

Blue Sheet

Hunting Contests – Briefing and Public Comment



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

Anis Aoude
Game Division Manager,
Wildlife Program

Background

- RCW 77.32.525: The Director shall administer rules adopted by the commission which govern the time, place and manner of holding hunting and fishing contests....
- RCW 77.32.540: A person shall not promote, conduct, hold, or sponsor a contest for the hunting or fishing of wildlife or a competitive field trial involving live wildlife for hunting dogs without first obtaining a hunting or fishing contest permit. Contests and field trials shall be held in accordance with established rules.
- RCW 77.65.480 (6): A fishing or field trial permit allows the holder to promote, conduct, hold, or sponsor a fishing or field trial contest in accordance with rules of the commission. The fee for a fishing contest permit is twenty-four dollars. The fee for a field trial contest permit is twenty-four dollars. The application fee is seventy dollars.

Process

- WAC 220-412-110: A person wishing to hold a hunting contest must comply with the following provisions:
 - Only organizations filed with the state of Washington as a nonprofit corporation may apply for a hunting contest permit.
 - Hunting contest permit applications shall be submitted to the department 30 days prior to the date for which the contest is proposed.
 - Applications must include the permit fee required by RCW 77.32.211. The fee will be returned if the permit is denied.
 - Contests are restricted to the species approved on the permit.
 - Total value of prizes per contest shall not exceed \$2000.
 - Entry fees or requests for donations are prohibited.
 - It is unlawful to fail to comply with the conditions of a hunting contest permit.

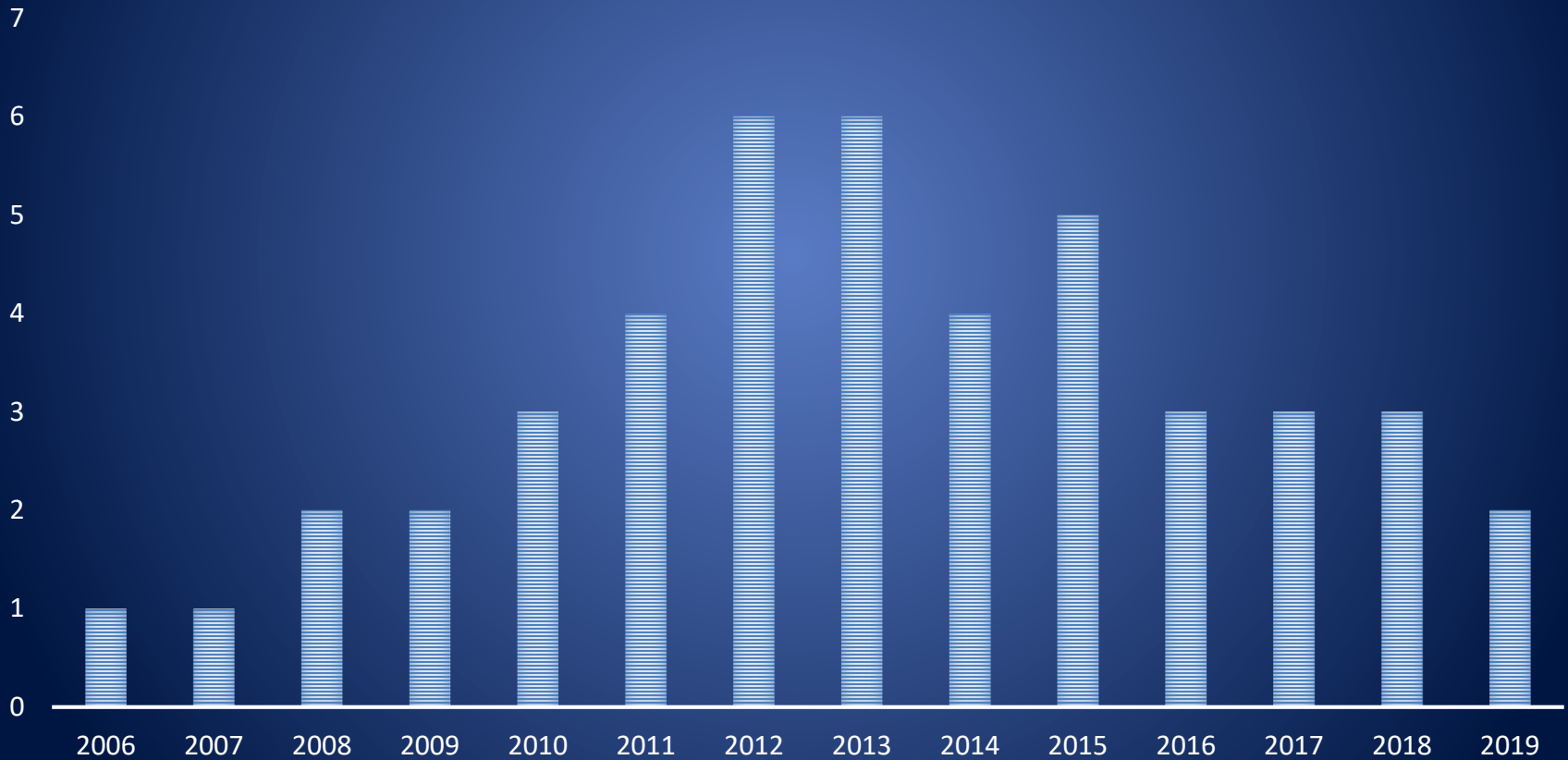
Hunting contests which may adversely affect wildlife resources will be denied.

