

Carnivore Spotter Summary Report

August 12, 2019 – December 31, 2025

*Prepared by the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project, 2026
with assistance from Jennifer Tallman, Advanced Inquiry Program
graduate student*



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The Seattle Urban Carnivore Project (SUCP) is a collaboration between Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle University, and community members like you. SUCP aims to increase our understanding of urban carnivores by studying how these species live and interact with people across the greater Seattle region. SUCP created Carnivore Spotter, a public online platform launched on August 12, 2019 (www.carnivorespotter.org). This tool allows community members to share sightings of these carnivore species and interactions that may occur. The following graphs summarize Carnivore Spotter reports from August 12, 2019 through December 31, 2025. Your efforts and enthusiasm as participants with the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project have contributed to our understanding of carnivores in the greater Seattle area and improving our coexistence as a community. Thank you!

Carnivore Spotter Summary of 2019-2025 Observations*

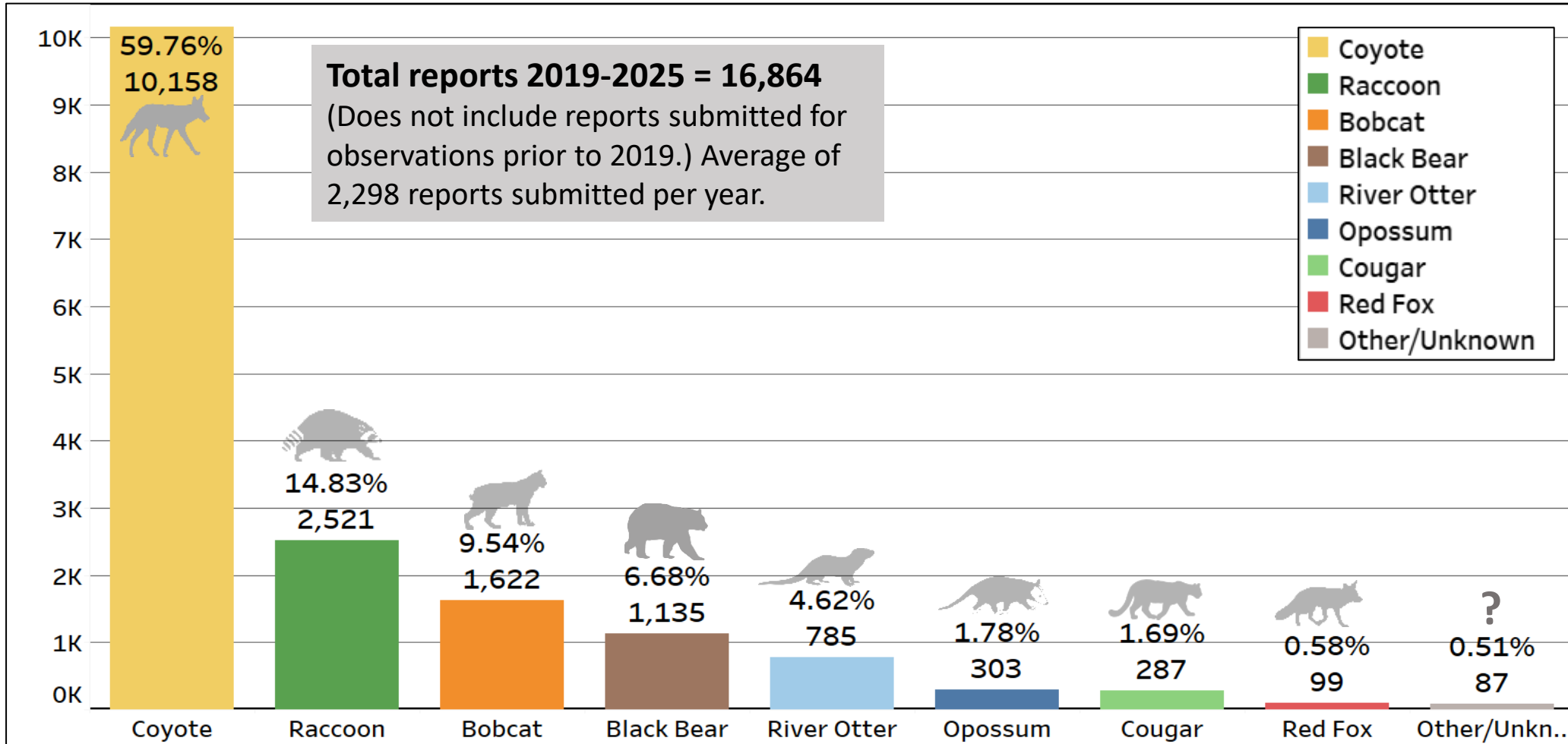


Figure 1 – Total number of carnivore species observations reported to Carnivore Spotter from 2019-2025. Percentage of total reports and total number of reports per species.

*** Numbers of observation reports are not indicative of species population numbers.**

Graphs on the following pages are focused on the top 5 species observed for 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. All photos in this presentation were submitted to Carnivore Spotter by the public. Silhouette images from PhyloPic website.

Summary of 2019-2025 Coyote Observations

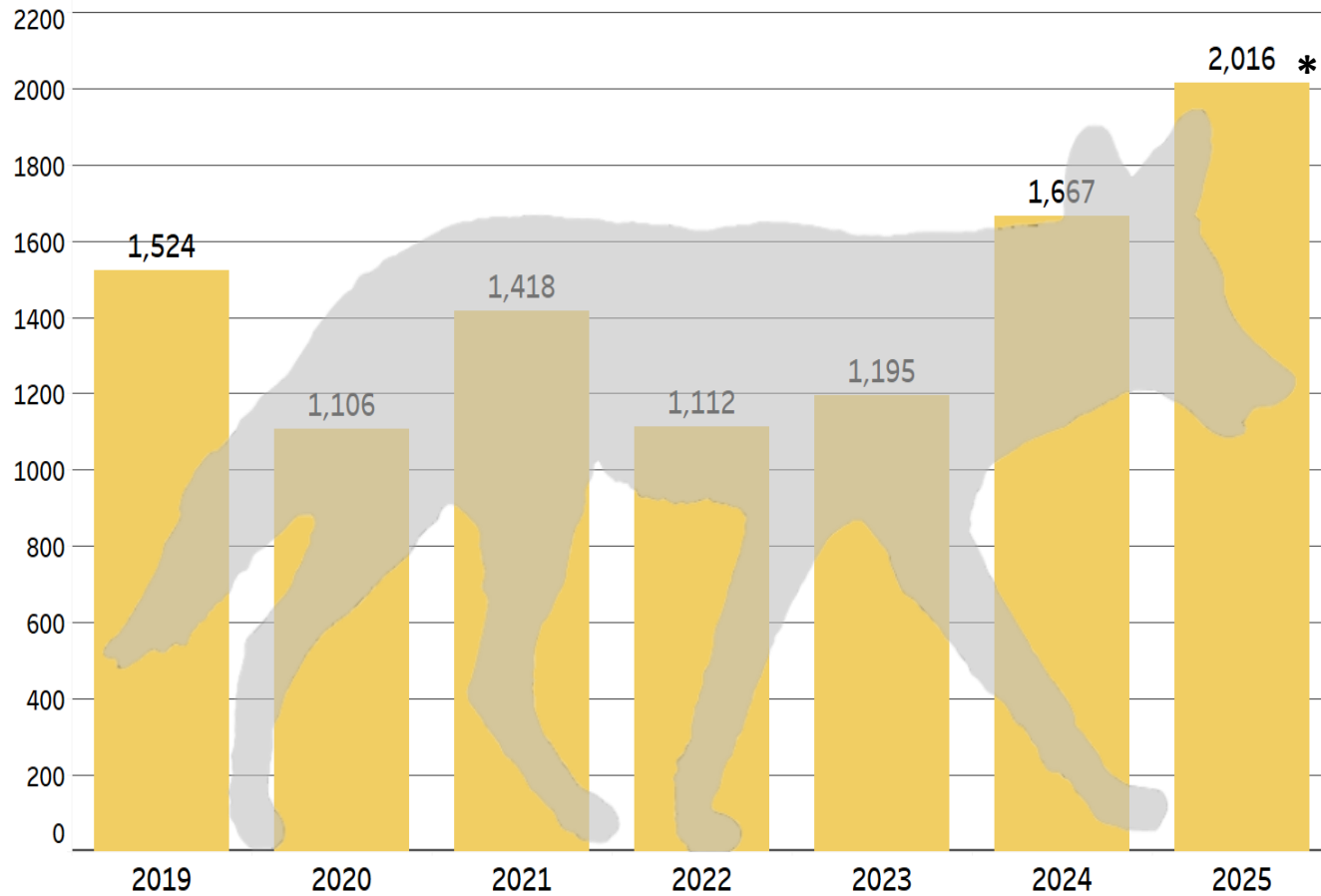


Figure 2 – Total observation reports of coyotes annually from 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. Coyote observations accounted for nearly 60% of the total carnivore observations reported over these years.

*** Numbers of observation reports are not indicative of species population numbers.** The higher number of reports in 2025 does not necessarily represent an increase in the numbers of coyotes in the region compared to other years.



