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INTERVIEWEE: Glynn Riley

INTERVIEWER: Diana Dwyer

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Diana Dwyer [00:00:01] Yes. And we should be recording right now. There should be no background noise and we should be ... Let's try this. This should be picking up now. That's what was wrong.

Glynn Riley [00:00:12] Okey doke. Hello?

Diana Dwyer [00:00:20] That's what was going on with it. Go ahead and say something.

Glynn Riley [00:00:23] Okey dokey. Can you hear me now? Yeah, OK.

Glynn Riley [00:00:28] Kind of like a cell phone. Can you hear us now?

Diana Dwyer [00:00:31] I just feel like I'm surrounded by gadgets anymore.

Glynn Riley [00:00:35] Yes, we are.

Glynn Riley [00:00:37] I'll pull this wire.

Glynn Riley [00:00:39] OK? Out of the way, so it don't turn my cup over.

Diana Dwyer [00:00:48] OK.

Glynn Riley [00:00:50] All right.

Diana Dwyer [00:00:51] All right. Now we're going to start with questions, just the basic questions, going through your bio.

Diana Dwyer [00:00:59] You started out in the oil field?

Glynn Riley [00:01:01] Oh yeah, a long time ago I worked in the oil field.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:04] You were born in this area?

Glynn Riley [00:01:07] Wortham, Texas.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:10] And your family's been there for how long?

Glynn Riley [00:01:13] Oh, they were there forever, I guess.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:16] Where you went from a big family?

Glynn Riley [00:01:18] No, no. It was just me. I've got a sister, but there's 19 years difference in us.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:26] Wow, same marriage?

Glynn Riley [00:01:27] Yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:27] Oh how interesting.

Glynn Riley [00:01:28] That's right.

Diana Dwyer [00:01:28] That's good. It's like I'm going through your bio. It said you worked in the oil field, a furniture factory. Did you serve in the army? Were you in the service?

Glynn Riley [00:01:40] Well, I was in the National Guard. I went in there in '58, I think. May the 5th or the 3rd or something of '58. I got out in '64. Did I put it on here?

Diana Dwyer [00:01:54] I don't think so.

Glynn Riley [00:01:55] Yeah, yeah. I didn't say what it was, though, did I?

Diana Dwyer [00:02:03] It says you went to high school and college. What did you major in in college?

Glynn Riley [00:02:03] Oh, I was majoring in wildlife management, but I started work when I was pretty young. I had a year of college then.

Glynn Riley [00:02:18] And so, later on, after I got married and everything, I decided I needed to go back. So, I went on Saturdays at, at night, whenever I could, for a long time. I finally got a federal rating and went for - I have about, oh, I guess, three years. Took a lot of biology, wildlife course, stuff like that.

Diana Dwyer [00:02:48] So, you started working for the government when we were part of USDA in the beginning. Fish and Wildlife?

Glynn Riley [00:02:53] No, when I went to work was December the 1st, 1960. I went to work for the Texas Rodent and Predatory Animal Control Service.

Diana Dwyer [00:02:53] We have some of their old reports.

Glynn Riley [00:03:10] Yeah, which was part of the, it was a cooperative program the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state and the Texas Animal Damage Control Association, which is still in existence.

Diana Dwyer [00:03:26] The Research Center was called the Extermination and Eradication Lab at that time.

Glynn Riley [00:03:31] Yeah, right.

Diana Dwyer [00:03:32] Well, I just wanted to have you start out talking about your trapping. Did you grow up trapping, when you were a kid?

Glynn Riley [00:03:38] Yeah. You want to go, how far back?

Diana Dwyer [00:03:42] As far back as you want to go and you want to talk about.

Glynn Riley [00:03:44] Yeah, oh gee. Well, I started trapping when I was a kid.

Diana Dwyer [00:03:47] Who taught you how to trap?

Glynn Riley [00:03:52] Well, I had, gee, I started out because a 'possum got in my pigeons and killed 19 of my pigeons one night. So, my dad killed the 'possum. I didn't know anything about it till the next morning, I went to school telling the kids about the 'possums. So, one boy says, "Did you skin him?" I said, "No, why should I skin him?"

Glynn Riley [00:04:19] He said, "Because you can sell his fur." So, we skinned the 'possum and stretched him on a shovel. We didn't have a stretcher board.

Diana Dwyer [00:04:19] That works.

Glynn Riley [00:04:30] That was Jamie White. But he had a trap or two. He didn't know what he was doing, but I got one or two, and that's where it started. And then I had some cousins that trapped mink. They were worth a lot of money back then. So, I kind of followed those guys around.

Glynn Riley [00:04:47] And then in the early '50s, let's see, they brought deer to Freestone County, and released them in 1948. We didn't have any deer. They put a bounty on wolves, which were coyotes, at \$25. That was a lot of money then. So, I started wanting to do that.

