

Hi there,

I'm writing to ask you to please terminate Mendocino County's contract with the USDA Wildlife Services and its lethal Integrated Wildlife Damage Management (IWDM) Program, and establish a Non-lethal Wildlife Damage Management (NWDM) Program to be administered locally.

Every year for nearly nine decades, Wildlife Services has killed thousands of wild animals with traps, guns, and other cruel methods, largely at the behest of private ranchers and other agricultural interests. This flies in the face of the Public Trust Doctrine which maintains that wildlife is held in the public trust and that we all have a say in how our wildlife is treated.

Non-target species—including imperiled wildlife and domestic dogs and cats—fall victim to Wildlife Services' lethal approach. One Mendocino federal trapper admitted to killing more than [400 dogs](#) - are you kidding me with this? This is a negligent lawsuit waiting to happen.

There has to be a better way. I urge you to work with [Project Coyote](#) on non-lethal tactics in wildlife management. We must do better, for our lands, for our wildlife and for our future generations.

Cheers,

Renee Shenton