Coyote walks past a garage in a Seattle neighborhood. Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Summary of 2019-2025 Raccoon Observations

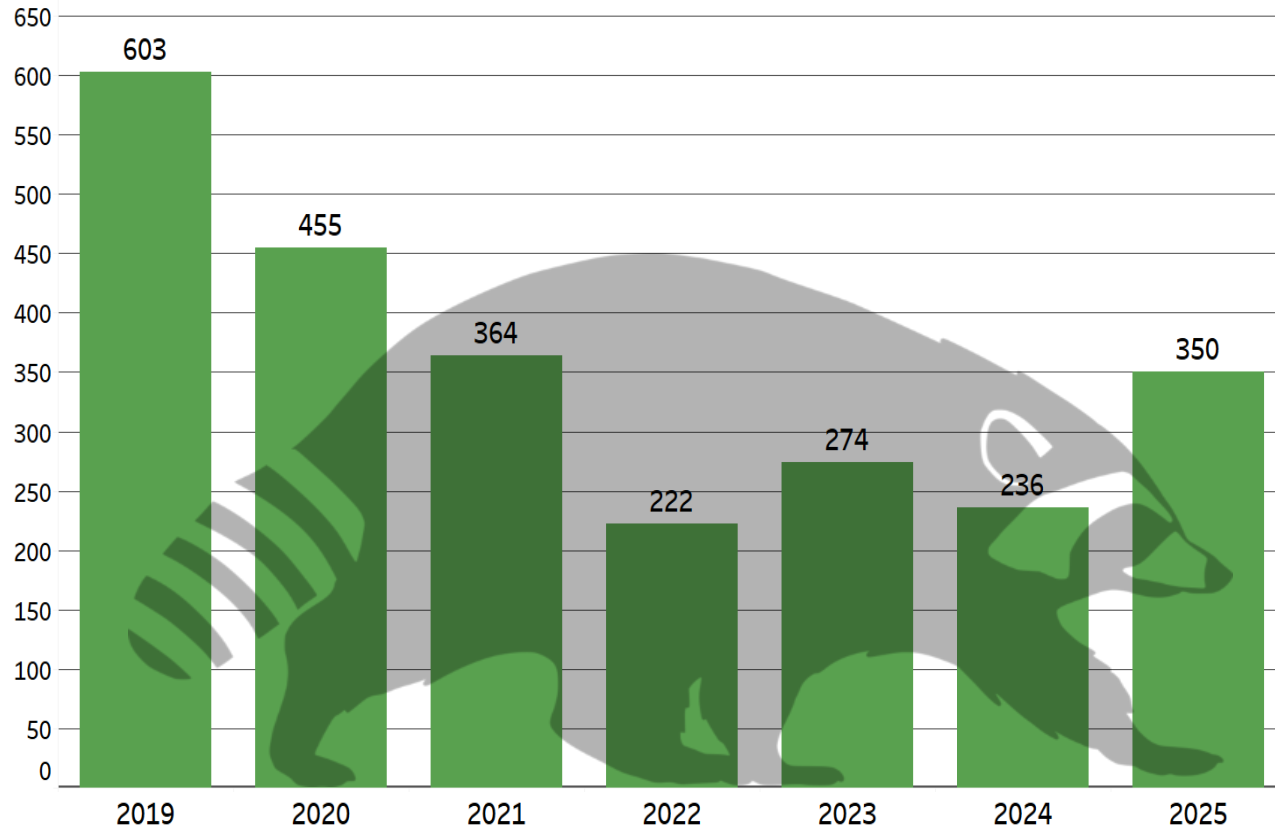
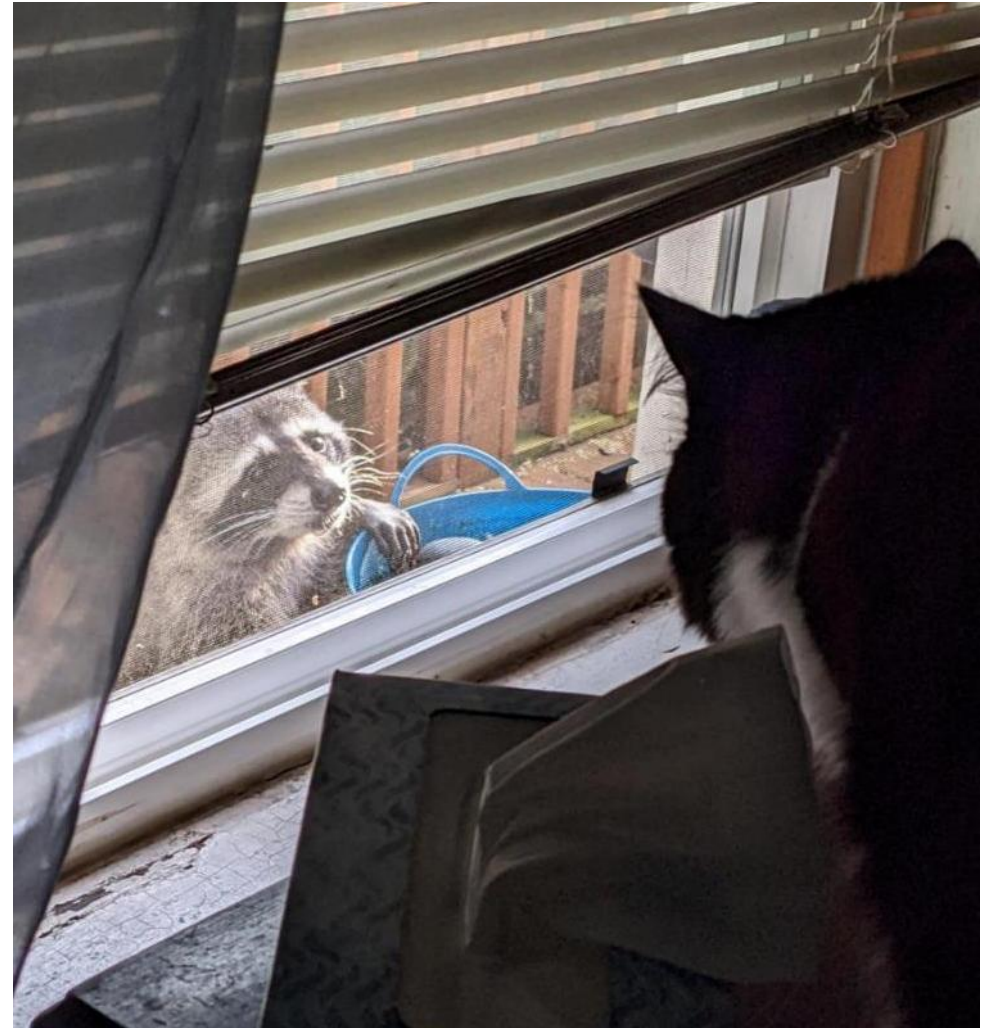


Figure 3 – Total observation reports of raccoons annually from 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. Raccoon observations accounted for nearly 15% of the total carnivore observations reported over these years.



Raccoon investigating items on a deck, observed by an indoor cat.

Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Summary of 2019-2025 Bobcat Observations

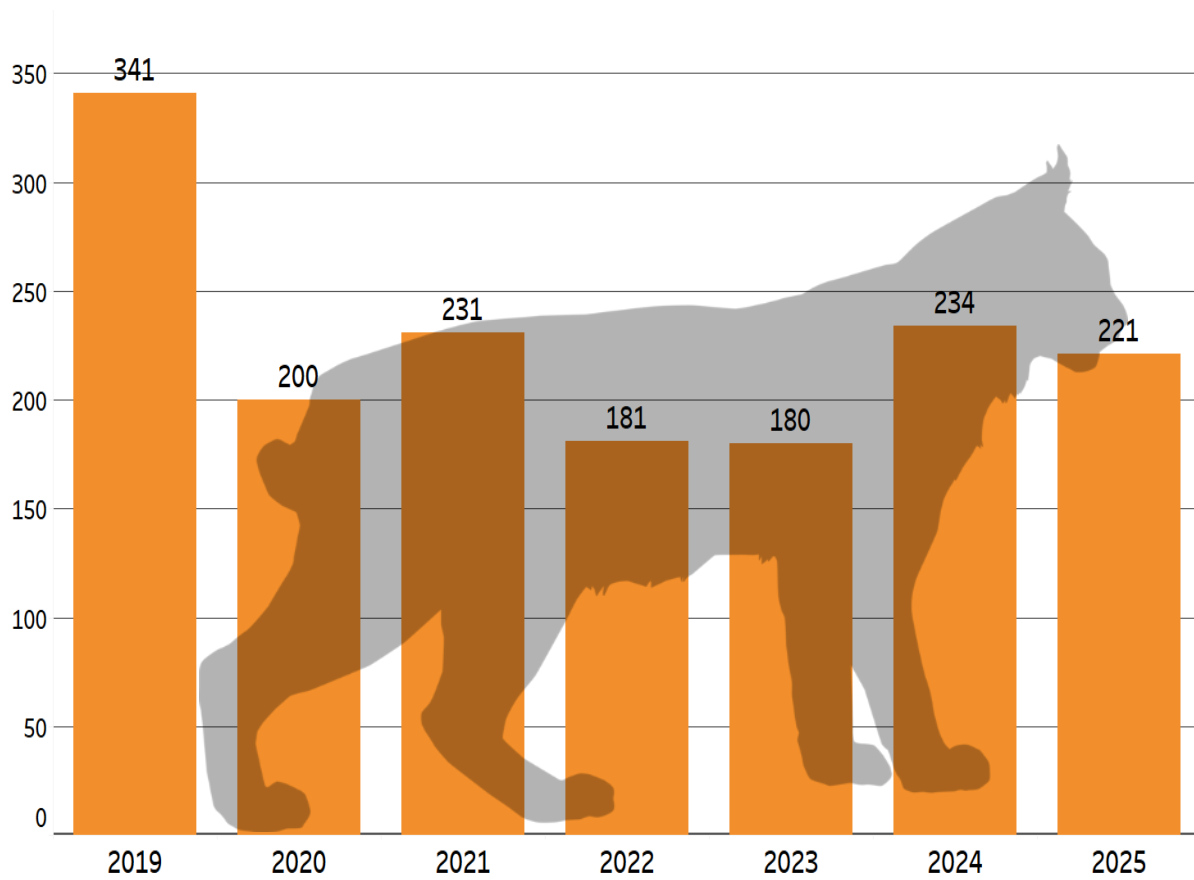


Figure 4 – Total observation reports of bobcats annually from 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. Bobcat observations accounted for nearly 10% of the total carnivore observations reported over these years.



