

COYOTE MANAGEMENT

NOVEMBER 21, 2023



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BACKGROUND

June 21, 2022

- Request to agendize discussion and report.

July 5, 2022

- Preliminary report on coyote activity provided.
- City Council investigate and inventory the coyote population and to provide a report with findings.

September 5, 2022

- Received the report from Humane Wildlife Control.
- Directed staff to return with a draft coyote management policy and following a six month period, return to the City Council with updated data. Additionally, research allowable options for residents to protect themselves from coyotes if one is located on their property.



BACKGROUND

February 21, 2023

- Received a six month review and update on the City's current coyote management approach.
- Adjusted the City's approach to coyote management including further exploration of a selective trapping program.

April 4, 2023

- Directed staff to return with the CEQA review and trapping management contracts for the Coyote Management and Response Plan.

July 5, 2023

- Approved agreement with Michael Baker International to provide environmental consulting services for the Coyote Management and Response Plan;
- Appropriated \$35,970 from the unreserved General Fund balance toward the agreement.



ANNUAL OBSERVATION DATA

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Attacks on humans:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmed / observed predation:	1	3	0	0	0	0	1 (cat)	0
Unconfirmed / possible* predation:	14	18	2 (cats)	0	0	1 (cat)	4 (3 cat and 1 opossum)	6 (5 cat and 1 opossum)
Reported sightings (no attacks, only roaming area) to Animal Control:	52	49	28	13	4	8	23	10
TOTAL	67	70	30	13	4	9	28	16



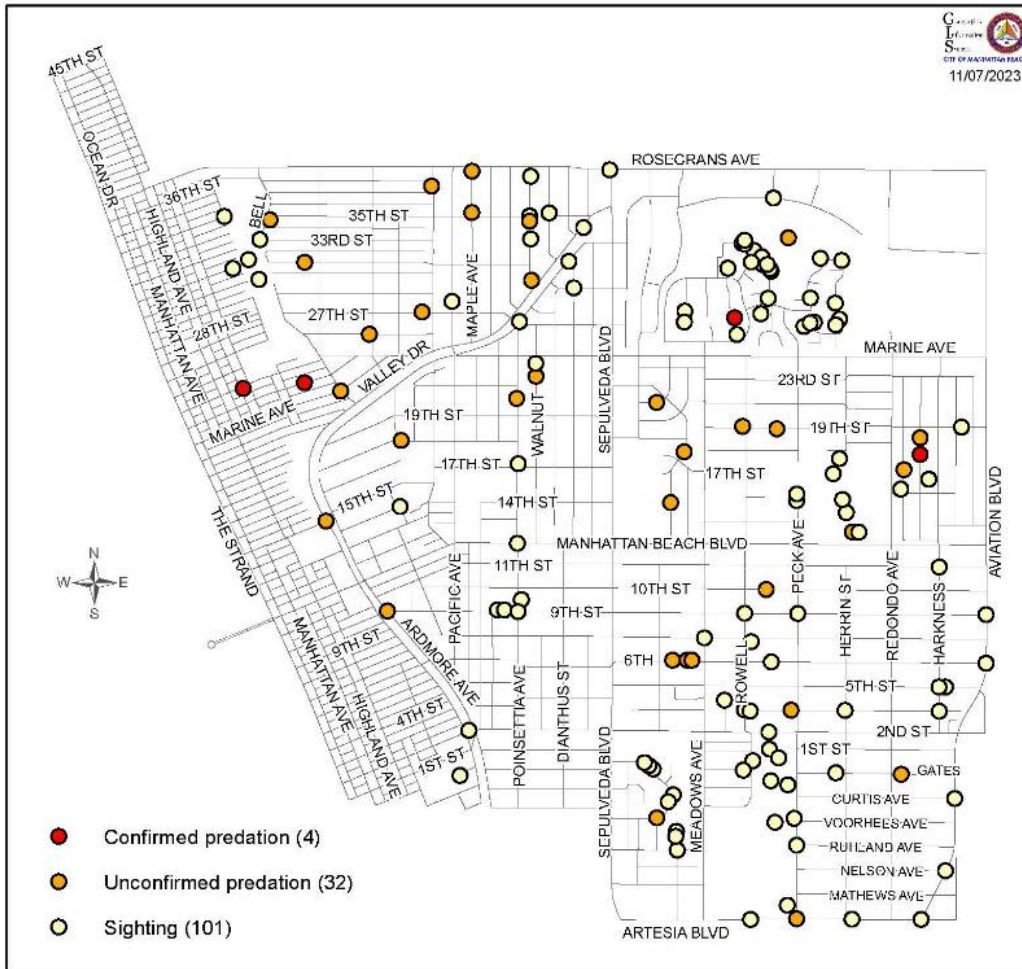
MONTHLY OBSERVATION DATA FOR 2023

	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	Sept. 2023	October 2023
Attacks on humans:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmed / observed predation:	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unconfirmed / possible* predation:	1	3	3	3	1	1	1
Reported sightings (no attacks, only roaming area) to Animal Control:	15	9	6	2	5	2	0
TOTAL	17	12	9	5	6	5	1



MAPPING OBSERVATIONS

City of
Manhattan Beach
11/07/2023



Time Period

February 2022 – October 2023



CITY OF TORRANCE COYOTE OBSERVATION DATA

	COYOTES TRAPPED	COYOTE SIGHTINGS	DOG ATTACK	CAT ATTACK	DOG FATALITY	CAT FATALITY	ESTIMATED TRAPPING COSTS
OCTOBER 2019 - MARCH 2020	14	780	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$74,000
OCTOBER 2020 – MARCH 2021	15	508	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$74,000
OCTOBER 2021 – SEPT. 2022	31	304	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$55,200
OCTOBER 2022 – MAY 2023	22	348	5	4	0	23	\$ 52,800
TOTAL	82	1,940	9	5	6	5	1

No baseline information on the coyote population in Torrance, so there is no data on an increase/decrease since the Management Program was instituted.



