

Scotty L. Kelly

From: Taylor Moreno <taylornmoreno@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 11:47 PM
To: Scotty L. Kelly
Subject: Public Comment for Feb 3 Mtg - Proposal for Sea Turtle Protection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

[Report Suspicious](#)

Dear City Council,

We were disturbed to receive an email regarding the Proposal for Sea Turtle Protection to authorize the targeted killing of coyotes. Protection of wildlife is a core principle of this Sanctuary community; or so we thought.

Even more troubling is that this proposal comes from the organizations we trust the most. We don't question the sincerity of SCCF researchers' concern about the decline in Sea Turtle survival rates, but this working group has lost the plot. This is interventionism. Suggestions to address this concern by killing another species raise serious ethical concerns about how the city and its partners endeavor to protect the balance of nature.

Why does this working group find violence against living creatures an acceptable "solution?" How is predation of wildlife by wildlife a "problem?"

This is not *ecological justice*. An animal's life is not worth less than another. When we choose which animals get to live, we take on a role that really isn't ours to have. Compassion for wildlife should not be selective; we should respect all wildlife on this island.

The proposal for killing coyotes is carefully positioned to separate itself from those most dramatic and ignorant among us who have fervently called for indiscriminate culling of coyotes, as if they are a threat to any of us (Puh-lease!). We resent that this program will inevitably be seen by those in our community as tacit approval to harm wildlife and perpetuate the labeling of coyotes as a "nuisance" animal.

Actions like this risk damaging the island's reputation as a Sanctuary. Residents and visitors walk on the beaches at night. Encountering the aftermath of a lethally wounded coyote would be distressing and inconsistent with the values this community represents. A decision to authorize this program should draw significant public attention, concern, and scrutiny.

We urge the council to carefully consider the ethical, environmental, and reputational impacts of this program and **do not** approve the Sea Turtle Protection Proposal by the Sanibel Coyote Working Group.

Sincerely,

Scotty L. Kelly

From: Sandy Stewart <sstewart@tribute.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 8:17 AM
To: Scotty L. Kelly
Subject: Coyotes on Sanibel; should not be culled

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

[Report Suspicious](#)

I'm writing to encourage Sanibel not to move ahead with the Coyote cull.

Predators bring important balance to ecosystems. Please have the council watch the 3 minute video 'The Wolves of Yellowstone Park' to see visual proof that predators have value and will bring back nature. Coyotes have sophisticated social structure and are extremely intelligent. Culling will simply cause a rebound in breeding, and science has proven that indiscriminate culling does not reduce the populations in the long term.

Coyotes are an important part of biodiversity on the island. They keep rodents, rabbits, and non-native iguanas in check. They are fun for tourists to watch, although they are extremely shy and will .

Turtle hatchlings are not their core diet and they will return to their normal diet as soon as the prey populations return to pre-lan numbers. Most turtle nest hatchings are monitored by people preventing coyotes from even getting close.

We must learn to live in harmony with nature. And let nature balance itself.

Scotty L. Kelly

From: David Finkelstein <David@bdex.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 4:16 PM
To: Scotty L. Kelly; sancouncil
Subject: Re: Proposal for Sea Turtle Protection

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

[Report Suspicious](#)

Dear City Council Members,

I want to thank you for your careful consideration today in response to the Coyote Working Group proposal.

I look forward to participating in the proposed community workshop.

As I mentioned in my public comments, I am very appreciative of the work performed by the biologists and volunteers and their commitment to protecting the sea turtles, however in order for us to consider a lethal solution such as the one proposed, it must be done so with sound data.

As the owner of a data company with over 30 years of experience in data analysis, I can't stress enough the importance of making sure decisions (especially lethal ones) are made based on sound data science processes not adhoc charts and graphs designed to meet one's goal.

In simple terms, the analysis provided was done in a vacuum. What this means is that it was done looking only at Sanibel as if sea turtles only existed on Sanibel.

One thing that was missing, that came out in our discussion today, is that Sanibel represents only 1% of all sea turtle nests in Florida. Further to that, the target area in the proposal is even smaller, in fact as Jake stated, it is only 20% of the total sea turtle nests on Sanibel. In effect, this means we are talking about a sample size of nests representing 0.2% of the sea turtle nests in all of Florida. (20% of 1% = 0.2%)

What the working group is suggesting with their proposal is that reducing the predation rate in this tiny sample, will somehow have a significant effect on the total sea turtle population. There is simply no data to support this and it would be unreasonable to assume this would be the case.

Additionally, as I mentioned earlier as well, when doing a data analysis, it is important to eliminate the outliers first and then analyze. Unfortunately the opposite was done in their presentation and the outliers were not only included, but treated as the "new" normal.

As we all know our ecosystem is still trying to recover and the past 3 years are simply not a valid sample to make that assumption.

Finally, when doing a data analysis with lethal consequences, it is important that the analysis is done without prejudice. This means the analysis needs to be done by someone who has nothing to gain from

the outcome. They would approach the problem by analyzing the situation as a whole, not an analysis designed to reach a specific outcome. This is not a question of which species is more important. We are a sanctuary island, all species are equally part of the ecosystem, an independent analysis would come to a conclusion without advocacy for one species over another.

I am sorry for the long email, but there simply was not enough time today for me to share all of this.

Thank you again for your service and for taking so much time to carefully consider the facts.

Sincerely,



David Finkelstein
CEO
www.bdex.com
954-341-7988



- *[3X Inc 5000 Fastest Growing Company](#)*
- *[Find more people like your best customers with Machine Learning](#)*
- *[Read our white paper on how data quality effects ROAS](#)*

From: David Finkelstein <David@bdex.com>

Date: Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 12:09 PM

To: scotty.kelly@mysanibel.com <scotty.kelly@mysanibel.com>, sancouncil@mysanibel.com <sancouncil@mysanibel.com>

Subject: Re: Proposal for Sea Turtle Protection

Dear Sanibel City Council Members,

Please find the attached comments regarding the proposal from the Coyote Working Group.



David Finkelstein
CEO
www.bdex.com
954-341-7988



- *[3X Inc 5000 Fastest Growing Company](#)*
- *[Find more people like your best customers with Machine Learning](#)*
- *[Read our white paper on how data quality effects ROAS](#)*