Bobcat perching on the roof of a shed. Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Summary of 2019-2025 Black Bear Observations

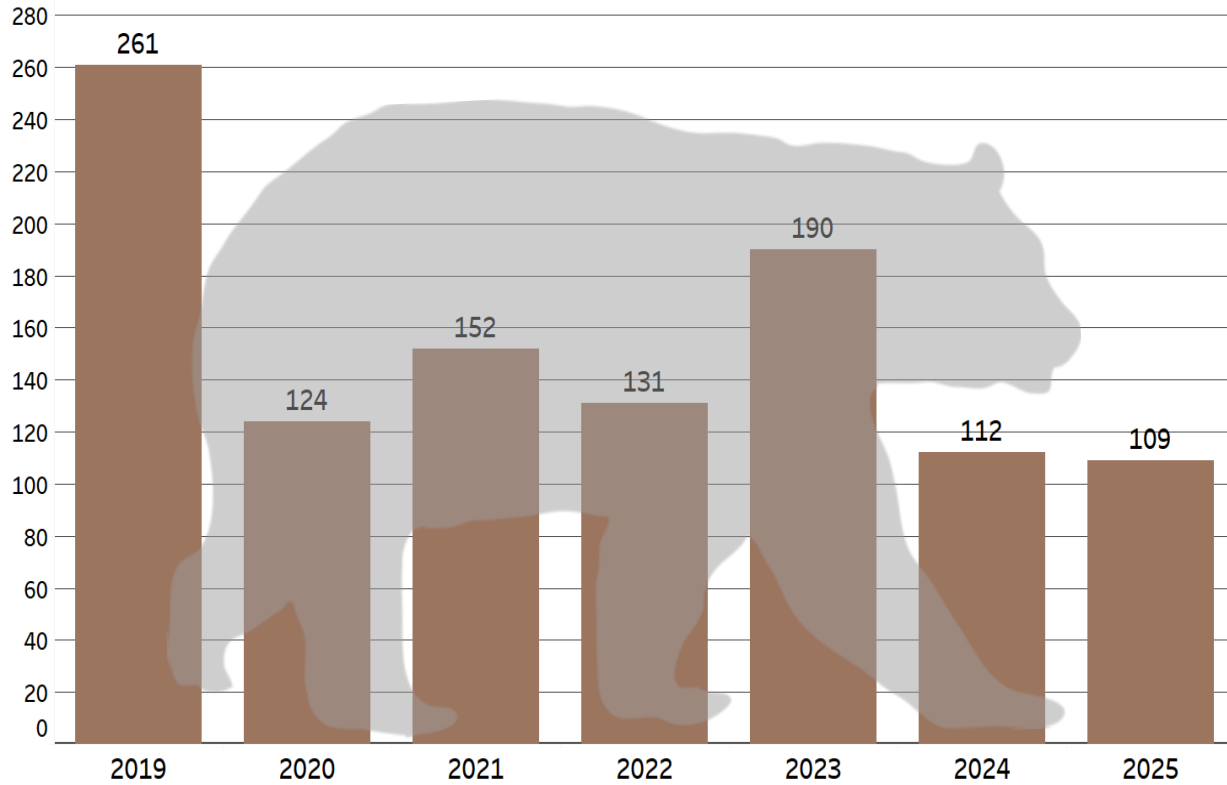


Figure 5 – Total observation reports of black bears annually from 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. Black bear observations accounted for nearly 7% of the total carnivore observations reported over these years.



Black bear mother and cubs travel through a suburban backyard.

Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Summary of 2019-2025 River Otter Observations

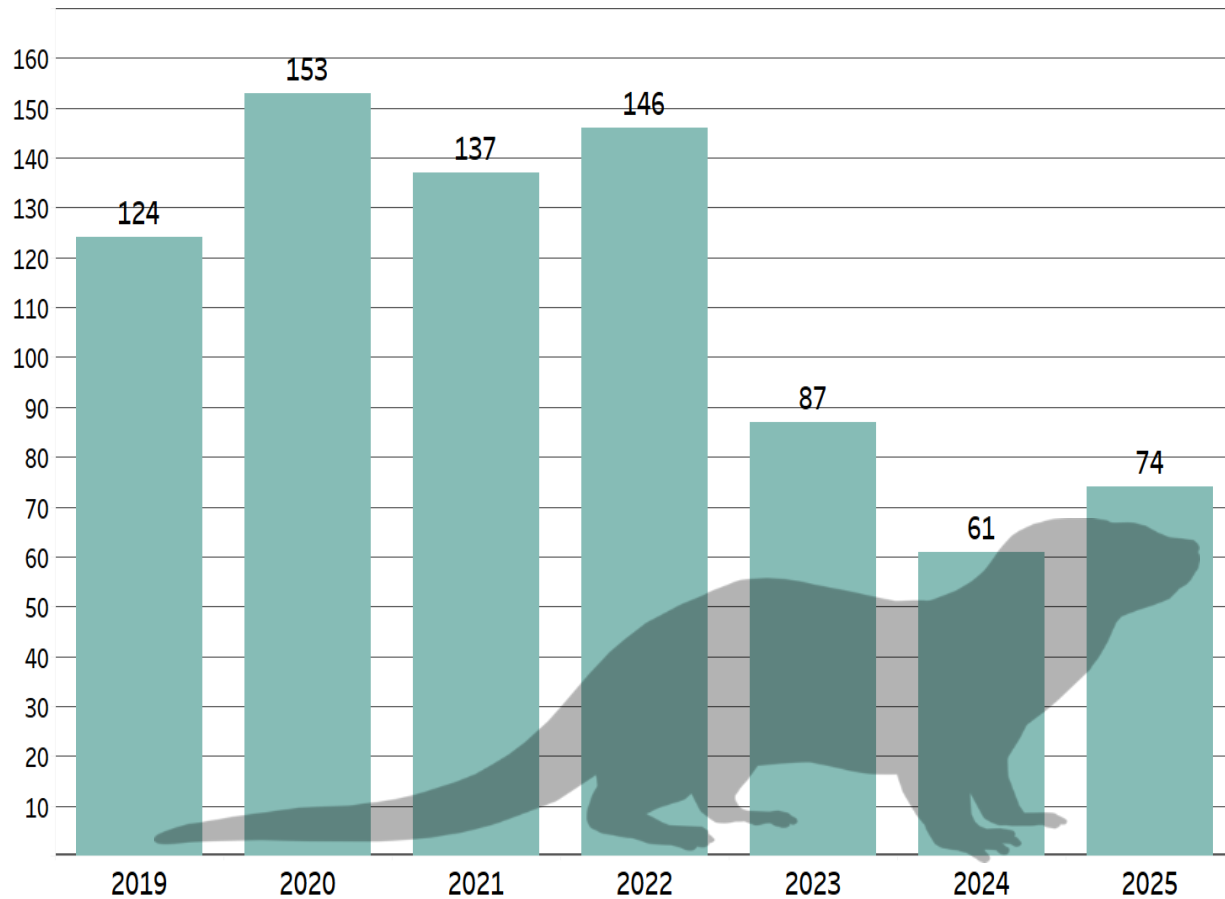


Figure 6 – Total observation reports of river otters annually from 2019-2025. Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. River otter observations accounted for nearly 5% of the total carnivore observations reported over these years.



River otters traveling across a backyard. Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations in each month (2020-2025)

