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Coyote

September 9, 1975

SUBJECT: MEETING ON PREDATOR CONTROL

The President yesterday met with a group of Senators and Congressmen who are concerned about unmanageable losses from coyote predation. They feel the President's July 18th Executive Order allowing experimental use of toxic collars and the M-44 pellet device has been negative and is unacceptable to sheep herders.

What was the President's reaction to the meeting with Congressmen yesterday on predator control and what commitments did the President make?

GUIDANCE: As you know, President Nixon signed an Executive Order prohibiting the use of chemical toxicants for predator control. On July 18, 1975, President Ford amended that Executive Order and permitted expanded experimental predator control research on Federal land and Federal programs. The sheep and livestock continue to feel that they are suffering unmanageable losses from coyotes and the Senators and Congressmen who came in yesterday represent states with large numbers of sheep and livestock.

The President listened to the concerns of the Congressmen and Senators and then directed Jim Cannon and the Domestic Council to again look into this whole area of predator control and make their recommendations to him. No commitments or decisions were made at the meeting.

FYI: Russ Train issued one year experimental use permits for toxic collars and opened hearings in order to determine if the use of the M-44 device and sodium cyanide use could be expanded. Now it is only used for experimental research. Train's decision is due September 15, so we should not get too far out on this subject until after Train's decision. END FYI.

JGC

July 18, 1975

SUBJECT: COYOTTES

What does this Executive Order do that you put out earlier this morning, reference Coyottes?

GUIDANCE: On February 8, 1972, President Nixon signed an Executive Order which prohibited the use of chemical toxicants for predator control. Since 1972, EPA did issue some experimental use permits to allow some research with chemical toxicants, but this experimental use was keyed to emergency situations.

Today's Executive Order amends the 1972 Executive Order and permits expanded experimental predator control research on Federal lands and in Federal programs. In addition, the President is increasing the funding level, by reprogramming funds, by \$2.9 million. This will permit expanded experimental research. I should point out that this is for one year only, and at the end of that one year, we hope to have enough evidence as to the desirability of continuing the use of sodium cyanide or restricting it, etc.

For those of you who would like additional information, there will be a technical briefing at the Department of Interior at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The briefing will be in Room 5160, the Secretary's Conference Room.

JGC