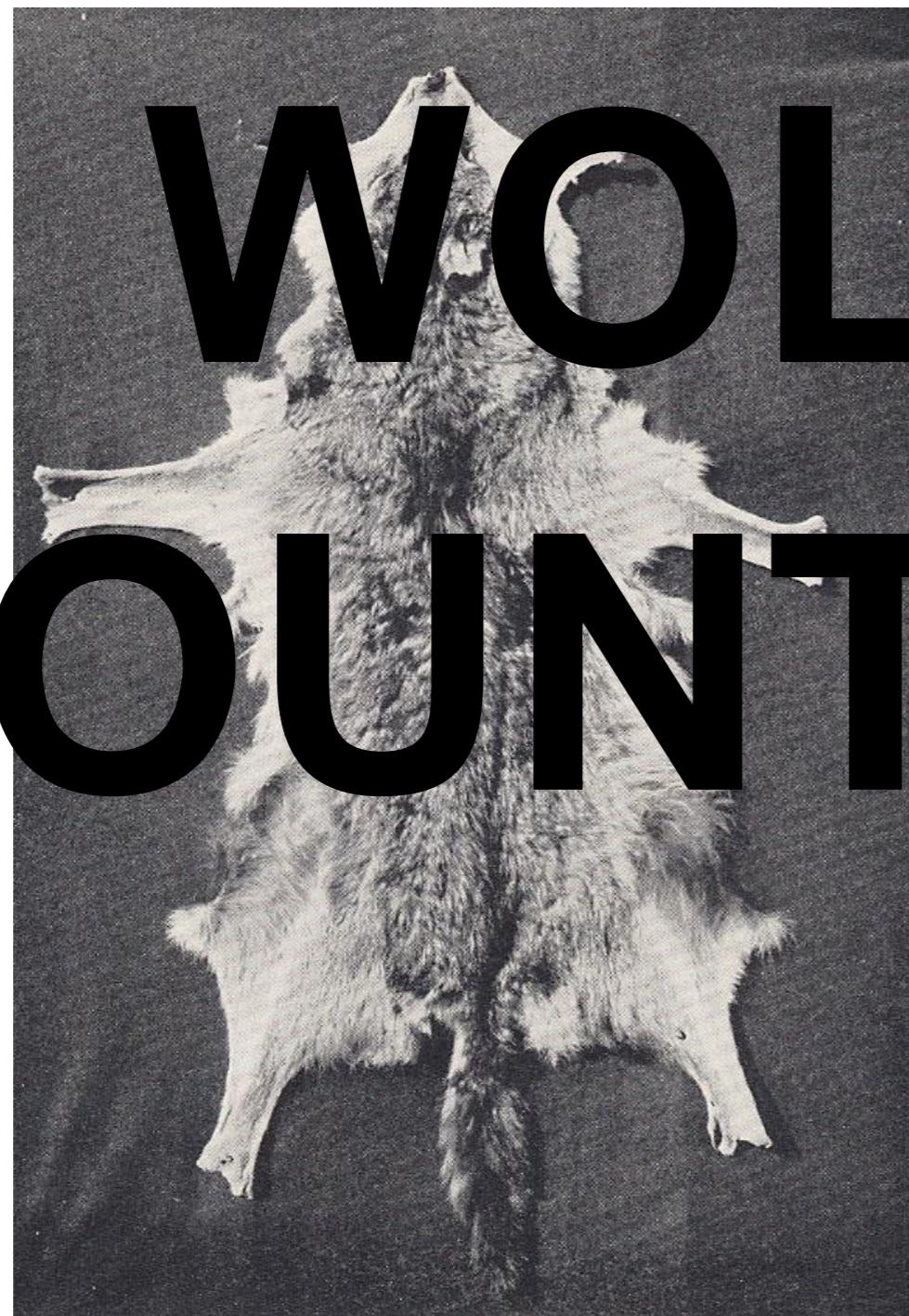
REASONS FOR RANGE EXPANSION



