

Contest Prohibition for Taking Unprotected Mammals

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
September 15, 2023
Bend, Oregon

Brian Wolfer, Wildlife Division Deputy Administrator



Agenda

Background

Statutory Authorities and Limitations

Species Classification

Proposal Development

Background

- October 2022 petition to prohibit coyote killing contest
- December 2022 Commission denied petition
 - Directed staff to draft rules consistent with Commission's authority



Wildlife Laws

ORS 496.162 (1-2)

- Commission shall prescribe the times, places, manner and amounts of wildlife species that people may take
- Commission shall prescribe other restrictions or procedures to carry out provisions of wildlife laws

ORS 496.162 (3)

- Commission shall not prescribe limitations on the times, places or amounts for the taking of predatory animals

Wildlife Laws

ORS 496.012 (7)

- Make decisions affecting wildlife resources for the benefit of the resources
- Allow for best social, economic, and recreational utilization of wildlife resources by all user groups

Predatory Animal Laws

ORS 610.002

- “Predatory animals” include swine, coyotes, rabbits, rodents, and certain birds that are or may be destructive to agricultural crops or activities

ORS 610.105

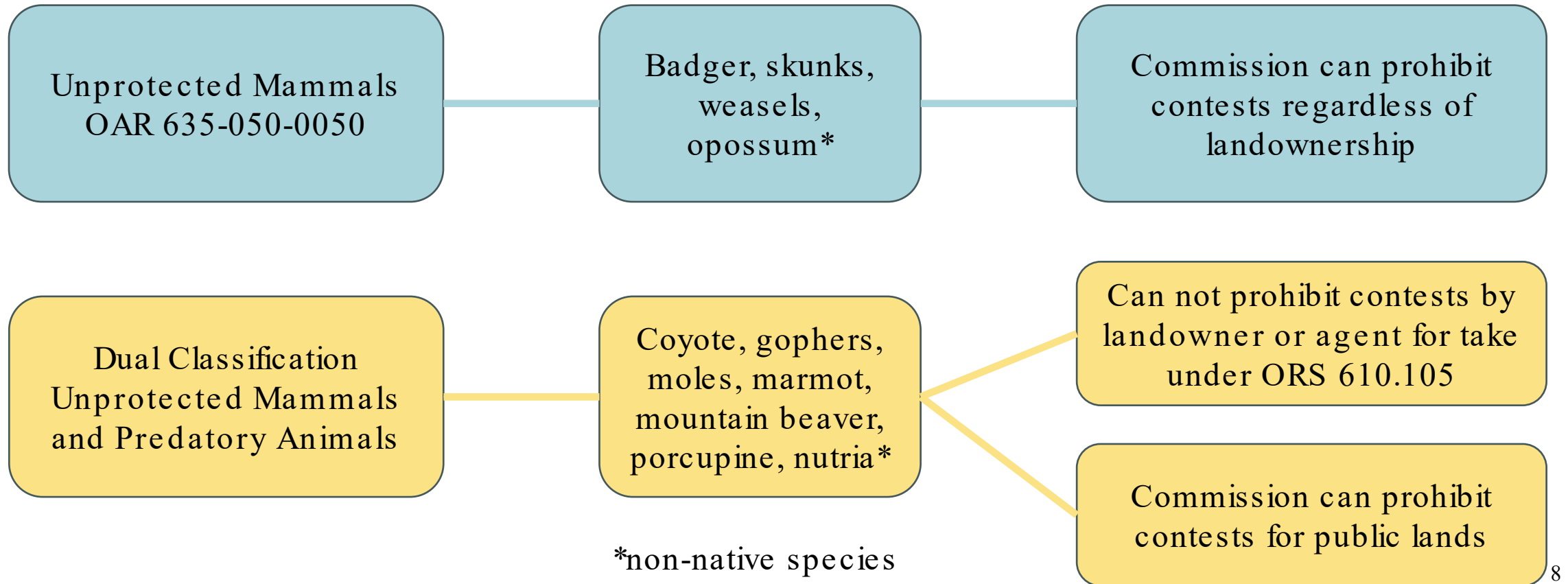
- Any lawful landowner, occupant or agent may proceed to control predatory animals by poisoning, trapping or other appropriate and effective means

Predatory Animal Laws

ORS 610.060

- Nothing in the wildlife laws is intended to deny the right of any person to control predatory animals as provided in ORS 610.105

Native Species Classifications



Proposal Development

- Prohibit contests to take native unprotected mammals
- Acknowledge prohibition does not apply to take under ORS 610.105
 - Limits take to landowner or landowner agent
- Modified proposal based on feedback
 - “Contest” instead of “derby”
 - Added language to better define incentives

Draft Motion

I move to approve the amendments to OAR Chapter 635, Division 050 as proposed by staff in Attachment 3 and determine that doing so will carry out the provisions of wildlife laws as described in Attachment 3 and Commission deliberations.