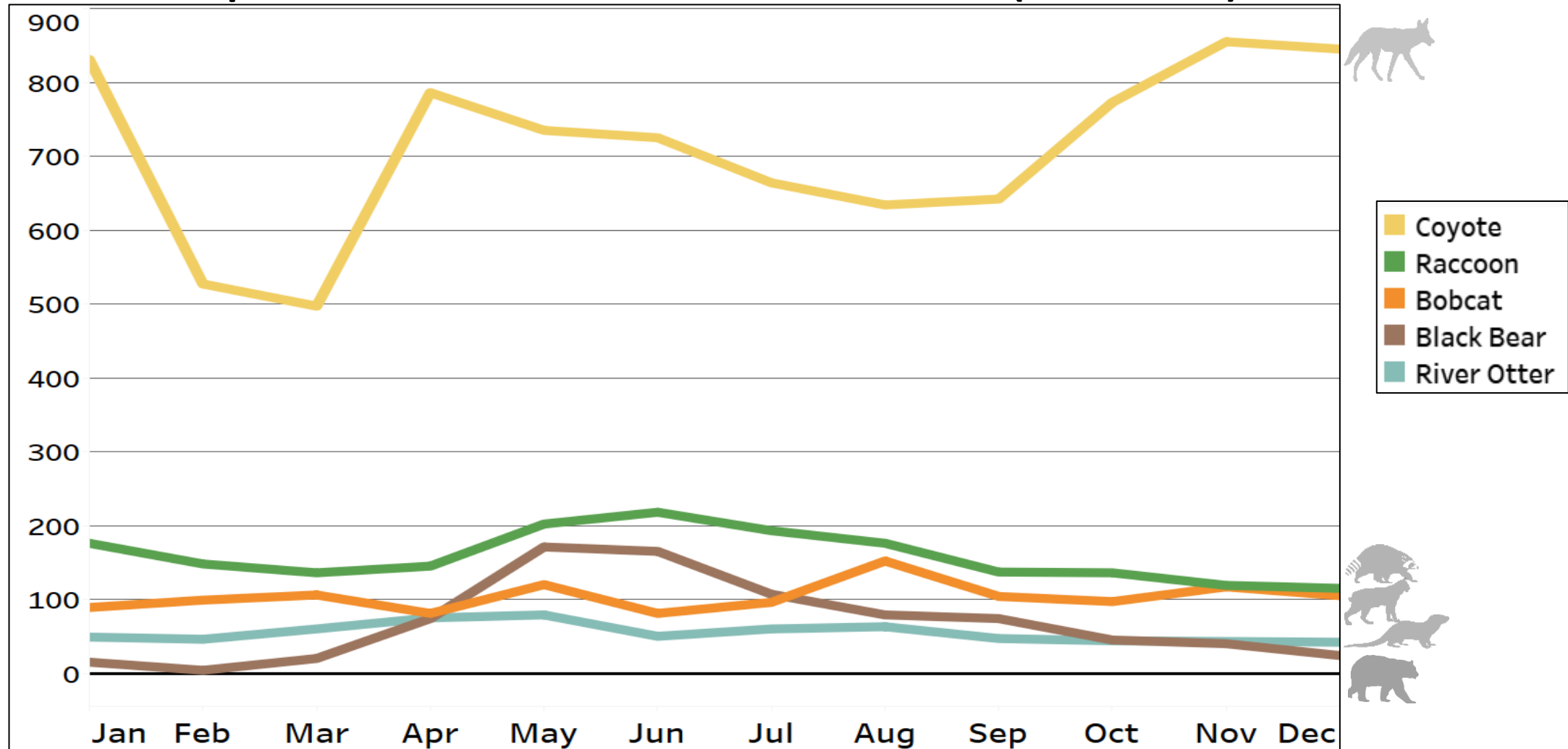


Figure 7 – Top five carnivore species observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter was launched on August 12, 2019. The graphs on this and the following five pages only include data for the six years with Carnivore Spotter observations in every month (2020 to 2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of coyotes in each month (2020-2025)

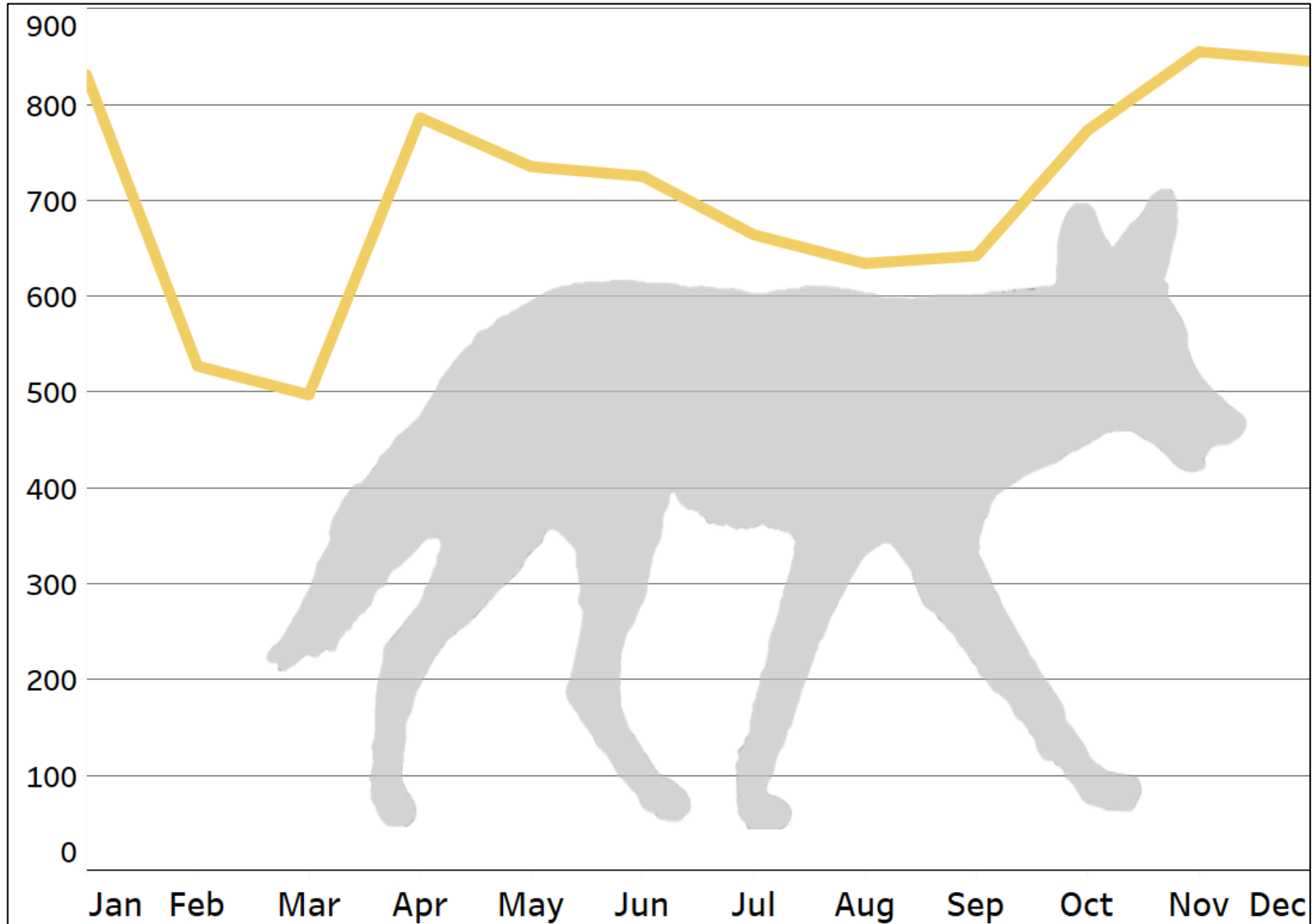


Figure 8 – Total coyote observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of raccoons in each month (2020-2025)

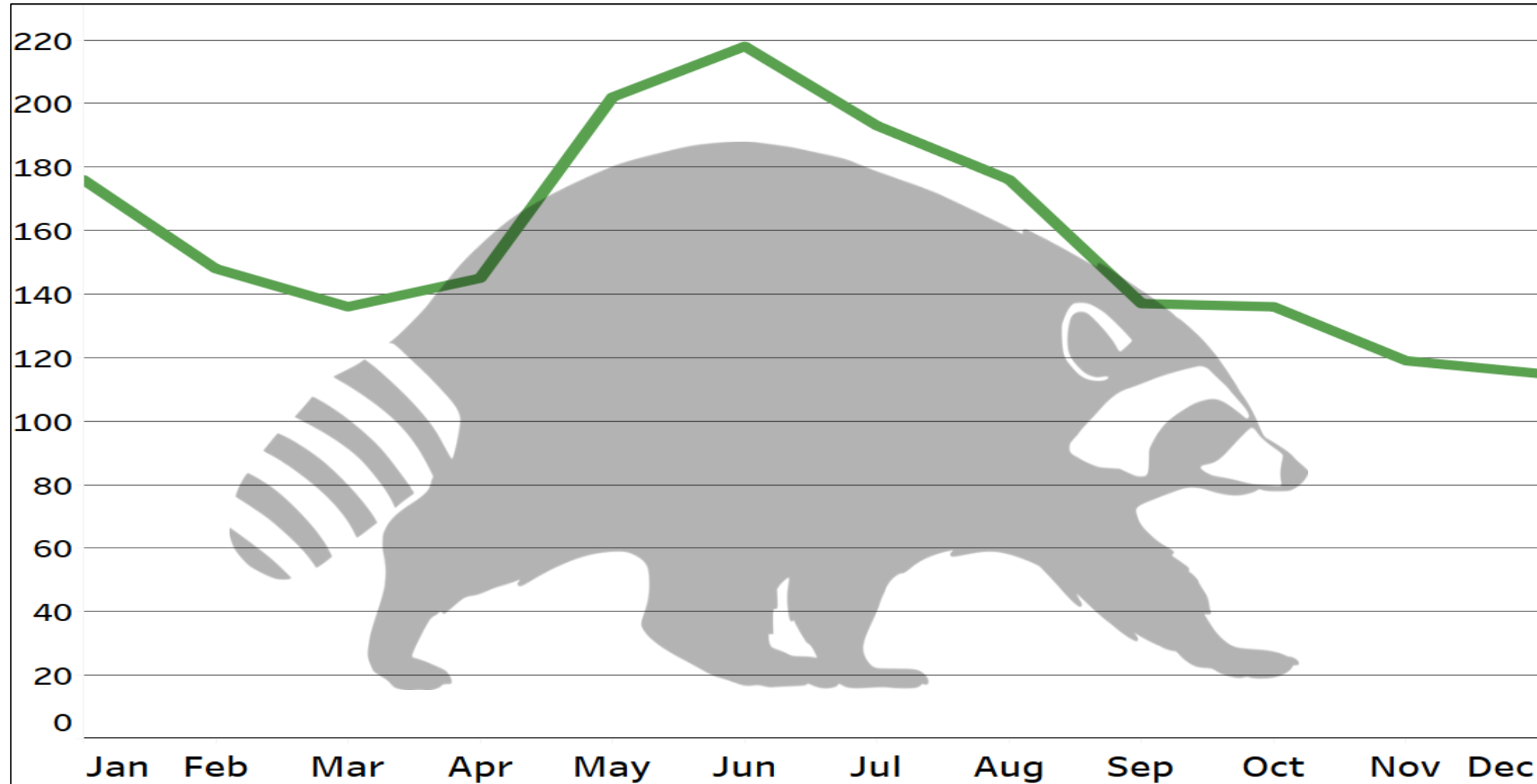


Figure 9 – Total raccoon observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of bobcats in each month (2020-2025)

