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February 12, 2025

President Samantha Murray
California Fish and Game Commission
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA

RE: Agenda Item 16. (B) Wildlife Resources Committee

Dear President Murray and Commissioners:

We, the undersigned, are writing to express our serious concerns regarding the recommendation from the Commission's Wildlife Resources Committee made on January 15th to restrict rural agricultural communities' ability to manage coyote populations. Because inadequate public notice was given, there was no opportunity for stakeholders and the public to meaningfully review and participate in the discussion of this agenda item. This recommendation will have devastating consequences for rural agricultural communities.

Farmers and ranchers in California rely on responsible wildlife management practices to protect their livelihoods. Unmanaged coyote populations wreak havoc by stressing livestock, killing animals, and raising the cost of food. The impact to farmers and ranchers demands a comprehensive dialogue.

Unfortunately, this topic was improperly agendaized, inadequately noticed, and the recommendation was advanced by a single member of the Wildlife Resources Committee. Without input from rural communities and agricultural producers, the Wildlife Resources Committee cannot make a well-informed recommendation.

We strongly urge you to refer this inappropriate recommendation back to the Wildlife Resources Committee for a complete review that allows the public to meaningfully participate as required by California law pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

Sincerely,

HEATHER HADWICK
Assemblymember, District 1

MEGAN DAHLE
Senator, District 1