

# Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) in Florida

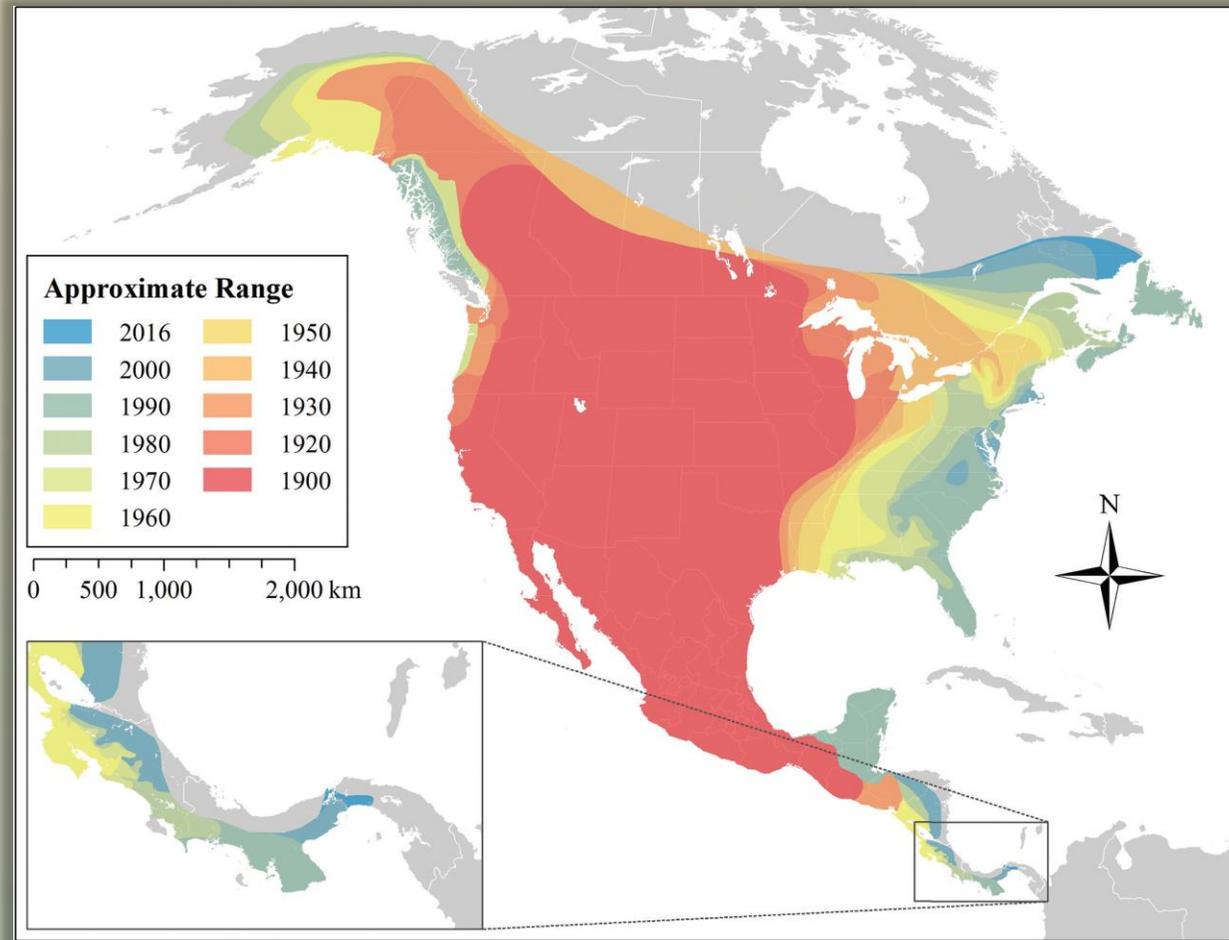


Presented by:  
Angeline Scotten  
FL Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission



Produced by: Martin Main, PhD  
University of Florida, IFAS  
mmain@ufl.edu

# History of the spread of coyotes across North and Central America



Hody & Kays. 2018



# Coyote biology

- Omnivorous, highly adaptable
- Adults 25-40 lbs.
- Home range size:  
natural areas ~15 mi<sup>2</sup>,  
urban areas ~3 mi<sup>2</sup>
- Mate in Winter
- Pups in Spring
- Litter size ~6 pups
- Both parents care for  
young



FWC photo- Clearwater



FWC trail camera photo- Big Cypress



# Urban coyotes and pet loss



FWC photo- Clearwater



# Dog attacks vs. coyote attacks

- Coyotes (USA and Canada 1970- 2015):
  - 8.9 attacks/yr.
  - 2 fatalities/45 yrs.
- Domestic dogs (USA):
  - 1,000 emergency room visits/day
  - 5 million cases/yr. require medical treatment
  - 217 fatalities during 2013-2018



[www.dogsbite.org](http://www.dogsbite.org)



# Prevent problems with coyotes- Secure Attractants

- NEVER feed coyotes!
  - Anything that can attract a dog, cat or raccoon can attract a coyote
- Secure garbage
- Clean up pet food, fallen fruit & bird feeders
- Keep cats indoors
- Keep dogs on leashes & supervised outdoors (especially small dogs)
- Follow hazing recommendations



# Local example: Coyotes in Clearwater

- Reports of coyotes attacking dogs
- Reports of coyotes ‘not afraid of humans’
- At-large dog- feeding situation
- Multiple site visits by FWC staff and Pinellas Animal Services for several months



# Local example: Coyotes in Clearwater

- FWC staff hazed coyotes
- Created hazing video, now on FWC website
- Assisted with signage
- Tolerance- both coyotes and residents
- Two public presentations for community, with Pinellas Animal Services



# Questions? Thank you!



Photo courtesy of Reinier Munguia- Lakeland

