

City of Austin Wildlife Management

Sarah Whitson
Animal Protection Officer - Wildlife

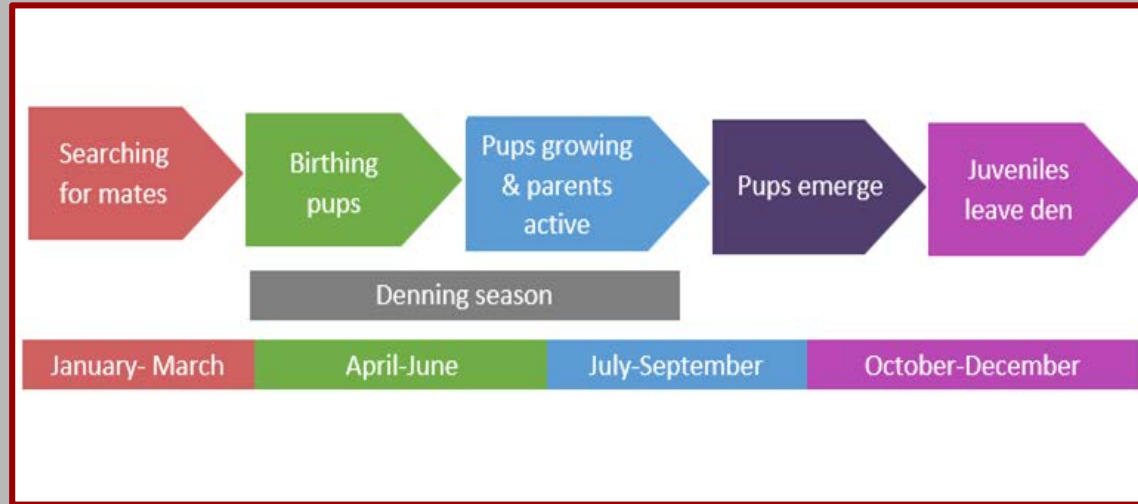


City of Austin Coyote Management Policy

- The goal is to help maintain a balance of public safety concerns and humane treatment for all animals by using current, peer-reviewed scientific research
 - Reshape coyote behavior through hazing
 - Offer tailored solutions
- Understand misperceptions of coyote behavior vs. reality of coyote ecology
 - Humans can shape behavior of individuals
 - Communicate with the public