Glynn Riley [00:04:51] There was a fellow named Cliff Whittaker that lived in Steerage Mill, Texas. He trapped and I went down there and go acquainted with him, and went with him a lot. And that's what got me started catching coyotes. It was quite interesting.

Glynn Riley [00:05:32] His wife had been a schoolteacher and she had retired and he had a little country store. And he drove a Model A coupe. He had had polio or something when he was young, and he had a bad leg. Couldn't, couldn't walk too well, so he always took somebody with him. I went with him and that's what got me started trapping coyotes. That was in the early fifties, somewhere along in there. But it was a lot of fun.

Diana Dwyer [00:06:08] So, what did you like about it? Was it being out there? What did you like about being out?

Glynn Riley [00:06:12] I was just an outdoors person. I spent all my time, I didn't, while everybody else was playing football and doing things, I was in the woods. Been that way all my life. That's kind of where I belong.

Diana Dwyer [00:06:27] How did you hear about the Wildlife Service's job, and what made you want to go work for them?

Glynn Riley [00:06:31] Let's see. I knew that they had government trappers. Let's see, I'm trying to remember. There was a fellow in my head that had worked as a government trapper one time, and I talked to him. His name was McKinney. I don't remember his first name.

Glynn Riley [00:06:42] So, they had a College Station office. I wrote Jimmy Poore. He was the district supervisor there. I got his address and wrote him a letter when I was about 17 or 18, wanting a job, you know, and they sent me a letter back. I don't know if I've still got it, probably not, that they had put my name on file and all that, you know.

Glynn Riley [00:07:22] So, I rocked along. I didn't pursue it any further. Got married. But I always had this in mind. I went out to College Station, to A&M, in 1953. Over to the Wildlife Department and Dr. Davis. I went over to his office, and he had a book up there, *The Wolves of North America*, by Stanley P. Young. I saw that book, and that was what I was interested in. So, I got the book down and I got home and I ordered me one. I've still got it.

Glynn Riley [00:08:00] Read all about the program. So, that what I always wanted to do.

Glynn Riley [00:08:00] Like I said, I got married. I was working at a furniture factory. I worked there for about four and a half years. I knew that wasn't what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. And I was trapping all the time - bounty trapping, too. Some people had goats and whatnot over there and I was trapping while I was working.

Glynn Riley [00:08:31] So, I contacted the, oh, went to the meeting, a Freestone County Game Association meeting. Buck Aday and Tom Polton were there. Buck worked out of the Fort Worth office, and Tom was a young guy. He was Assistant District Supervisor there. And I talked to them and told them that I was interested in trapping. That was right before Thanksgiving, so they called right then in November. I went to Fort Worth the last day of November in 1960 and got my stuff - traps, and coyote-getters and strychnine and paperwork. John White was my District Supervisor and he went over there to the wall and pointed at Boonesville, Texas. And he said, "Go see Lloyd Wood right here."

Glynn Riley [00:09:12] He said, "They've got a pair of coyotes out there. They've been trying to catch them for a year, and they've offered \$500. Go see what you can do." I never took any training.

Diana Dwyer [00:09:38] You're kidding. You just hit the ground running?

Glynn Riley [00:09:39] Just hit the ground running. So, I went up there to Lloyd Wood. He had an old house there, and I moved in. Moved in - one room had a fireplace - and I moved in there. Some window things were out. I started working. I caught my first coyote the 22nd of December. Anyway, when I started out, I had a cot. Still got that cot.

Glynn Riley [00:09:59] And I put it against this wall and the fireplace was over here, and I froze all night long. So, the next night, I put the cot in the middle of the room and built me a fire, and I froze all night long. So, the next night, I put the cot right up next to the fireplace where I could pitch wood in the fireplace without getting up.

Glynn Riley [00:09:59] I went by a place, a little station down there, got a bunch of newspapers and put them on my cot under me and that helped a lot.

Diana Dwyer [00:09:59] Oh, God. I don't think it's changed that much.

Glynn Riley [00:09:59] So, anyway, that was at Boonesville, Texas, in Wise County, and I stayed there till the end of March and caught eight coyotes. That deal was a 30-day-at-a-time thing. They'd say, "Well, we've got money enough to go for another month." Denton County was going to come open. Tom Polton told me about it and Mr. Floyd was going to transfer out of there. So, I told Lloyd Wood and the fellows, I said, "I'd appreciate it if you all would let me go, because there's a better job over in Denton County." And they said, "OK." And I moved to Denton the 1st of April 1961, and I stayed in Denton County for about four years, four and a half. I don't remember exactly.

Glynn Riley [00:11:23] Lived in Denton a while and then I moved up on a ranch at Sanger, Texas and lived up there. There was more jobs. Rodent control job came open. And so, I told Mr. White and Mr. Aday that I was interested in that, so they hired me. I had 19 counties along the Red River from Texarkana back west. I really didn't know what I was getting into.