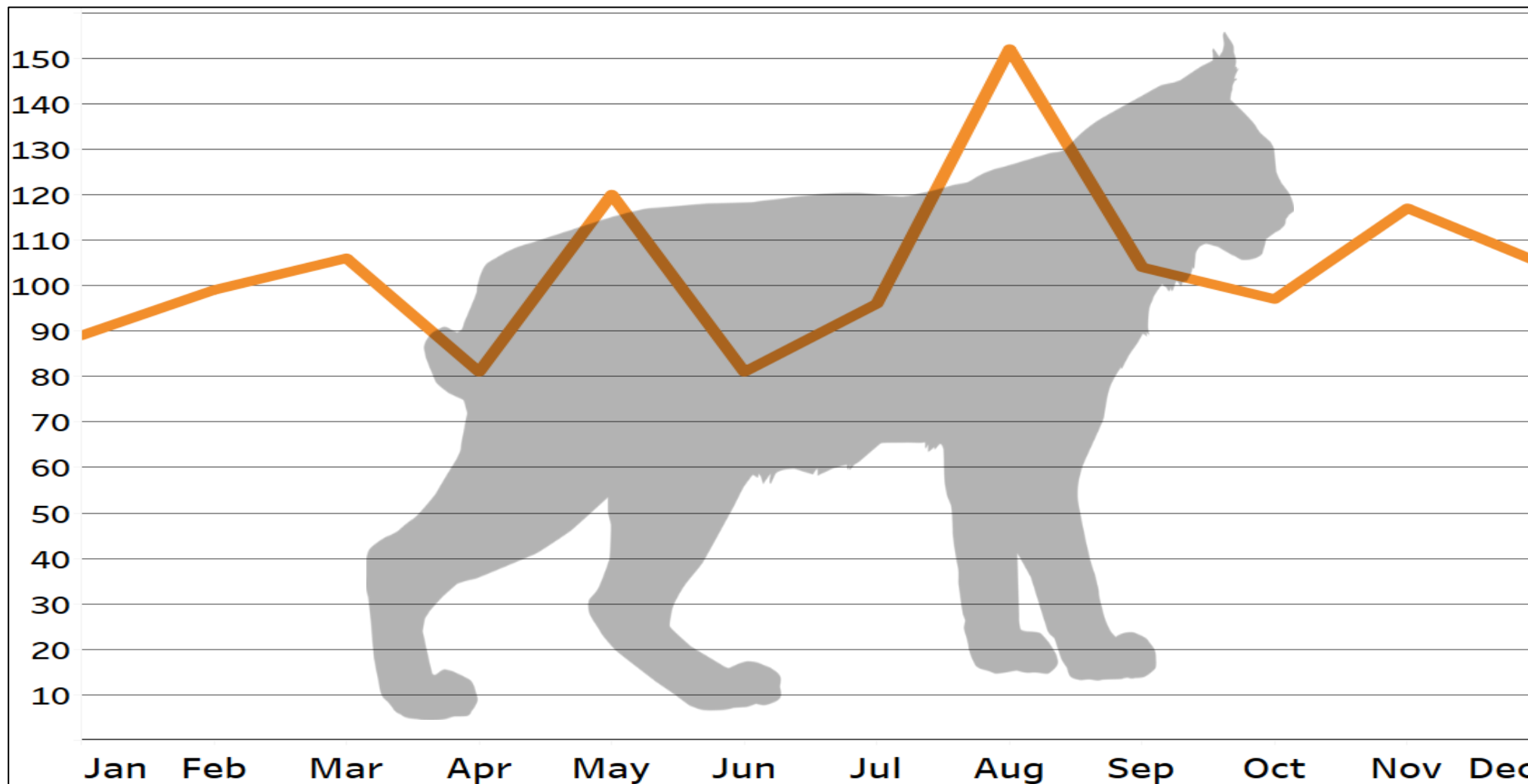


Figure 10 – Total bobcat observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of black bears each month (2020-2025)

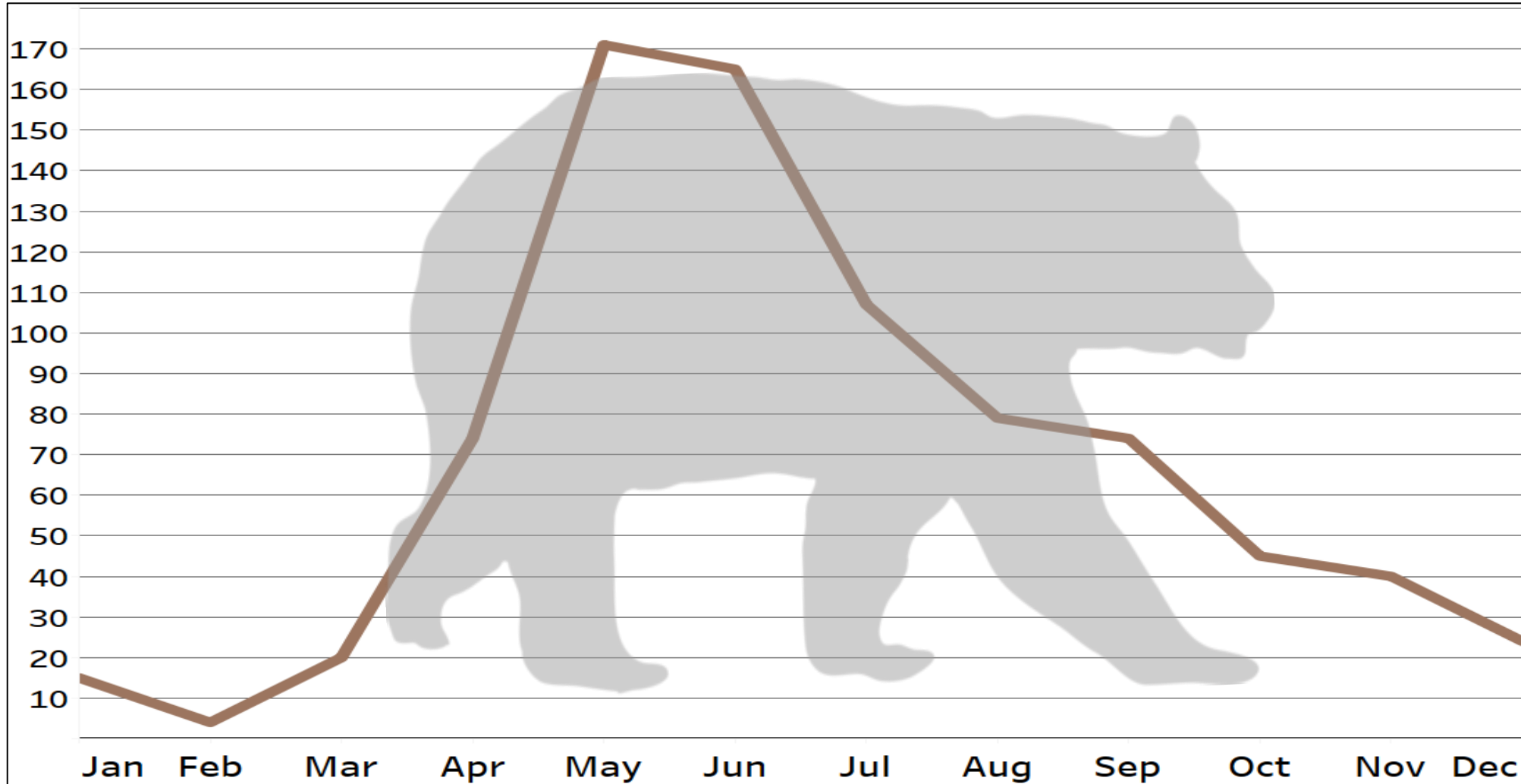


Figure 11 – Total black bear observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of river otters each month (2020-2025)