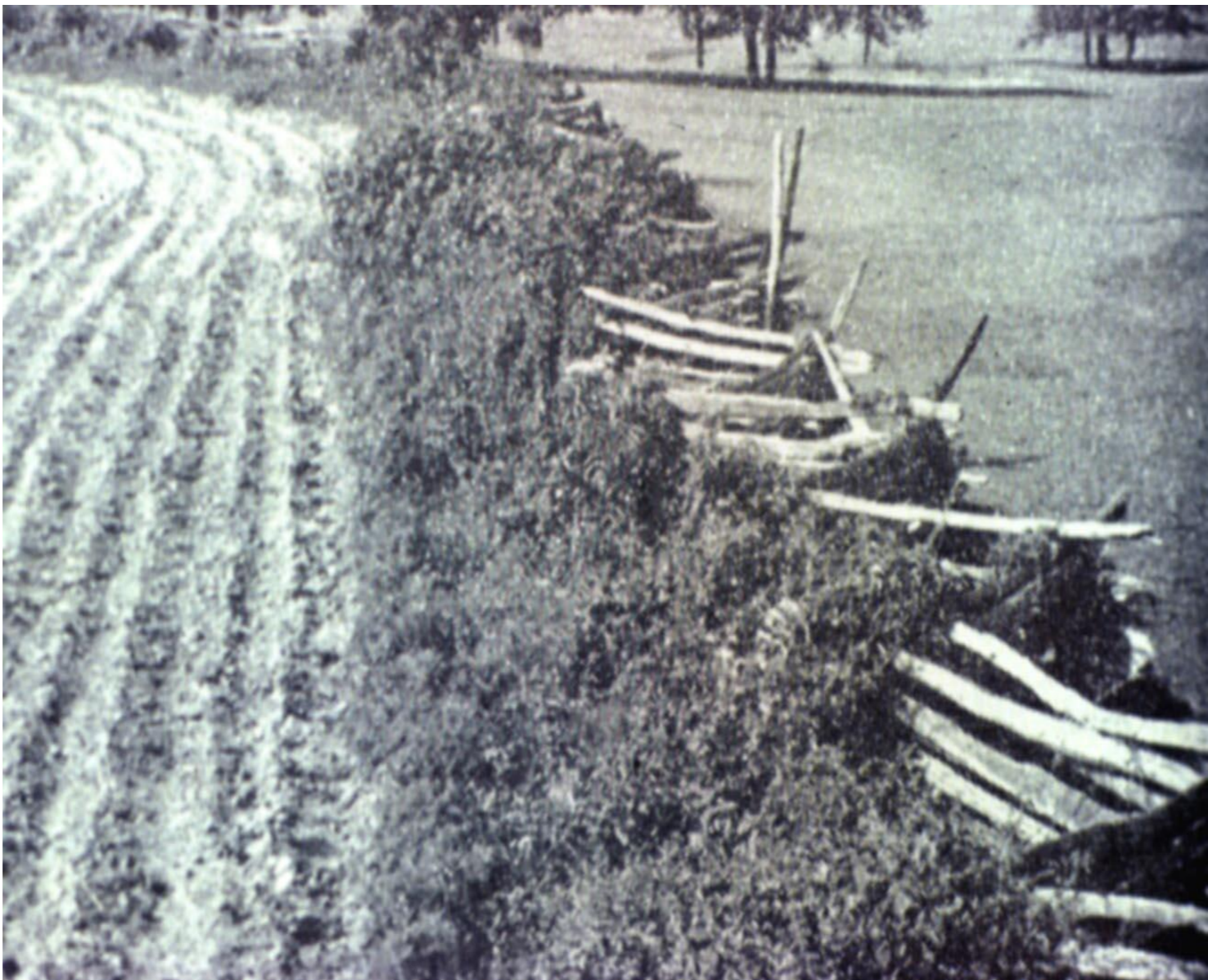
ELIMINATION OF WOLVES AND MOUNTAIN LIONS