Glynn Riley [00:11:37] I was not, I was very shy, and to get up and speak in front of people was a big chore. And that's what I had to do. That's what my job was.

Diana Dwyer [00:11:37] Did you have to go to the Farm Bureau meetings, or what did you do?

Glynn Riley [00:12:21] I talked to 4-H clubs, FFA clubs, Farm Bureau, anybody that would listen. One year, Billy Bass was working over in east Texas. He'd worked that area up there before. We kept up, had to send in reports on how many talks we made and stuff, and one year I think I was a talk every three days. I forgot how many thousand people it was. So, I had to learn to speak in front of people.

Glynn Riley [00:12:56] And then we put on gopher demonstrations and we sold poisoned grain and stuff, manufactured in San Antonio, rat bait, anti-coagulant bait. We'd have programs from the county agent, have a rat control program in the county, and we'd go all over the county telling people how to use anti-coagulant rat bait and selling it to people. It was quite a deal.

Diana Dwyer [00:13:27] That was the time before permits.

Glynn Riley [00:13:31] Yeah. Oh yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:13:32] And what kind of damage did they have? Was it mainly grain to grain?

Glynn Riley [00:13:37] Oh, and the pocket gophers, pocket gophers - they damaged the pastures. They were improving their pastures at that time, putting in coastal bermuda. That

was a little git - just barely getting started but they had some other stuff, crimson clover and stuff like that. So, they were trying to get rid of the gophers on account of that. And then rats - there were more commensal rodents at that time than there is now. And we'd go, like, we'd go to Texarkana one time and the city health department would have us come over there and we'd go through all the businesses, cafes, and even private homes, in people had problems, and show them, tell them what they needed to do to get rid of rats.

Glynn Riley [00:14:27] So, I did that for, I don't remember, a couple of years or so. And I transferred to Lubbock, Texas. And we did a little prairie dog work and a little bit of rat work, but most of it was predator work. And we spent, in the fall, it was 1080, we'd put out 1080 stations, you know.

Diana Dwyer [00:14:28] That's mainly for coyotes. Did you deal with bobcat?

Glynn Riley [00:14:28] Coyotes.

Diana Dwyer [00:14:28] Coyotes?

Glynn Riley [00:14:28] Yeah, coyotes. We'd start up at the top of the Panhandle and work south, get down into the sheep country, and then we'd go back in the spring and pick it up and burn it, bury what was left. I enjoyed working up there. I had a good bunch of people to work for. Jimmy Hellard was the district supervisor there. That was, let's see, from '67 to '69, a couple of years there.

Glynn Riley [00:15:34] Then, let's see. The red wolf thing was kind of brewing. I'd been interested in them all my life. I'd read everything I could find on them. They had a little program starting down southeast Texas. I would up going down there, and stayed 11 years. We initially, I guess, started off trying to find out where those things were, and how many there were, and what damage they did and satisfy, try to keep the ranchers satisfied.

Glynn Riley [00:15:34] Anyway, it went on and we finally wound up trying to catch them and put them in a captive breeding population, which was successful and they now have them in the wild again. But not down in that part of the world.

Glynn Riley [00:16:31] And then I came up here as a district supervisor and been here ever since. Been here since. 1980.

Diana Dwyer [00:16:33] You settled down?

Glynn Riley [00:16:33] Yup. Now I'm an old man.

Diana Dwyer [00:16:33] You're not old!

Glynn Riley [00:16:33] I'll be 71 the first day of September.

Diana Dwyer [00:16:33] Are you serious? You don't look 71.

Glynn Riley [00:16:33] Well, thank you.

Diana Dwyer [00:16:33] I've just turned 55, so my idea of middle age has changed quite a bit.

Glynn Riley [00:16:33] Yeah, right.

Glynn Riley [00:16:58] And I don't feel any older now than I ever did. I've got a few aches and pains I didn't used to have.

Diana Dwyer [00:17:00] I imagine you have enough time in to retire.

Glynn Riley [00:17:00] Oh, I don't want to retire. What would I do? That worries me, it really does, because I'm, my interests are so narrow that it's not a good thing. I can't sit around the house. I don't want to rake leaves.

Glynn Riley [00:17:00] So, but the next, I realize that I'm a short-timer, and I've got to figure out what I'm going to do, because I'm afraid if I just quit, I'd die.

Diana Dwyer [00:17:00] You could teach or something. You've got a lot of knowledge.

Glynn Riley [00:17:44] I get me... I told Gary Nunley, I said, "When I retire, I want a trapping job. But I I won't go to meetings!" He says, "Sorry."

Diana Dwyer [00:17:45] We all would like to do that.

Glynn Riley [00:17:45] Yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:17:45] Did do you do any work for the Research Center or any of the special project that have come along?

Glynn Riley [00:17:45] Yeah, I've collected a lot of bones and stuff.