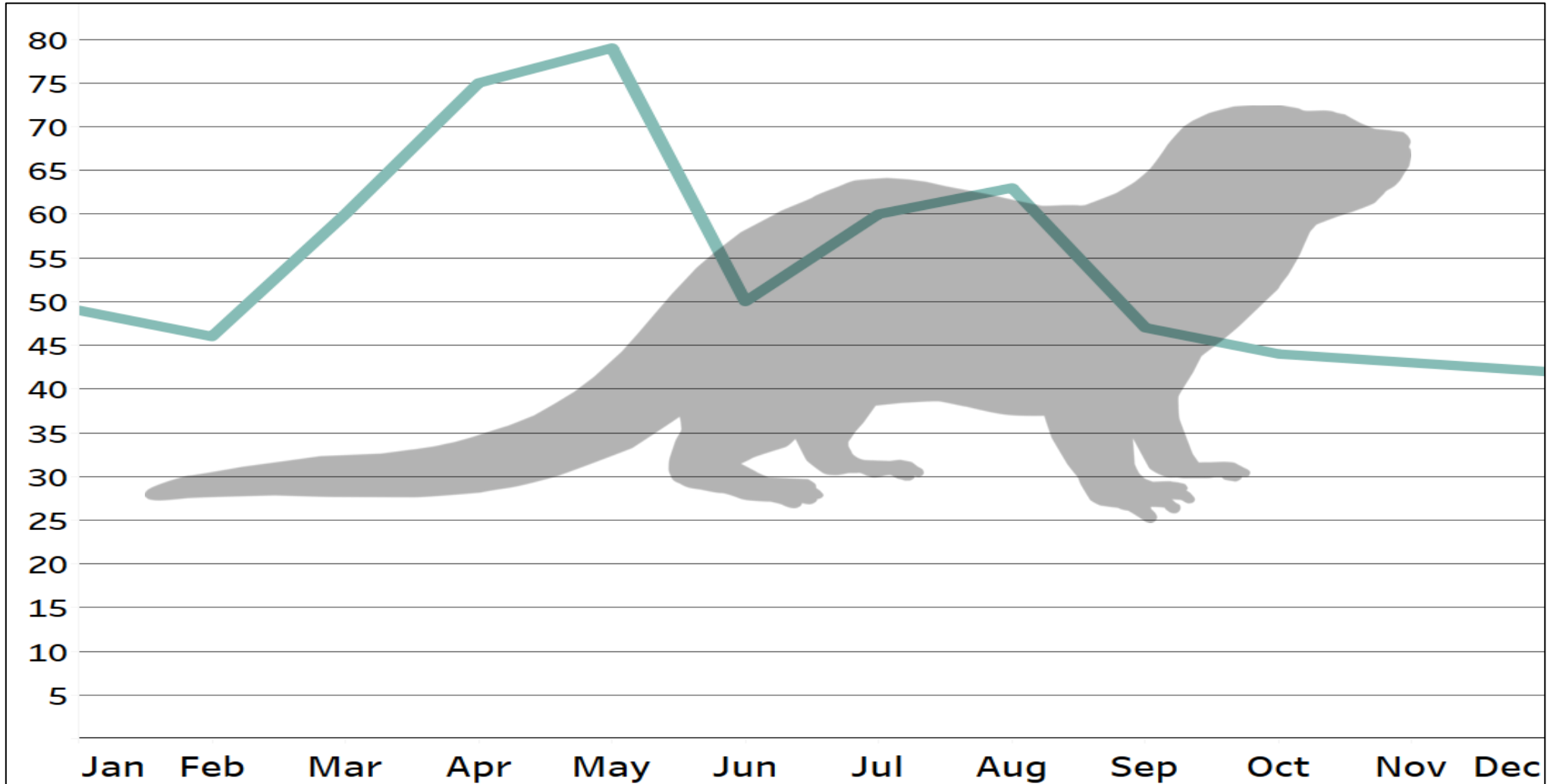


Figure 12 – Total river otter observations by month (2020-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations by hour for the top 5 observed species

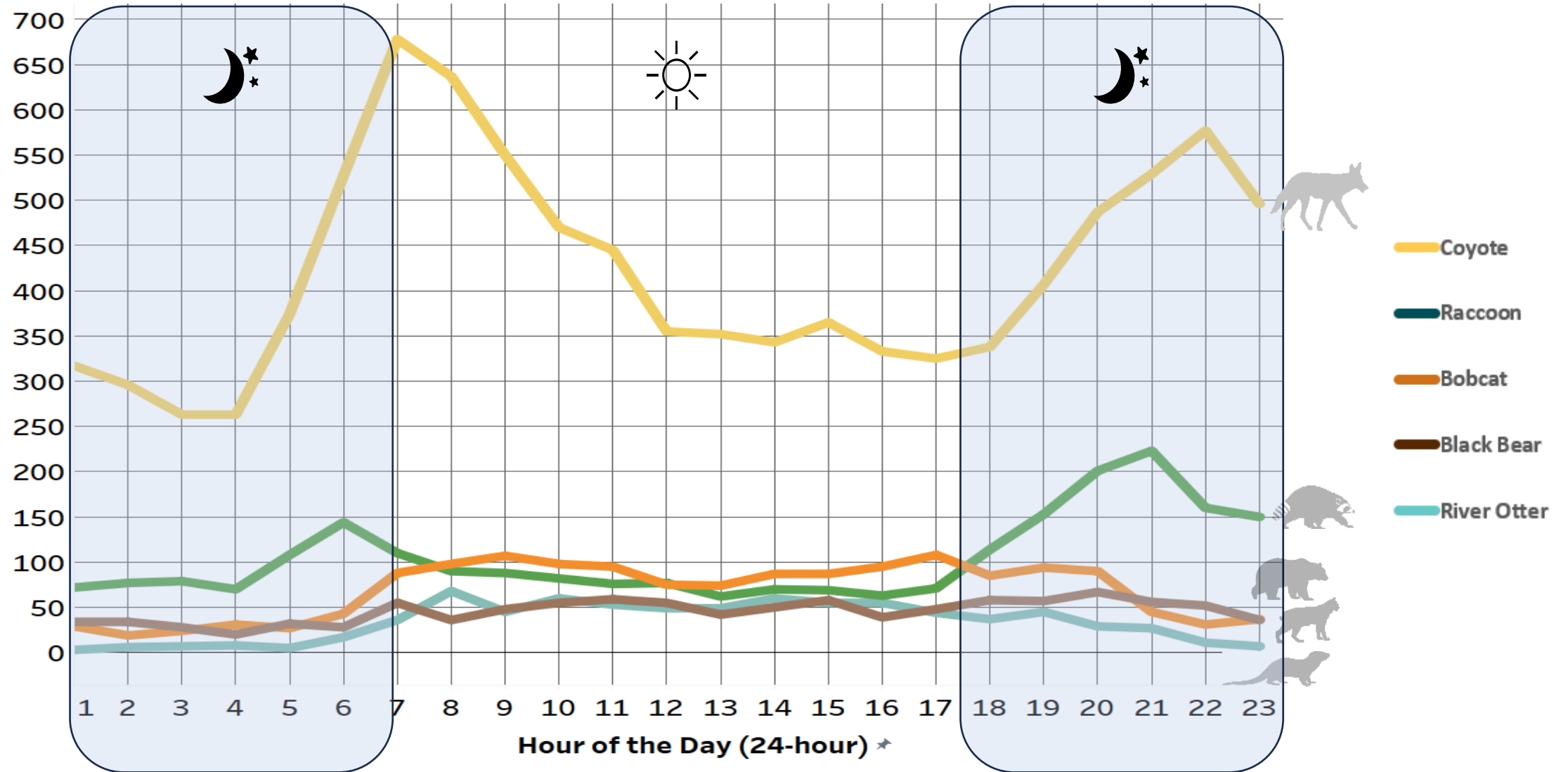
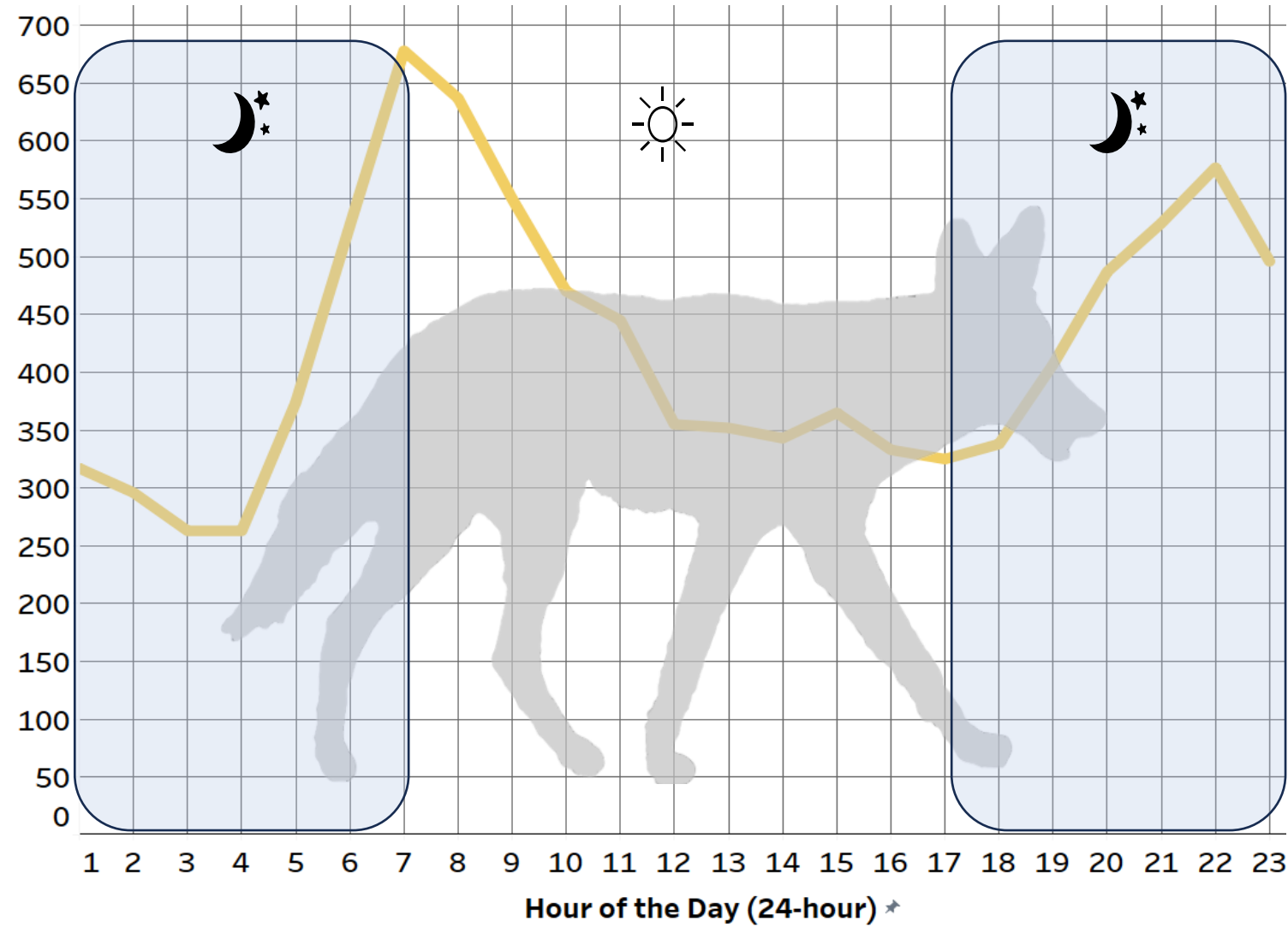


Figure 13 – Top five carnivore species observations by hour of day observed (2019-2025).

