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SACKS, BEN N., J.C.C. NEALE, M.M. JAEGER, and D. McCULLOUGH. Dynamics of a coyote population in reference to sheep depredation. University of California at Berkeley, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management, Berkeley, CA 94720 USA (BNS, JCCN, DM); USDA-APHIS-ADC Denver Wildlife Research Center, Berkeley, CA 94720 USA (MMJ).

Much is known about how coyotes (*Canis latrans*) use and partition space within populations where they are lightly exploited or unexploited. Although livestock protection has provided the impetus for much of the research conducted on coyotes, most of what is known about coyote populations has come from studies in areas where no livestock exist. We used radio-telemetry to study coyotes from June 1994 to June 1995 at the Hopland Research and Extension Center (HREC-Hopland), a 3,000-ha facility used primarily for animal science research and containing a large flock of research sheep. We found that space use patterns of coyotes at HREC were similar to those found in other places, with breeding adults using mutually exclusive territories throughout the year and young and senescent individuals often roaming between territories. Breeding adults that held territories containing lambs were responsible for most of the depredations. Breeding adults were only vulnerable to control efforts during the pup-rearing season. Nonbreeding coyotes made up the bulk of removals during the rest of the year. We suggest that the timing of lambing and the focus of removal efforts in space and time are critical considerations in lessening sheep depredations.