

Bob: I saw my first gray fox around my south place here last week. He was up in a tree. And I thought well surely a fox won't be in a tree.

Jess: Yeah, they climb trees--

Bob: But he was lying there on an old limb and I went ahead and cut a few cedar trees around underneath it, and it wasn't wild. And soon it got up and walked over and laid down on another limb. It had gray and had orange color all around his neck, and he had his long bushy tail and was about that tall. Not near the size of a coyote. But what we got right here in this vicinity is a cross between police dog and coyote. Yeah. This Earl Tonkason used to have an old coyote down there where he was living on the farm, and he crossed that with a big police dog. So you've got an animal now that these hunters-- these hound dogs--have a hard time dealing with.

(They're wild?)

Bob: Yeah, they're wild.

Jess: They got same thing up there--you know that bridge right north of Geary-- what they call the Richmond Bridge? Right in there they got police--coyote crossbreds. They been there for--

Bob: Well, Clinton Gittiner had a police dog around here. You know where he lives? And he saw his dog had mated with a female coyote down there, and he knows they mated, and so you're getting a pretty vicious animal. A coyote that's mixed with a police dog, they seem like a big timber wolf.

(What color are they?)

Bob: Just like a wolf or coyote?

Jess: They're kinda gray--reddish-gray, like--

Bob: Coyotes don't all stay the same color. Sometimes they're darker ones and sometimes you'll find some lighter ones. And then when they shed--there's a difference when they're shedding and when they have already shed, and so on. There's very little difference between a coyote and a police dog.

HUNTING WITH DOGS

(These wolf dogs that you're talking about--is that any special breed?)