Glynn Riley [00:18:08] Worked with Dr. Fred Knowlton a lot, and Curtis Carley, and oh, let's see, mostly those folks. I don't remember what-all we did. Of course, when I was down there on the coast, I collected a lot of skulls, calcaneae, blood samples, and all sorts of stuff. And then I worked with David Mech in Minnesota.

Diana Dwyer [00:18:09] On wolves?

Glynn Riley [00:18:09] Yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:18:09] What did you like about that? That must have been fascinating.

Glynn Riley [00:18:40] Oh yeah, that was ... I nearly moved up there. Yeah, it was fascinating. And I'd like to go back some day. I'd like to go to Montana or somewhere. I can't remember now - I think I made seven trips up there. I'd go...

Diana Dwyer [00:18:41] [Can you hear me?]

Glynn Riley [00:18:42] [Perfect.].

Glynn Riley [00:18:42] The first time I went up there was about 1970, I think, maybe. I hadn't been at Liberty long. I stayed a couple of weeks. Then I went back, I think the next fall, and spent a couple of weeks. And then it got where I'd go up there about the first of September and stay till November. One year, I went in August and stayed till November. We trapped

wolves and put radio collars on them and just did the whole deal. It was a lot of fun. It was kind of a different experience, too, because all that was public land, and I'd never worked on public land. You had a lot of people to contend with, and that go awfully aggravating.

Diana Dwyer [00:18:42] Did you ever get confronted by people when you put the traps out or anything?

Glynn Riley [00:18:42] What?

Diana Dwyer [00:18:42] Confronted by people?

Glynn Riley [00:19:55] Oh yeah. Yes and no. You'd run into some folks that are confrontational, but not too many. You just have to deal with it, you know? You just have to deal with it. And sometimes, it's distasteful. Sometimes you can lose your temper. Yeah, I've had quite a bit of that.

[00:21:01] I noticed on this thing: "What was the tightest spot you got in and how did you get out?" I've been in so many of them, I don't know what was the most interesting. I've given that a lot of thought, and I really can't pick out a specific situation. There's been so many times.

Diana Dwyer [00:21:03] Have you had any of your traps destroyed?

Glynn Riley [00:21:05] Oh yeah, a jillion times. A lot of them. Minnesota was terrible. I bet we lost, oh, the times that went up there, I don't know how many we went through. People would steal them. We had some guys that were professional at it. We had one year there, I had buys driving a little gray Jeep. They'd wave at me when they passed me in the morning. He was picking up traps. He was looking for them.

Diana Dwyer [00:21:05] Was he just stealing the traps? Was it an environmental group?

Glynn Riley [00:21:05] He was stealing the traps.

Diana Dwyer [00:21:05] Stealing traps.

Glynn Riley [00:21:05] So, the game warden, I got acquainted with the game warden there. One day he came along and stopped and I said, "You're just the fellow I'm looking for. There's a guy in a little gray Jeep - he's stealing my traps." He said, "I just got one from him." So, he gave me the trap back and said the guy said somebody was setting these traps, and he didn't know who it was, but he lied. He knew who it was.

Glynn Riley [00:21:05] So, we lost a lot of traps up there - and good Newhouse traps. David Mech and I and some of the other people working there, we talked a lot about putting a radio on one. So they did. We cut a piece out of the drag and put the little radio in there and ran the antenna down the drag and blacked it all up good, left it kind of conspicuous, and the guy got it and they took an airplane and went to his place and he had a whole bunch of those traps.

Diana Dwyer [00:21:05] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:21:56] I didn't go up there after that, but they got their traps back. But I don't know, they were going to prosecute him, but I don't think they did. I think he had about 60 or 70 of them - one guy!

Glynn Riley [00:21:57] I lost nine one day up there. You did pretty good when grass season opened up and there was a lot of people in the woods. We had to run those traps every day. At one point, I had about 90 - something like that. It was about 160 miles around the loop every day.

Diana Dwyer [00:23:01] Jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:23:17] We'd get up and just drive like crazy trying to beat everybody to them, you know.

Glynn Riley [00:23:17] And let's see. One time I had a deal there where right over from the lab, we stayed there at the Kawishiwi Field Station - Forest Service place, big log house. Anyway, I went over there one morning, and I had a trap set and it was gone and there was a wolf that had been in it, and the wolf was gone, and there was a note scratched in the dirt inside of a circle: "Too bad, A-hole!"

Diana Dwyer [00:23:17] Oh, God.

Glynn Riley [00:23:17] I had a couple of kids with me, college kids, and the guy continued on down the road. But it was a dead-end road. He was coming back. I heard him coming back, and he stopped me. He had a nice-looking blond-headed lady with him. I asked him, I said, "Did you see a wolf here?" "Yeah, I saw a wolf here." I said, "What did you do with it?" "I turned it loose." I said, "What'd you do with the trap?" "Sitting in the back of my pickup." I got the trap out of his pickup, and I can't tell you what I told him.

