Using ecology to guide CSUDH’s response to urban coyotes

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Class: Ecology

Human-coyote conflicts are a growing issue in many urban areas, including Los Angeles. On the CSUDH campus, coyotes have been present for many years, and there are valid concerns about how these animals could impact the safety of campus community members. To aid in assessing this risk, students in the Biology Department’s spring 2021 Ecology course are using camera traps and analyzing coyote scat composition in order to generate quantitative data on the abundance, activity, and behavior of coyotes on campus. This information, along with existing literature, will be used to create a student-led coyote monitoring and management plan for CSUDH.