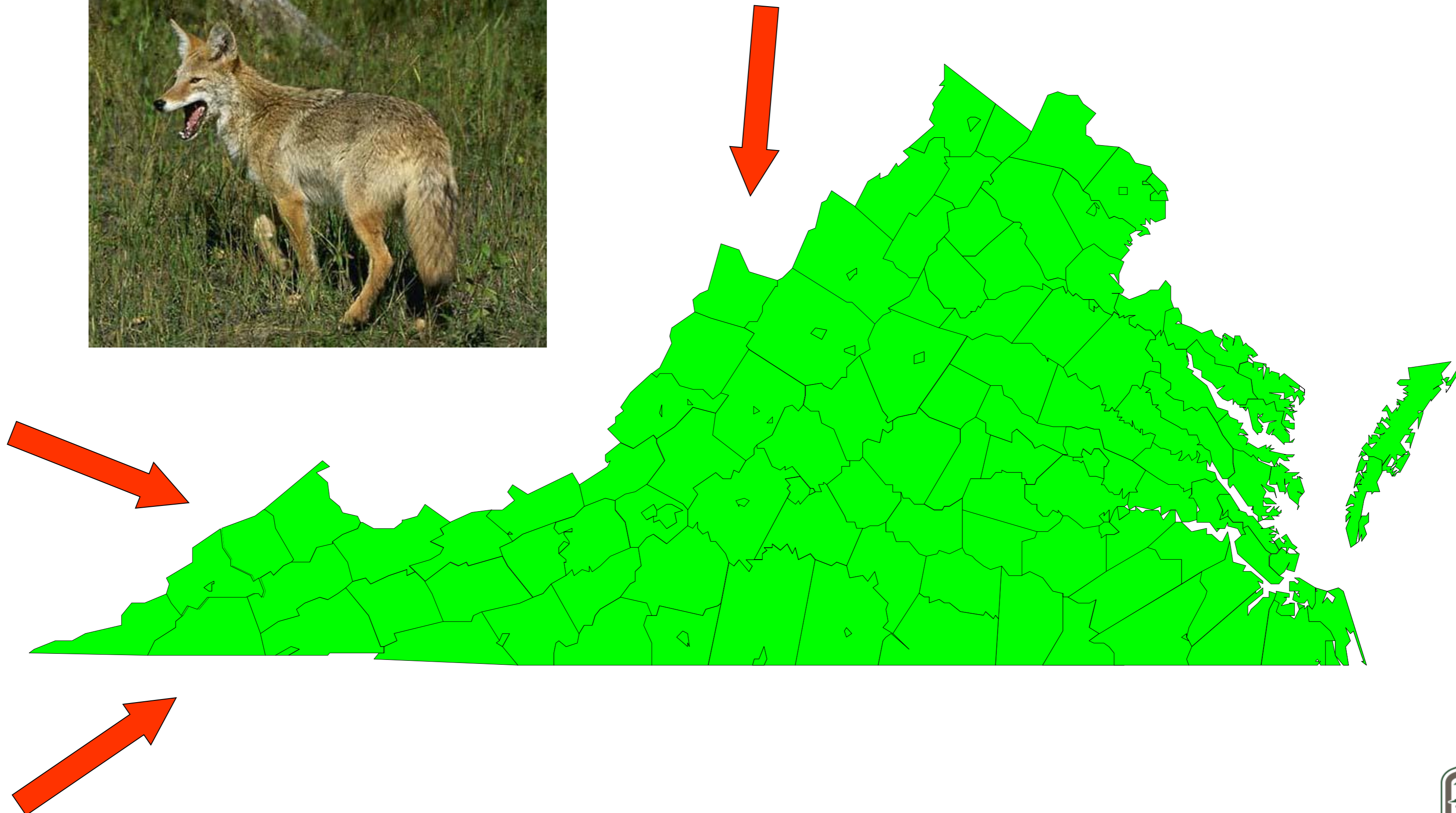
ELIMINATION OF WOLVES AND MOUNTAIN LIONS?



MORE REASONS FOR RANGE EXPANSION



POPULATION ESTABLISHMENT



MYTHS OF RANGE EXPANSION



VIRGINIA BOWHUNTER SURVEY

COYOTE OBSERVATIONS PER 100 HOURS



SPECIES DESCRIPTION



COYDOG HYBRIDS



- Rare in the wild
- More common at periphery of range
- Usually male dogs and female coyotes
- Behavioral differences preclude most breeding

ADAPTABILITY

- Habitat
- Food Habits
- Behavior



WHAT ARE THESE COYOTES EATING?