Diana Dwyer [00:23:17] Wouldn't you get bitten if you tried to turn a wolf loose?

Glynn Riley [00:23:17] Not if you knew what you were doing.

Diana Dwyer [00:23:17] Know what you're doing. Jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:23:17] Of course, we had drugs - we'd put them down. But it wasn't a lot of trouble. Some of them, I just tied them up. But an alpha animal - a big old male or something - they'd bite you if they go the chance.

Diana Dwyer [00:25:05] I'd think so.

Glynn Riley [00:25:05] I went to, oh, what do they call them ... one summer they wanted me to come up there and they had a depredation problem below International Falls there, at Ash Lake. They asked me if I'd come up there, so I said, "Yeah, I'd come early. I went up there and who were the guys that met me in Minneapolis? Dick Wetzel and ...

Diana Dwyer [00:25:05] I've heard Dick Wetzel's name before.

Glynn Riley [00:25:05] I cannot remember. Oh, it'll come to me in a little bit. Wes Jones! Anyway, they had me a GSA pickup and two dozen traps. I said, "What do you want me to do?" They said, "Well, there's this guy named Julian Broznowski. He and his father have about 1000 or 1200 acres up there in the middle of Superior National Forest and they've got Hereford cattle. They've lost some calves and whatnot. They're unhappy. They sent somebody up there and they called a wolf or something, and the gal left, one of the Fish and Wildlife people,

research people, I suppose, but said another wolf came up hanging on a fence. They said a gravel truck ran over him." I said, "What do you want me to do? What's your rules and regulations?"

Glynn Riley [00:25:05] "Well you can't trap over a mile from where the thing was caught," this, that, and the other. Finally, they said, "Mr. Broznowski has contacted Congressman Oberstar." I said, "Oh, you want the man happy, right?"

Glynn Riley [00:26:56] They said, "Yup." So, I went up there and got hold of Julian Broznowski. Being from Texas, with cowboy boots and a cowboy hat on, he wondered about me. So, I told him, I said, "I need you to show me around. Can you go with?" "Yeah." I took my cowboy boots off and I put my walking shoes on. After a while he said, "You get around pretty good in the brush." I said, "Well, we've got a lot of brush where I come from."

Diana Dwyer [00:26:56] They're the two wolf trappers that we interviewed up there. I don't think they had been working for the government for that long. Halverson's been there a long time. He's a teacher.

Glynn Riley [00:26:56] I think I met him while I was up there. There was a couple of guys, when I was staying at Ash Lake, and I could go back and look at my notes and see, but I think he and another fellow came over there and visited with me. The name sounds right.

Diana Dwyer [00:26:56] When I interviewed him, he had gone out the day before and caught a wolf that had killed 300 turkeys in one night.

Glynn Riley [00:26:56] Yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:26:56] It was a couple that had gotten into a turkey farm.

Glynn Riley [00:26:56] Yeah, coyotes do that too.

Diana Dwyer [00:26:56] They start grabbing into an enclosed area?

Glynn Riley [00:28:02] When I was in Denton County, there was some turkey producers there - Bingham's was there name - brothers. They were kind of redheaded and light-complected, and in the sun they always wore a great big hat and long-sleeved shirts. And they called me every May, about the second week of May. They'd put 50,000 turkeys out on the range. I could mark my calendar a year ahead of time.

Glynn Riley [00:28:55] Well, they called me one time and said there was a coyote got in their turkeys and killed 98 in one night. So, I went over there. The next night, it killed about 60, and the next night, less, and it finally settled down. So, there was a county road with a lot of traffic to a gravel pit on the north side of the place, and all you could find was dead turkeys.

Glynn Riley [00:28:55] So, I said, "Let's try putting some lanterns up." So, we got some coal oil lanterns and put them on poles out there. Then the coyote stopped for a few days, and then it had lamplight to dine by. So, I said, "Let's put some..." They had transistor radios. I said, "We'll put some of those transistor radios." They put them on to Dallas. It wasn't far to Dallas, an all-night station. They played minority music, real loud.

Glynn Riley [00:30:28] So, the coyote quit for a few days, and then it had lamplight and music to dine by.

Glynn Riley [00:30:30] I was about to ... I didn't know what to do. I went over there one morning, really early. I had to go early because the trucks would start coming down the road.

Glynn Riley [00:30:31] Well, they'd graded the road, and there was a little roll of dirt came off the end of that blade. There was a kind of low place under a fence, and there was a coyote track in that roll of dirt.

Glynn Riley [00:30:31] The guy over there where the coyotes came from was a hound man, and he wouldn't let you work, so I didn't know what to do.

Glynn Riley [00:30:31] I set a trap right there and set the pan right where the track was, and seven night later I caught her.

