

EVALUATION OF TUBAL LIGATION AND VASECTOMY ON PAIR-BOND AND TERRITORIAL DISPLAY BEHAVIORS IN CAPTIVE COYOTES

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Abstract: Territorial and pair-bonding behaviors for nine pairs of captive coyotes (*Canis latrans*) with various sterilization treatments were collected and analyzed. Numbers and treatments among coyote pairs were randomly assigned as follows: males from three pairs (non-sterilized females) and females from three different pairs of coyotes (non-sterilized males) were surgically sterilized by vasectomy or tubal ligation, respectively; three pairs underwent sham surgeries and served as the control group. Frequency, duration, and patterns of territorial and pair-bonding behaviors recorded as scan and focal data over a 16-month period were analyzed. Data analyses showed no statistical differences among treatments.