EFFECTS ON DEER



EFFECTS ON GAME BIRDS



SIGNIFICANT PREDATOR OF LIVESTOCK

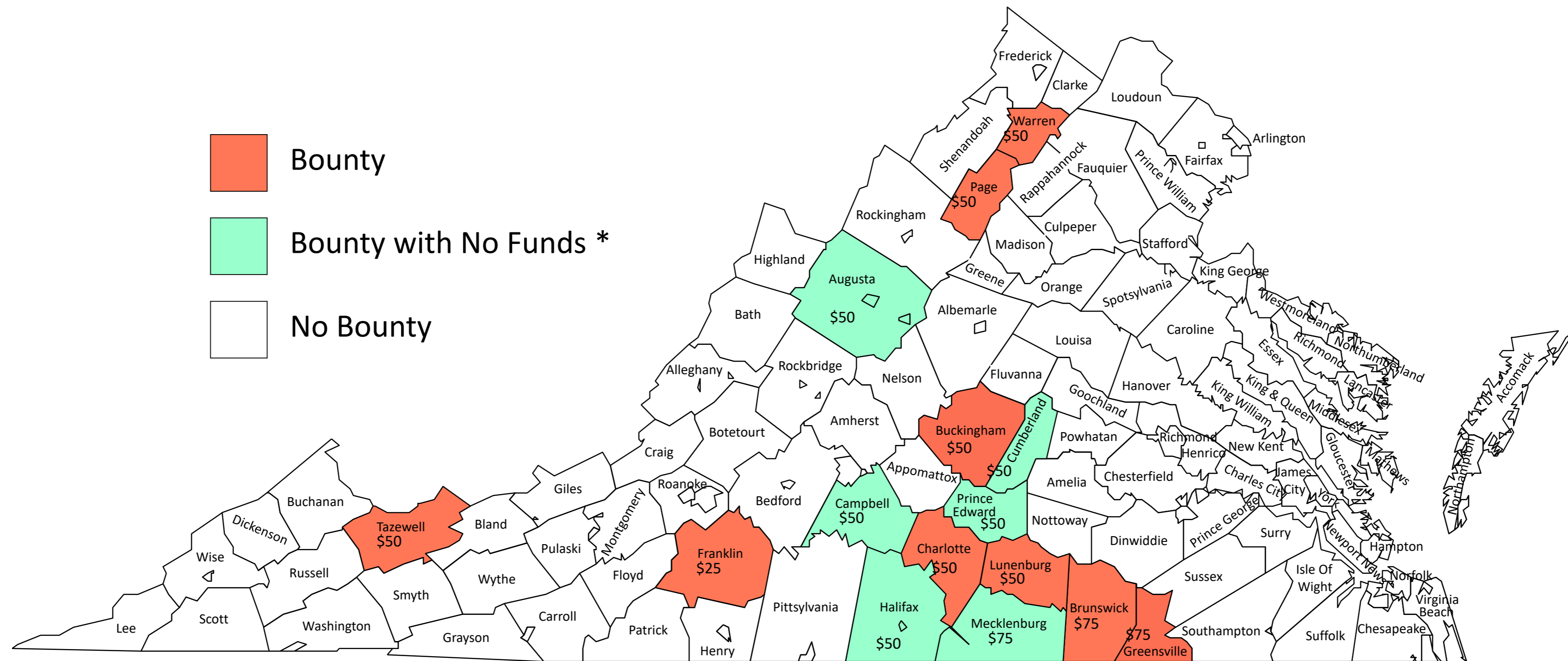


CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Specific
 - LETHAL - Remove offending animals
 - NONLETHAL - Improve husbandry techniques, modify habitat, scaring techniques
- General
 - Information and education



VIRGINIA COUNTIES WITH COYOTE BOUNTIES



BOUNTIES ARE BUNK



- 150+ year record of total failure
- Not a single documented case of bounties reducing coyote numbers for significant time
- Fraud and abuse
- More domestic dogs killed
- Killing non-problem coyotes can open territories for potential problem animals
- If <70% killed, recover in single year
- Bounties usually result in <1% population kill



DENSITY DEPENDENT REPRODUCTION



- Increased litter size
- Higher pup survival
- Higher % of adult females breed
- More juvenile breeding

WHAT DOES WORK?