Glynn Riley [00:30:31] That stopped that. Those old boys brought that coyote to the house one Saturday morning or Sunday morning. They were tickled to death, and I was too.

Glynn Riley [00:30:31] That's one I remember.

Diana Dwyer [00:30:31] Well-fed coyote.

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] And the wolves up there, that was lots of ... very interesting. I don't want to say a lot of fun. It was fun, but it was very interesting, too. And then...

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] Are they harder to catch than coyotes?

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] Well, they are in the fact that they travel...

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] [Beeping noise]

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] [Oh, jeez. My batteries are gone.]

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] [Your batteries gone?]

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] [On my cell phone.]

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] They weren't any harder to catch than a hard coyote. Matter of fact, I've seen a lot of coyotes that were harder to catch. Wolves travel so far. You have to wait on them to come back. You're always trying to get ahead of them.

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] How do you track? Do you go to the kill site where they've been?

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] It depends on what you've done. If you've got a depredation situation, you go there and see where they did their deed and then try to locate them. When we were trapping them and just putting radio collars on them, we just caught them wherever we could. Most of them we caught on forest roads and whatnot, because they travel just like people do.

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] On wolf, 2406, I think, they kept the radio on that wolf for about, nearly, 10 years. I never did catch her, but I caught her mate a time or two. She'd have different ones.

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] One particular time, I was over there and they had a pretty good-sized territory. Late one afternoon, I found a lot of wolf tracks in the road. One of them had two middle toes gone, the male did.

Diana Dwyer [00:31:28] Oh, God.

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] So, I set two traps there right before dark and went back the next morning and I had the two-toed male caught. He wasn't tangled, he just hadn't got in the trap. He was out there wrestling around, so I loaded up my syringe and started out there to him and he came to meet me.

Glynn Riley [00:31:28] So, we went back and forth a few times, and finally the drag got caught on the bush. So, I got him and tied him up and took him in. That was kind of interesting.

Glynn Riley [00:33:52] And let's see. Oh, I've got his picture in there, too. I caught a wolf one morning on a moose trail. This was the biggest one I caught there. It was an alpha male of the Manawakee[?] pack, they called it. It was about 40 miles from where he was supposed to be. We put a radio collar on him and turned him loose, and later on [sigh], I don't know whether it was Steve Canick [John Winship?], yeah, I think Steve was flying, and that pack of wolves had trespassed over into another pack's territory, and they cut that wolf out and killed him. They stopped and got the carcass and everything. That was quite interesting, that was.

Glynn Riley [00:34:46] Then another one, one time that was interesting was, we were, let's see, I don't remember if we was in the BWCA, anyway, somewhere up there, there was an old logging road and a tree had fallen across the road and you couldn't go any further. There was a little bridge there and it snowed and there was a fresh wolf track. No, I had some traps set up there in the road, just blind sets in the road, and we went there one morning and there was a wolf track in the snow and it went over the log and it went up there and we just hadn't caught him. He was still there going around and around in the road, wasn't hung up or anything. So, we put him down. That was about 11 o'clock in the morning. We put a radio collar on him and did all the stuff we do - ear tags, measures. And by the time we left he was staggering around trying to get up, you know, and it was about 1.

Glynn Riley [00:35:45] That afternoon when we got back to where we were staying, the lab over there, Jeff Ranneburg [?].

Glynn Riley [00:35:49] Stay in the lab over there. Jeff Ranneberger [?] came in. He had been flying that day. So, he was going through the frequencies. He hit that frequency. He knew that collar had been in the vehicle with us. So, he zeroed in on it, and that wolf was 20 miles from where we turned him loose.

Diana Dwyer [00:35:52] That fast?

Glynn Riley [00:35:52] That fast.

Diana Dwyer [00:35:52] God!

Glynn Riley [00:35:52] And that wolf turned out (I have a picture of it), that wolf was a pretty dark wolf. It wasn't black, but it was just dark. Jeff said he was the most accomplished deer killer that he had ever seen. He said he'd catch them and just eat the lungs and the heart, part of it, and go kill another one. They usually stay there and eat the whole thing, but he said that one, he saw him kill a deer one day. He said the wolf was chasing the deer, and there was a little ridge, a kind of ledge, and the deer went along the bottom and the wolf went up on top and just leapt off [claps hands] and hit him in the back, knocked him down, got him by the neck [snaps fingers]. It was just like that.

Diana Dwyer [00:35:52] God, he must have really known what he was doing.

Glynn Riley [00:35:52] He really known what he was doing.

Diana Dwyer [00:36:51] Jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:36:51] Those things are really interesting. They're showing back up a lot of places. I'm glad.

Diana Dwyer [00:36:51] They're in Colorado. It cuts down on the backpackers. I saw some in Yellowstone - amazing! They looked like Joe Cool: like they own the place. They're walking around. They're so different from coyotes.

Glynn Riley [00:37:26] Oh, yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:27] Big bodies, long legs. You can pick them out immediately. They're beautiful.