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of coyotes by hour of the day



Coyote in a yard with a dog toy.
Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Figure 14 - Coyote observations by hour of day for 2019-2025.

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of raccoons by hour of the day

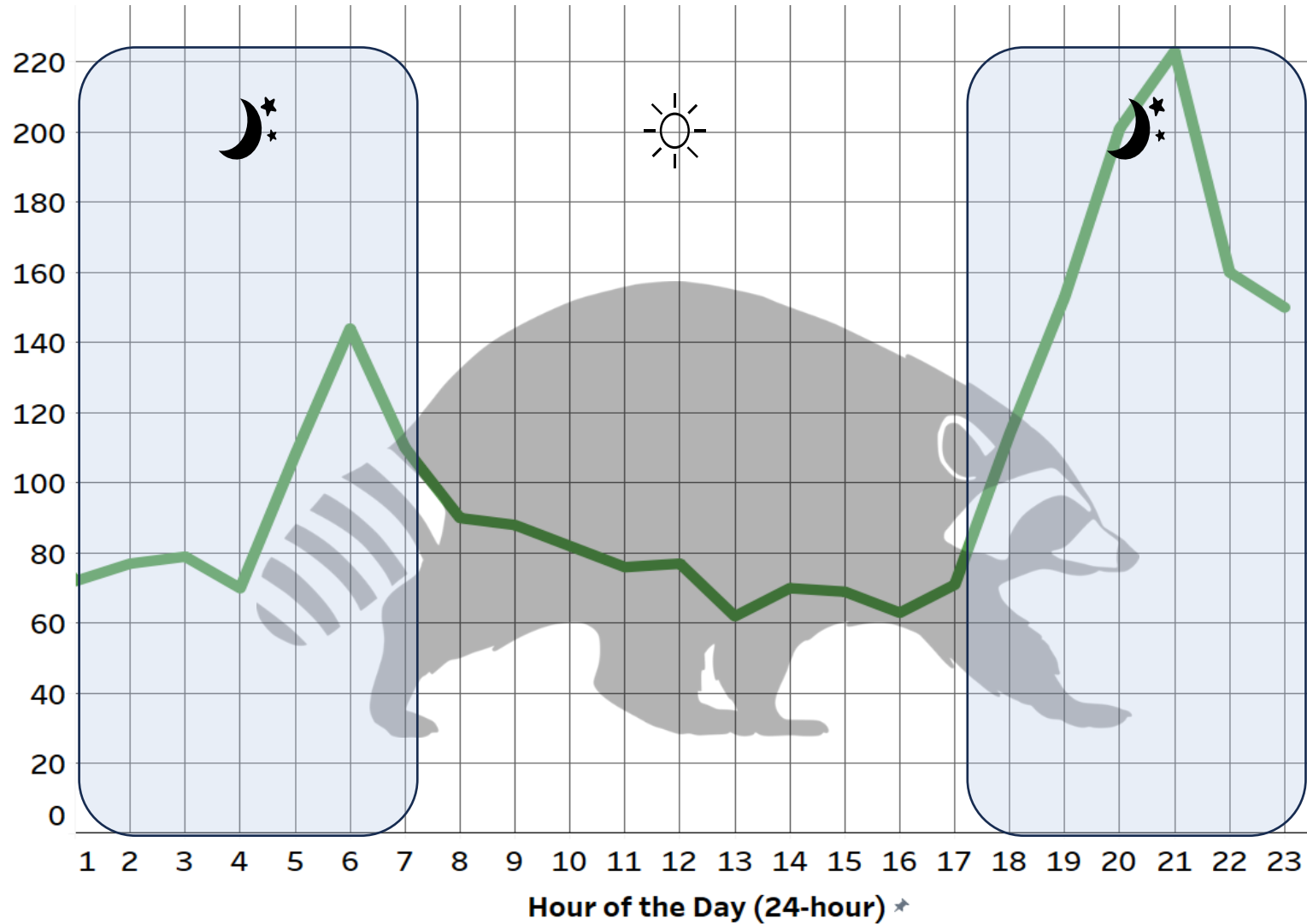
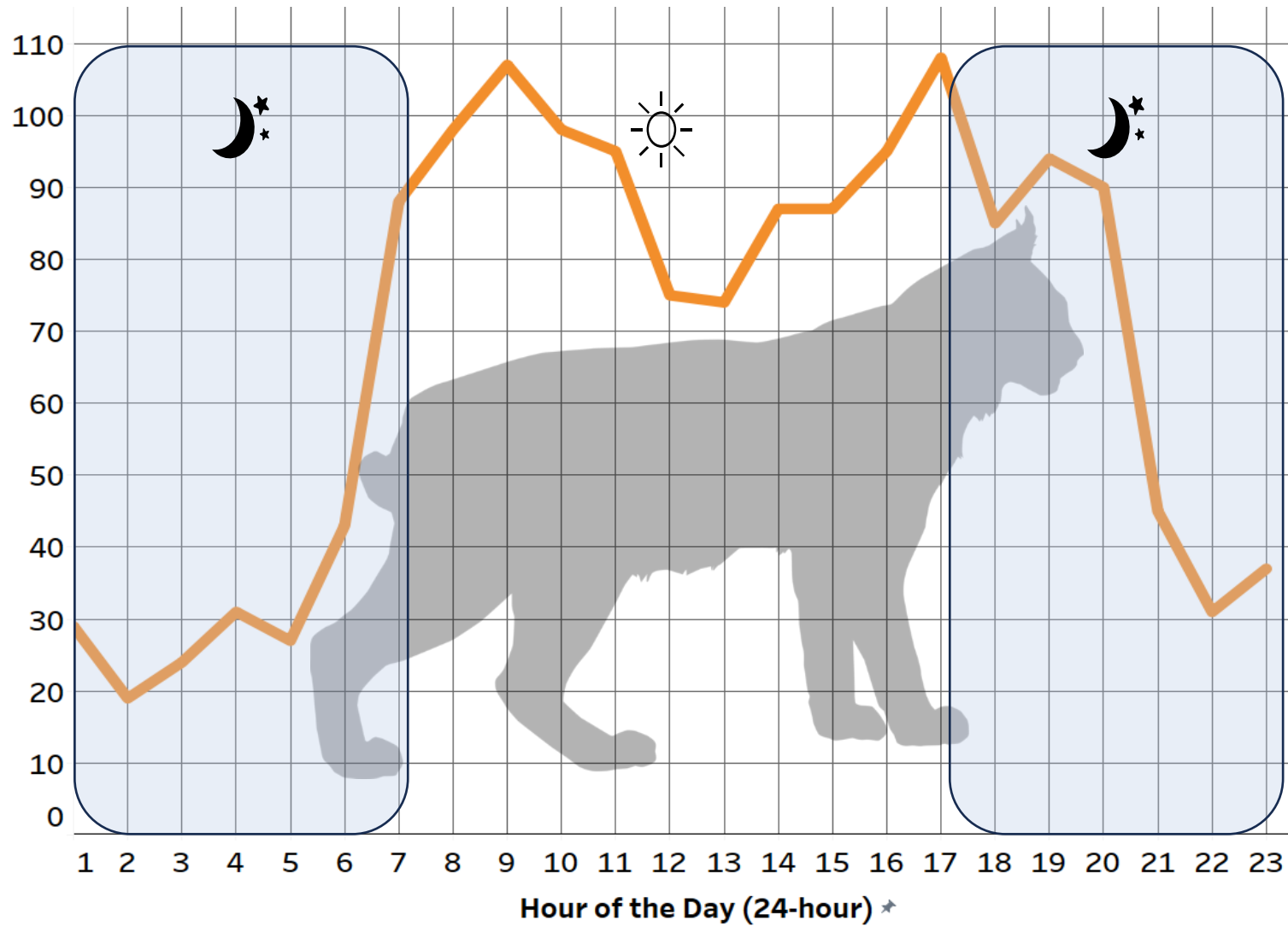


Figure 15 - Raccoon observations by hour of day for 2019-2025.



Raccoon investigating a trashcan at a bus stop.
Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of bobcats by hour of the day



Bobcat kittens perched on a top of fence.
Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Figure 16 – Bobcat observations by hour of day for 2019-2025.

