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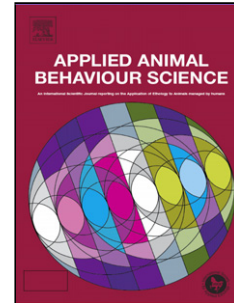
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Authors: Jeffrey T. Schultz, Julie K. Young

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Behavioral and Spatial Responses of Captive Coyotes to Human Activity

Jeffrey T. Schultz¹ and Julie K. Young^{1,2}

¹USDA-National Wildlife Research Center-Predator Research Facility, Millville, Utah 84326 USA

²Department of Wildland Resources, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322-5295 USA

Corresponding author:

Jeff Schultz

USDA-NWRC-Predator Research Facility

4200 South 600 East Cache County Road

Millville, UT 84326 USA

jeff.t.schultz@aphis.usda.gov

Highlights

- We examined captive coyote behavior and their utilization of enclosure features.
- We compared effects between periods with and without human activity.
- Coyotes were less inactive and more vigilant during human activity.
- There was an increase in use of enclosure perimeters during human activity.
- Coyotes utilized open areas and enrichment structures less during human activity.

ABSTRACT

Human interactions can alter an animal's behavior and utilization of its surroundings, and how this impacts the welfare of some captive wild animals is of growing concern. Structural enrichment shelters offer weather protection, relieve space from other animals or humans, or resting space. Perimeter or open space may be important during periods of activity, such as foraging or play. This study addressed the effects of human activity on coyote behavioral budgeting and enclosure utilization. We predicted that human activity would affect coyote behavior and spatial utilization

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