Glynn Riley [00:37:27] Yeah, they're going to do real well. They'll go right on down into New Mexico.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:27] Yellowstone pack.

Glynn Riley [00:37:27] I think. Of course, they're turning those Mexican wolves loose. I don't think they're doing as good as the ...

Diana Dwyer [00:37:27] They're smaller, I think.

Glynn Riley [00:37:27] Yeah, they're smaller. But it'll make the woods more interesting.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:27] We've got so many elk and deer where I live.

Glynn Riley [00:37:27] Oh yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:27] It's just unbelievable.

Glynn Riley [00:37:53] It's good wolf feed.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:53] Hopefully they'll stick with that.

Glynn Riley [00:37:53] They will...

Diana Dwyer [00:37:53] And not get lamb chops.

Glynn Riley [00:37:53] They will till they get out in the calf country. There's a lot of good wolf country left in the U.S. if you just let them eat your calves. People don't want to do that.

Diana Dwyer [00:37:53] Have you ever had to do any lion work?

Glynn Riley [00:37:53] I never have, no. That's about the only think I haven't caught.

Glynn Riley [00:37:53] But it's interesting. Those things have made a great increase in the last 30 years. As a matter of fact, if you go back to when I grew up, wildlife has increased so much in my lifetime. When I was a kid growing up, we had possums and skunks, some gray fox, a few mink. There weren't no beaver, no otters, very few coyotes. There weren't no bobcats that I knew of. When they brought deer there and turned them loose, there was a few wolves, and they were bigger than coyotes are today.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] Is that what you call a brush coyote or brush wolf?

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] Well, they just called them wolves...

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] Wolves.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] Over there. I know there was ... Mr. Whittaker, the old fellow that I trapped with, he caught a pair down in Leon County. The male weighed 86 or something, and the female, 82. They were a little different animal.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] That was in the early '50s. But there wasn't many of them. But whenever they brought deer, everybody posted their land, stopped the hunting and everything, and the deer just exploded. In five years in '53 they had their first season, and the cows just exploded with them. But it was because the land use changed and they stopped the hunting and all that.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] And now there's so many coyotes over there, there's more coyotes than there's ever been in my whole life everywhere.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] They're in all the states now, aren't they?

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] Yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] They spread out even where they don't normally belong.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] I remember when there were no coyotes here.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] Jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] There was a whole bunch of sheep country that was coyote-free for a couple of generations. I talked to a fellow from Colorado one time (I can't remember his name), at some meeting we went to. We were talking about predator problems. I said, "In sheep country, we don't have any coyotes." And he said, "What have you got trappers there for?" "Bobcats and red fox." But once the coyotes get thick, red fox kind of disappear. I think they hurt the bobcats, too. But anyway, times change.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] Have you done a lot of urban work around here?

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] Not around here. It's all predator work here. But I did do a lot of urban work.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] When I was on the coast down there, dealing with red wolves and other predators and things, it was quite interesting there. I caught those things down around Houston in urban areas, where they didn't need much room - just a little block of land that some real estate company had that was grown up. They'd live there.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] There was a fellow called me one time and he said, "I've got some wolves killing my calves." I said, "Where are you?" He said, "Lomax." It's a little town there by Houston, not far from the San Jacinto Monument. I thought, "That's dogs." He said, "I've got a section over here that I run cows on." So, I went down there, and we went out there and looked, and lo and behold, there was a wild canid track. So, we set some traps, and while I was setting the trap, I could hear the coach grilling the football players on the football field at Deer Park High School. On the south side of that tract of land was San Jacinto Junior College. On the east side was the little town of Lomax. On the north side was a big Shell refinery.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] We caught 40 or 50 critters out of there over the next year. Some of them weighed 55 pounds. They were pretty good-sized animals.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] There was plenty to eat, probably.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] Oh, yeah. But it was just amazing where they would live there, and all those people.

Glynn Riley [00:39:09] One time, this lady called me over there on the south side of... not far from where the Astrodome is. She said the wolves were coming up there and pulling her rabbits through the wire.

Diana Dwyer [00:39:09] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:43:07] So, I went up there and looked. There were people everywhere. And there was this little old patch of unused land down there with a real estate sign on it. I went down there, and there was just a trail going into it.

Glynn Riley [00:43:08] So, I set me two traps. Then I was using tranquilizer tabs. So, I went back early the next morning, thinking I'd be the first one there. They were building a new road, a new freeway. And here was this shovel stuck up in the dirt with my trap chain rapped around it and a very grumpy canine attached to it.

Diana Dwyer [00:43:08] Oh, God.

Glynn Riley [00:43:08] I had another one in the other trap, but he was out in the brush. They didn't see him. So, I never did see who owned the shovel, but I got my critter.

Glynn Riley [00:43:08] And the other one - I took him up there and showed the lady, and she said, "That was quick." I said, "Yes, it was."