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of black bears by hour of the day

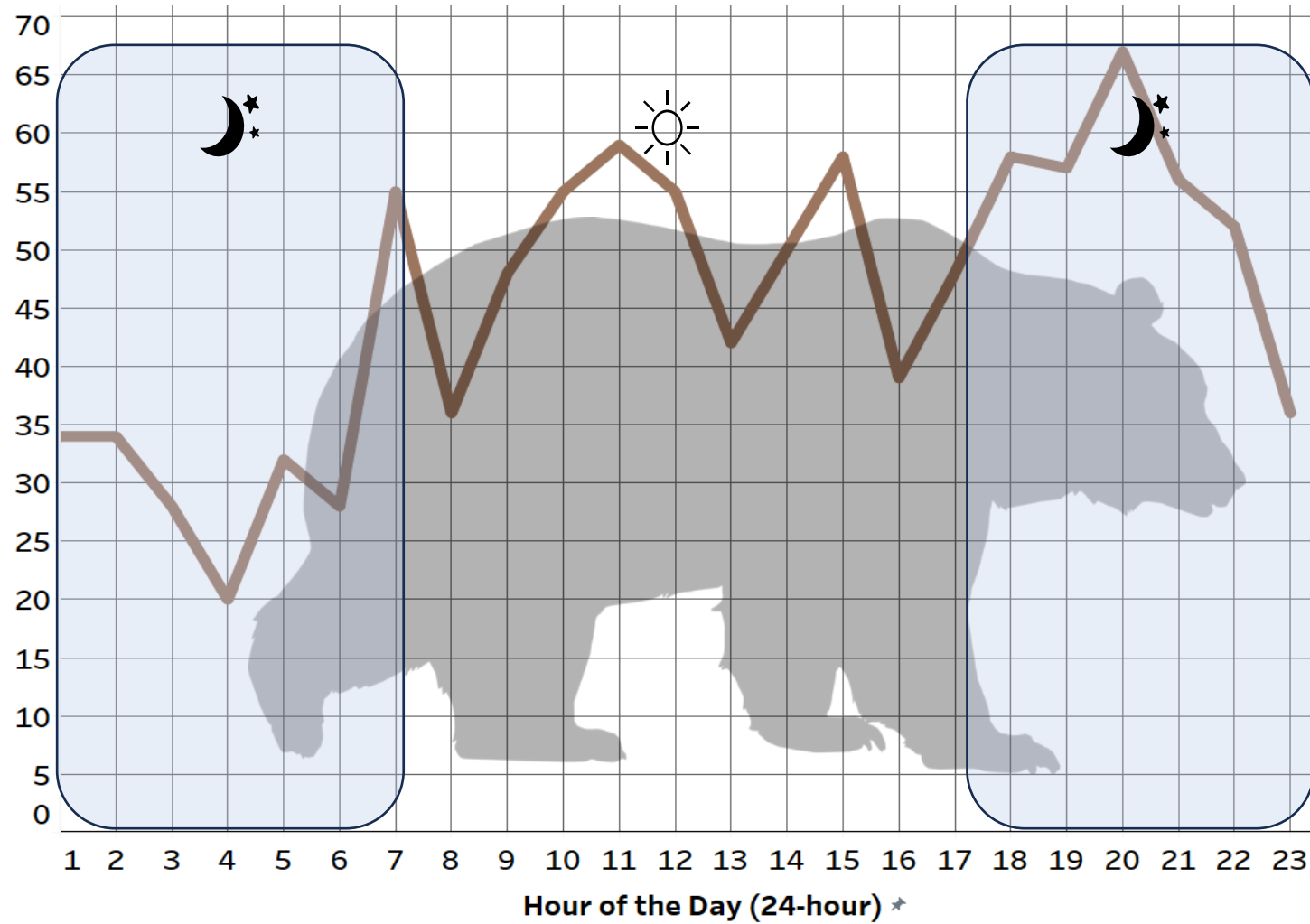
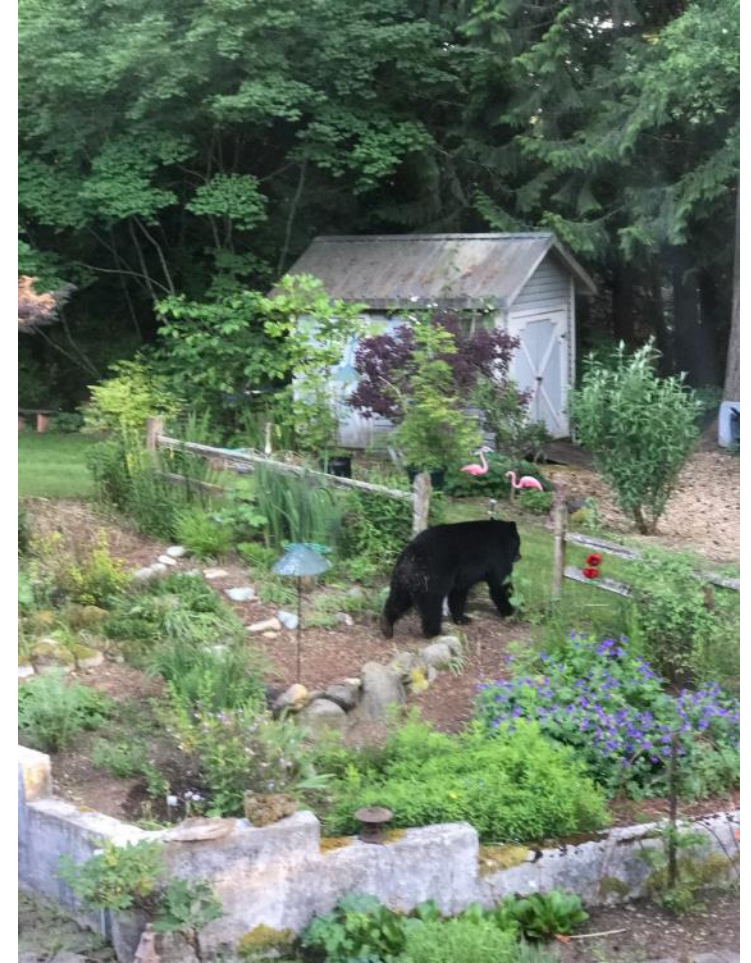


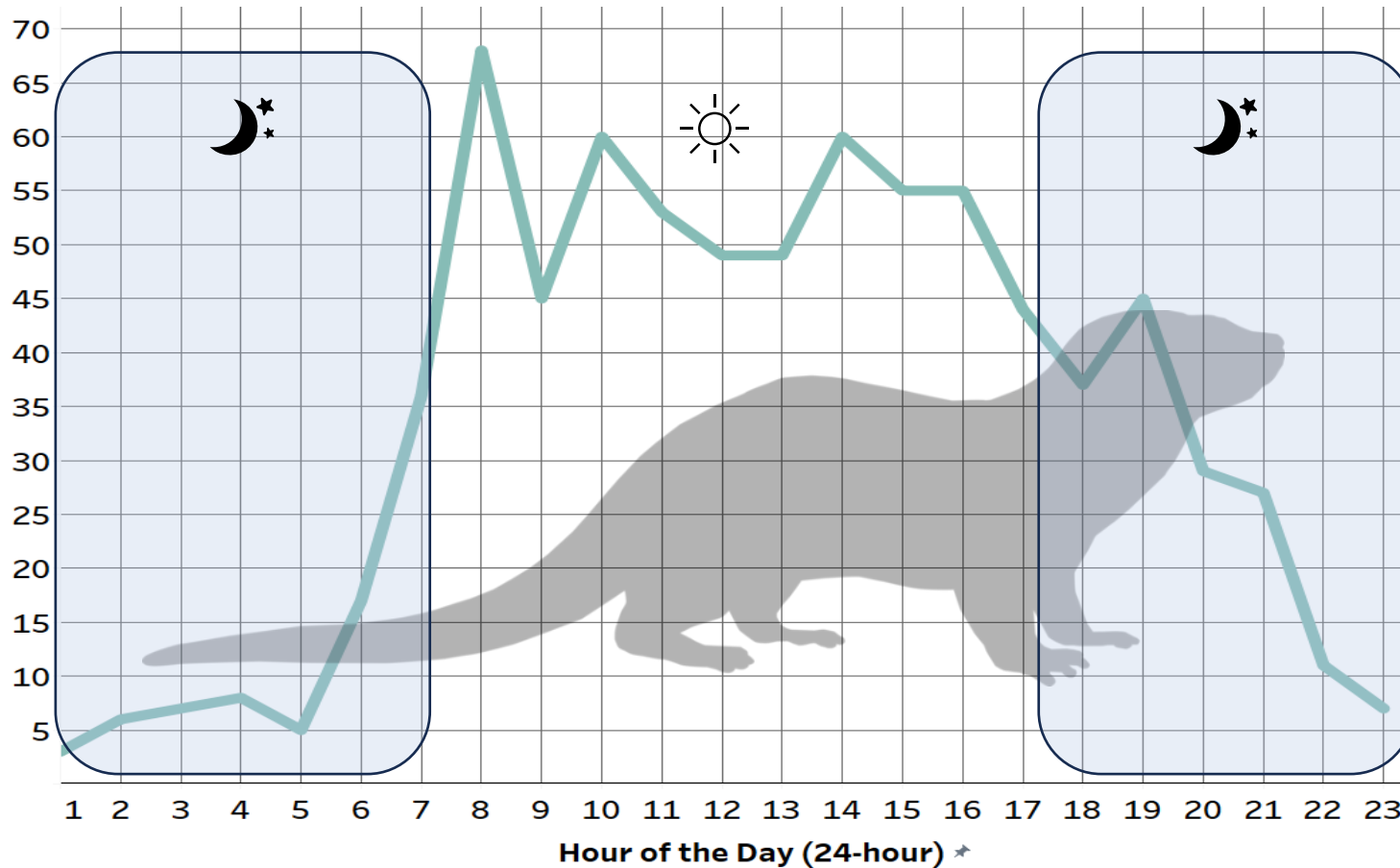
Figure 17 – Black bear observations by hour of day for 2019-2025.



Black bear traveling through a suburban garden.

Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Carnivore Spotter - # of observations of river otters by hour of the day



River otter swimming.
Photo submitted to Carnivore Spotter.

Figure 18 – River otter observations by hour of day for 2019-2025.

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For more information on the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project www.zoo.org/seattlecarnivores

To explore data or add observations to Carnivore Spotter www.carnivorespotter.org

For resources on coexisting with urban carnivores www.zoo.org/coexisting