COMMUNITY AND STAFF EDUCATION

- Distributed over 1,500 handouts
- Updated City Website
- Held internal staff training with 33 animal control officers from South Bay
- Additional messaging on City social media and at Police Department Town Hall.



KEEP ME WILD

Coyotes are smart adaptable canines that have learned to survive, and often thrive in urban and residential areas. Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They are by nature fearful of humans.

USE WILDLIFE-RESISTANT CONTAINERS



- Always keep trash, recycling, and compost in secure bins.
- Wait to put out trash until the morning of collection.
- Clean garbage and recycling bins with bleach or ammonia.
- Remove unsecured trash, human or pet food, and strongly scented items from yard.

SIMPLE, EFFECTIVE METHODS TO KEEP THEM OUT



- Keep doors and windows closed and locked when unoccupied.
- Bring pets inside at night. Keep livestock in secure pens at night.

SIMPLE, EFFECTIVE METHODS TO KEEP THEM AWAY



- Install motion-activated lights, noise or alarms.
- Install electric fencing to keep coyotes out of chicken coops and animal enclosures.

USE "WILDLIFE-SMART" LANDSCAPING



- Remove bird feeders from yard.
- Plant native flowers to attract birds instead.
- Pick ripe fruit off trees, and promptly collect fruit that falls.
- Trim ground-level shrubbery to reduce hiding places.

NEVER FEED A COYOTE!

FEEDING A COYOTE WILL CAUSE IT TO LOSE ITS NATURAL FEAR OF PEOPLE AND MAY RESULT IN A DANGEROUS SITUATION FOR PEOPLE, PETS, AND COYOTES.

Please visit www.manhattanbeach.gov/coyotes for more information.



COYOTE MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE PLAN

STRATEGY

1. ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY - Provide a safe environment for the public by limiting interactions with aggressive coyotes and potentially trapping where necessary to ensure public safety.
2. ENHANCED COYOTE DETERRENCE EFFORTS - The goal of education is to decrease coyote attractants, increase pet safety, and reshape coyote behavior. Hazing methods, preventative measures, and housekeeping can alter coyote behavior.
3. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION - Education and coyote deterrents designed around co-existence. Communication with the community including receiving and giving feedback is essential for implementing the Coyote Management and Response Plan.
4. ACTIVE MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION - Tracking coyote observations that include: confirmed coyote predations, unconfirmed coyote predations and coyote sightings



RESPONSE CHART

COYOTE ACTION		RESPONSE/ACTION BY CITY	MITIGATION / RESOURCES / ENFORCEMENT
Heard (howling)	WHITE	Monitor coyote activity	Public education on typical coyote behavior
Seen moving or resting in public areas with no people or pets present			
Seen resting in public area with people present			
Entering a private yard with or without unattended pets	GREEN	Monitor coyote behavior Report possible attractants Hazing if necessary	Pet safety information / Yard audit Remove possible attractants
Entering private yard and injuring or killing unattended pet (with attractants present)			
Biting or injuring unattended free roaming pet or pet on leash longer than 6 feet (with attractants present)			
Following or approaching person with or without pet (Stalking / Shadowing)			
Entering private yard or home with people and pets present			
Entering private yard and injuring or killing unattended pet (without attractants present)	YELLOW	Monitor coyote activity and area patrols Hazing if possible Notify Code Enforcement of possible private property condition violations Notify Public Works of conditions on public property that may harbor/shelter coyotes	Pet safety information / Yard audit Neighborhood Watch alert Enforce leash laws Enforce private property condition violations Eliminate conditions on public property Potential lethal removal or capture unless attack is provoked by human harassment pending investigation.
Biting or injuring unattended free roaming pet or pet on leash longer than 6 feet (without attractants present)			
Biting or injuring attended pet	ORANGE	Attempt to identify and track responsible coyote. Monitor behavior and location. Report incident to California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Potential lethal removal or capture unless attack is provoked by human harassment pending investigation. Neighborhood Watch / social media alert
Aggressive, showing teeth, back fur raised, lunging, nipping w/o contact			
Biting or injuring person	RED	Report incident to California Department of Fish and Wildlife and LA. Health Department	Coordinate with California Department of Fish and Wildlife; lethal removal or capture unless attack is provoked by human harassment.



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- Supporting documentation for an Exemption under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines (14 [California Code of Regulations] CCR §§15000 et seq).
- Accordingly, the adoption of the Coyote Management and Response Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines (14 [California Code of Regulations] CCR §§15000 et seq.), and no further environmental review is required.



STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 23-0151 adopting the Coyote Management and Response Plan and;
2. Determine that the adoption of the Coyote Management and Response Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines (14 [California Code of Regulations] CCR §§15000 et seq.)

Should Council adopt the Resolution, staff recommends Council discuss and provide direction to staff regarding soliciting bids from certified trappers for on call trapping services in conformance with the actions that would necessitate a trapping consideration stated in the Plan.