Behavior Influenced by Season



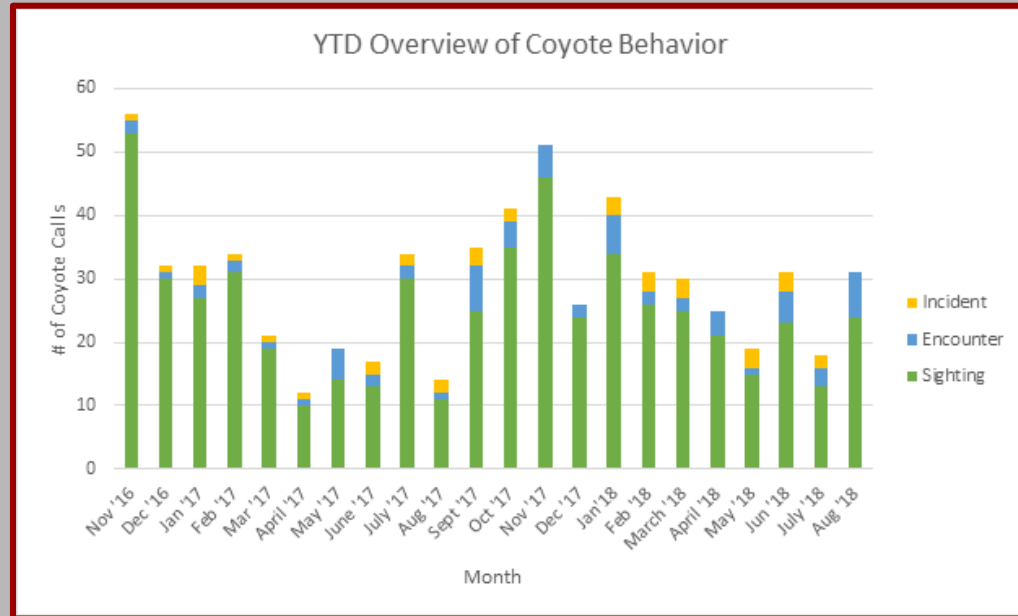
Behavior During Denning Season

- Flushing is a behavior coyotes may exhibit when there is a den nearby
 - Perceive dogs to be a threat to pups' safety
- Reports of flushing: Educate the community about activity and behavior
 - Canvass area
 - Communicate via social media, Nextdoor, newsletters
 - Reach out to Homeowners Associations, neighborhood groups, schools, and applicable municipalities



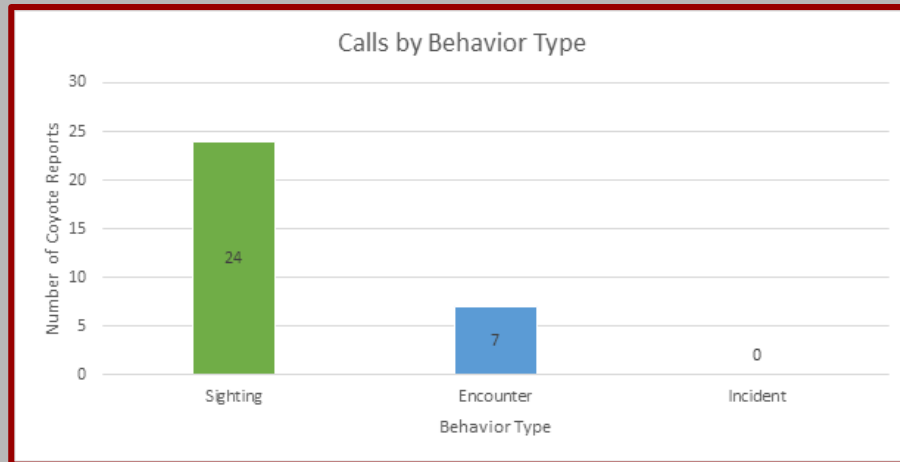
Year-to-Date Coyote Reports

- Record data to try to understand behavior and observe trends



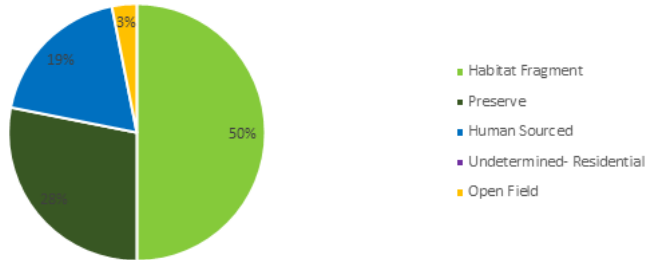
August 2018 Coyote Activity

- 35 total coyote related reports
- 85% increase in reports from July to August
 - Season a factor
 - 17% of reports in July determined to be fox related
- 24 sightings, 7 encounters, 3 sick coyote reports, 1 observation (howling)

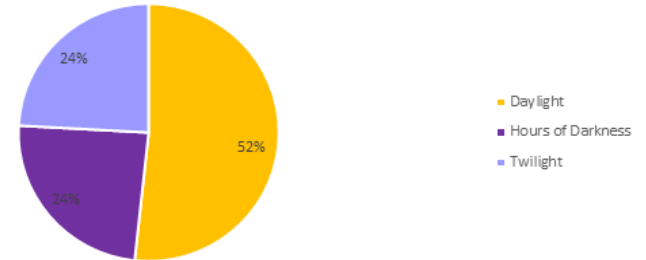


August 2018 Coyote Activity Continued

Potential Attractant



Time of Reported Activity



Conclusion

- Science supports humane solutions
- Use reports to monitor activity and observe behavior
- 4 Tools for co-existence
 - Don't make it easy for them by limiting attractants
 - Employ the best pet safety actions
 - Change our behavior to influence coyote behavior (hazing)
 - Educate neighbors, family and friends
- We focus on education, outreach, and offering tailored solutions through in-the-field responses and intervene when appropriate
- Provide long-term solutions to balance public safety concerns and humane treatment for all animals

