State of California – Fish and Game Commission
PETITION TO THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION FOR REGULATION CHANGE
FGC 1 (Rev 06/19) Page 1 of 2

Tracking Number: (2026-09)

To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, (physical address) 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814, (mailing address) P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission's authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

SECTION I: Required Information.

Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages

1. Person or organization requesting the change (Required)

Name: Beverly Paras
Address: [redacted]
Telephone number: [redacted]
Email address: [redacted]

2. Rulemaking Authority (Required) -

Fish and Game Code sections 4150 and 4180 authorize the Commission to regulate the take of nongame mammals, including coyotes, and to amend Title 14 regulations related to take.

3. Overview (Required) -

Petitioner requests amendment of Title 14 to allow a limited exception to the 150 yard restriction for urban coyote conflict, enabling lawful intervention in dense residential areas when repeated conflict behavior occurs.

4. Rationale (Required) -

The 150 yard rule, combined with local restrictions, prevents effective response to urban coyotes even after repeated conflicts. This creates a gap where no action can be taken, allowing habituated behavior to escalate and increasing risk to people and pets.

SECTION II: Optional Information

5. Date of Petition: April 11 2026

6. Category of Proposed Change

- ☐ Sport Fishing
- ☐ Commercial Fishing
- ■ Hunting
- ☐ Other, please specify:

7. The proposal is to: (*To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs*)

■ Amend Title 14 Section(s): Title 14 §465.5 (Use of Traps)
☐ Add New Title 14 Section(s):
☐ Repeal Title 14 Section(s):

8. If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition
Or ■ Not applicable.

9. Effective date: If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation.
If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: Upon adoption through the standard rulemaking process.

10. Supporting documentation: Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents:
Public reports of urban coyote incidents in Southern California, including pet attacks, daytime residential activity, and human safety incidents; local agency response limitations in dense residential areas due to the 150-yard trap placement restriction; and existing CDFW guidance on human-wildlife conflict.

11. Economic or Fiscal Impacts: Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing:
No significant new fiscal impact. Public agencies already incur costs responding to urban coyote conflicts; current regulatory limitations can constrain timely and effective response.

12. Forms: If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:

SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only

Date received: 5/21/2026

FGC staff action:
☑ Accept - complete
☐ Reject - incomplete
☐ Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Tracking Number

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: _____

Meeting date for FGC consideration: _____

FGC action:
☐ Denied by FGC
☐ Denied - same as petition _____
Tracking Number
☐ Granted for consideration of regulation change

Supporting Statement for Petition – Title 14 Amendment (Urban Coyote Conflict)

Dear Members of the California Fish and Game Commission,

I respectfully submit this letter in support of the attached petition requesting a limited amendment to Title 14, Section 465.5 (Use of Traps), addressing urban coyote conflict in residential areas.

Communities across Southern California are experiencing an increase in coyote activity within densely populated neighborhoods. These incidents are no longer limited to occasional sightings. Residents are reporting repeated daytime presence, coyotes entering private yards, and attacks on pets. Documented incidents involving young children, including bites and close-contact encounters, have further increased concern regarding public safety.

Under the current regulatory structure, a practical limitation exists. While the take of nongame mammals is authorized under certain conditions, the 150-yard trap placement restriction, combined with local ordinances, often prevents any lawful response in urban environments.

In many residential areas, lot sizes and housing density make it functionally impossible to meet this requirement, even when repeated conflict behavior is present. In many cases, even property owners experiencing repeated conflict on their own property are unable to meet the distance requirement, leaving them without a lawful option to respond despite ongoing incidents.

As currently structured, the regulations can unintentionally leave dense urban communities without a practical or lawful means to respond to repeated coyote conflict.

As currently applied, these regulations function more effectively in rural or low-density environments where distance requirements can realistically be met. In contrast, dense urban areas often cannot meet these conditions, leaving cities and residents without a practical or lawful tool to respond, even when repeated conflict behavior is present.

Urban environments present a regulatory challenge that is not always fully addressed within existing classifications. In practice, there is no clearly defined framework for addressing human-habituated coyotes in dense residential settings, where behavior,

risk factors, and response limitations differ significantly from rural or wildland conditions. As a result, communities are often left managing situations under regulations that do not fully align with on-the-ground realities.

This petition does not seek broad or unrestricted changes. It proposes a narrow, situational exception that would allow controlled intervention only when repeated conflict behavior is clearly established in residential areas.

Existing guidance from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife appropriately emphasizes prevention. However, in cases where coyotes have become habituated to human environments, preventative measures alone are not always sufficient. Urban coyotes frequently demonstrate reduced sensitivity to noise and human activity, and may continue returning to the same locations despite deterrence efforts.

This proposal is intended to provide a practical and reasonable tool for addressing those specific situations while remaining consistent with the intent of existing regulations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Paras