

Outdoors with Ed

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This issue will feature information about coyotes.

Homemade electronic caller

The basis for this and more technical information can be found:

<http://www.predatormastersforums.com/homemadeecaller.shtml>

<http://www.ednutter.ws/outdoors>

<http://www.youtube.com/outdoorswithed>

When through the woods,
and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down,
from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook,
and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul,
My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art,
How great Thou art.
Carl Gustaf Boberg
(1859-1940)

Parts:

- Cable with 1/8" mono male connector
- Mono to stereo adapter
- Cable with 1/8" male plug on one end and stripped on the other
- Radio Shack Power horn speaker
- Radio Shack 277-1008 mini audio amplifier
- MP3 player, cd player, tape player

Assembly:

1. Solder the bare wire ends to the wire on the Power Horn speaker.
2. Plug that into the External Speaker jack on the amplifier.
3. Attach the adapter to the other wire, and plug it into the other jack on the amplifier.
4. Connect the remaining end to your sound input device of choice. (I used an MP3 player with changeable SD cards.



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General Information

Coyote (barking dog)

Canis latrans

- Aztec Indian word (coyotle)

ki-O-tee

Also called: Eastern coyote, brush wolf, little wolf, prairie wolf,

American jackal

Subspecies

Pennsylvania: canis latrans latrans

Size

Length: 46"-54.6"

Tail: 12.7-15.8"

Weight: 25-50lbs

Population density: 1-2/mi(2)

Home range: 1976-19760 acres (5-10 square miles)

Longevity

6-8 years wild -- 18 years captivity

Description

- long, narrow pointed nose
- erect, pointed ears
- round pupils that shine greenish-gold at night
- both sexes colored alike
- adult males slightly larger
- largest reside in northeast

Fur

- gray to yellow-gray pelage
- middorsal band of long black-tipped guard hairs
- bushy black-tipped tail
- head grizzled gray w/ rusty or yellowish tint along neck and sides
- throat, belly, back of ears, top of nose, legs, feet vary from orangish red to cinnamon
- molting begins in late spring and is completed in summer. Pelage is prime between early December and February

Upcoming Events

<http://www.wvdnr.gov/>

Note:

10/4 is
YOUTH
Squirrel hunt

10/11 is
Squirrel
season

The deeper
you go in
the forest,
the more
things
there are to
eat your
horse.
-- 13th
Warrior

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Ecology

- highly adaptable (marshland, open grassland, dense hardwood forest)
- prefers brushy, disturbed edges of woodlands

Prey

- Omnivorous (rabbits, rodents, birds, livestock, poultry, reptiles, amphibians, fish, fruit, insects, plants, carrion, antelope, opossums, garbage, birdseed, doughnuts, berries, watermelon)

Mortality causes

- humans, fleas, ticks, lice, chiggers, mange, tapeworms, roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, pinworms, heartworms, lungworms, flukes, spiny-headed worms, tularemia, canine distemper, rabies, Q fever, bubonic plague

Behavior

- active throughout the year
- principally nocturnal - peak in early evening. May forage during daylight in summer
- hunt singly, in pairs, packs of 3 to 8
- travel single file - if pairs - along game trails and road cuts
- hunting alone - takes small mammals
- hunting in packs - may hunt deer or elk. Two or more may chase large animal 400m
- fastest canine - 40MPH
- leap 14 feet in the air
- holds tail between hind legs while running
- strong swimmer

- territorial

- body postures
- Facial expressions
- scent marking
- rocks, bushes, stumps, bases of trees. Defecates on small ridges and elevated sites along hunting trails. Scent gland on top of tail about 2" from base - rubs secretion on trees and bushes as individual recognition.

-- vocalizations

- yip, yelp, howl, growl, bark, woof
- commonly rests in a concealed spot on brushy hillsides
- large carcass - will eat organs first and pick bones clean

Reproduction and development

- does not mate for life, but may stay together for several years
- monestrous (breeds once per year)
- usually February
- 4 to 5 day period of estrus
- gestation is 58 to 65 days
- 5 to 7 pups
- birth in April or early May
- blind, helpless
- brownish-gray wooly fur
- weigh 9 oz
- gain 10.5 oz/week until weaning
- both car for young
- male brings food for nursing female
- whelps
- able to crawl when 2-3 days old
- walk @ 8-10 days
- eyes open by 2 weeks
- venture outside 1 week later
- parents provide partially digested food
- weaning occurs @ 8-9 weeks
- group abandons den
- young taught to hunt
- family disbands in autumn
- young disperse up to 120 miles from den
- hunt alone from autumn to winter
- may pair and breed (most wait until 2 years old)
- achieves adult weight around 9 months old
- breed when a year old (2 years for wolves)
- close relatives of dogs - will mate with them
- better food supply = larger litter

Dens

- for rearing young
- brush covered slopes
- rocky ledges
- hollow logs
- may excavate own den or renovate abandoned woodchuck, fox or skunk den
- well concealed by brush
- have several entrances about 1' in diameter
- tunnels range from 5 to 30 feet and terminate at nest chamber
- nest chamber about 3 feet in diameter