Statistics

- Contests could be statewide, but typically encompass 1-12 counties.
- Contests could target any game species that can legally be hunted in Washington.
- We typically issue 1-6 permits annually.
- We have complete coyote harvest reports from 2014, 2015 and 2019, and they are 527, 335 and 119 respectively.

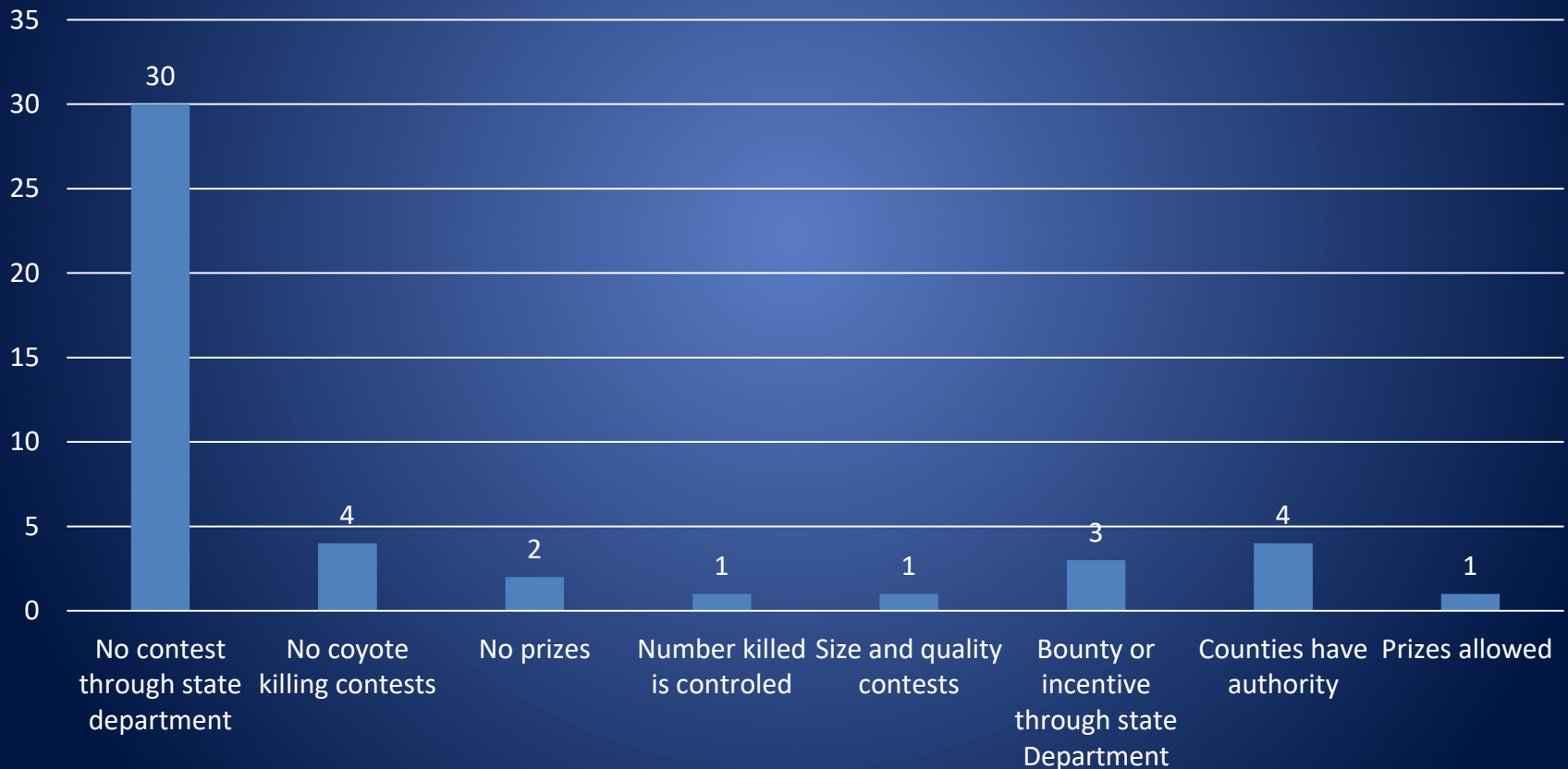
Statistics

NUMBER OF CONTESTS



Statistics Mainly for Coyote

State Strategies



Potential Options:

- Do nothing.
- Modify the permit conditions.
- Modify WAC 220-412-110.
- Potential modifications:
 - No numerically based contests.
 - No prizes. (Requires WAC change)
 - Limit the species that are allowed in contests.
 - Develop other options through public outreach.

Questions?