NON-LETHAL METHODS

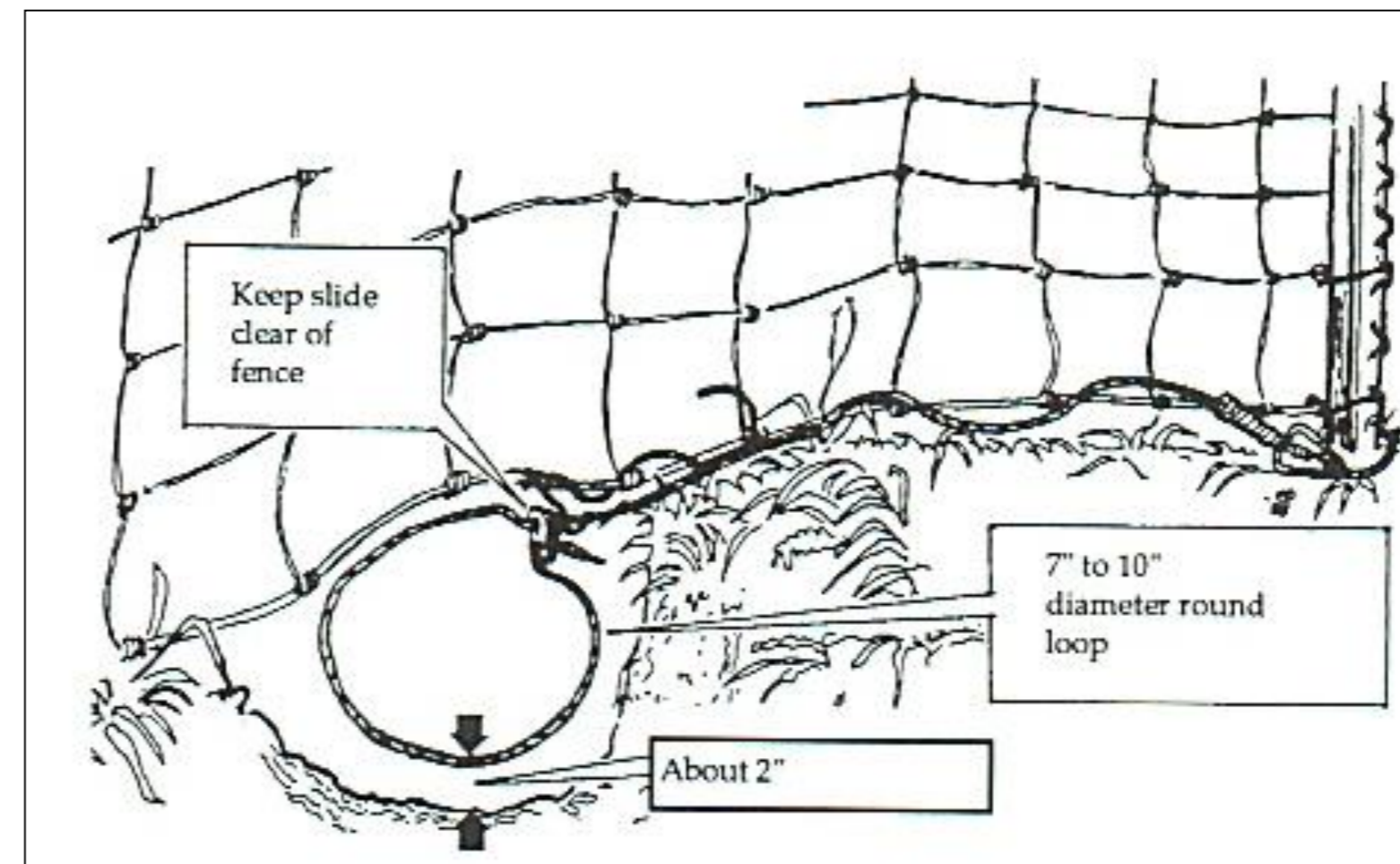


NON-LETHAL METHODS



LETHAL METHODS

- Lethal (trapping, shooting, M44 sodium cyanide)
 - Key is that it is highly targeted
 - Remove significant numbers on problem farms



LEGAL STATUS

- **Legally classified as a nuisance species**
- **Continuous open season on private lands**
- **Public land hunting when other seasons are open**



LEGAL STATUS

- **“What are you guys doing about coyotes?”**
- **What are YOU doing about coyotes?**



COYOTES

- **Wildlife you want?**