Glynn Riley [00:43:08] I got away with that. So, I had a lot of neat experiences.

Diana Dwyer [00:43:08] What's the most challenging thing you've ever had to deal with?

Glynn Riley [00:43:08] People.

Diana Dwyer [00:44:08] People.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] People. Coyotes are no problem.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] People. And it's getting worse.

Diana Dwyer [00:44:08] People having unrealistic expectations?

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] Yes, ma'am, they do. I saw last night on TV - there was a movie or something on. I just caught part of it. It was about some people that had a horse farm or something, and a wolf killed a colt or something. And they had a young lady there with multiple earrings in and a...

Diana Dwyer [00:44:08] Nose ring?

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] "Booger catcher," I call it.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] In her nose.

Diana Dwyer [00:44:08] I can't imagine doing that.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] So, she says, "Is there anything we can do other than kill the wolf?" So, they gather up their tranquilizer guns and go wolf-hunting. I didn't get to see it all, but eventually they shot the female and there were some pups and they go the pups with the tranquilizer gun. So, the whole thing was: don't kill the wolves. Sometimes you have to.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] But wolves are really neat, really, really neat. Coyotes are really, really neat. They're the neatest thing in the woods. They're adaptable, smart. They'll be here when we're all gone.

Diana Dwyer [00:44:08] I've been told they're really neophobic - just paranoid about anything new or different.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] Yes and no. You've heard the saying, "Curiosity killed the cat?" It's killed a lot more coyotes than cats.

Glynn Riley [00:44:08] But they're very curious, very alert, very intelligent. Yes, they're nervous. They have to be. They're always looking to see who is going to be after them. If you put wolves in the situation, they have to get real nervous, because a wolf'll kill them if he can catch them.

Glynn Riley [00:45:46] And if you put wolves in the situation, they have to get real nervous because we'll get there.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:01] Pe got some video from Yellowstone, from the Park Service. They've been videotaping some of the kills and everything. And it was showing a wolf pack that had killed an elk and they were kind of laying around next to it, and some coyotes came down to feed on it. And you could just see these wolves looking at each other, you know. They got up real slowly and started meandering towards it, and they killed one of the coyotes.

Glynn Riley [00:46:20] Sure.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:20] You could just this look going back and forth between these wolves.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:20] OK, guys!

Glynn Riley [00:46:20] Exactly.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:20] Here they come, let's get one!

Glynn Riley [00:46:20] That's right.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:20] It's like watching a gang.

Glynn Riley [00:46:20] They'll kill one another, and each other. Dave Mech had a female wolf that had a radio collar on, and I've got a picture of this somewhere. Anyway, the collar didn't move for a while. We went over there and the wolves had - the skull was still there, the backbone with the collar still around it. Those wolves had eaten that wolf.

Glynn Riley [00:46:20] And we caught one in a trap one time that they killed and ate. So, they can be cannibalistic sometimes.

Diana Dwyer [00:46:20] Is it because they're hungry? Or is it a dominance thing? Or does anyone know?

Glynn Riley [00:47:16] I don't know. It could be a hunger thing. You know, northern Minnesota was quite interesting. You had BWCA, which is a wilderness area. There's a million acres in it. They closed all the roads, took all the buildings out (there had been lodges and things). So, you go down there and it's just beautiful and it looks like it'd just be a wildlife paradise.

Glynn Riley [00:47:43] But it's harsh. You see, we flew over that thing one day. It's 50 miles long. We saw one moose. I've got a picture of him. I don't think we found a wolf anywhere.

Glynn Riley [00:48:09] Everything's kind of in little groves, and there's lots of country where there's not much in the way of food. So, yeah, they get hungry.

Glynn Riley [00:48:12] And down here, you know, if you go down the highway and there's a bird flying across, there's some kind of dead critter in the road. You'll see deer everywhere you go.

Diana Dwyer [00:48:13] Road kill.

Glynn Riley [00:48:13] But up there, it's not that way. Snow gets this deep in the winter time, and it's tough.

Diana Dwyer [00:48:13] It's hard to make it.

Glynn Riley [00:48:13] It's tough, yeah.

Diana Dwyer [00:48:35] What's the funniest thing that ever happened to you? Do you ever get in a situation that was just silly?

Glynn Riley [00:48:52] Funny? I've thought about that, too. And yes, there's been funny situations, but as far as putting my finger on one right off [sigh]... let me think. Yeah, I remember one funny situation.

Glynn Riley [00:49:00] One time I had an auto accident. My pickup was being repaired, so they brought me a Jeep, an old Army Jeep, to work in. It didn't have a top or anything on it, but it had a little seat in the back. Anyway, one day, I caught this coyote, and I decided I was going to take it in alive and put it in a cage and catch some urine. So, I caught the coyote and I put a stick in its mouth and tied its mouth closed. I had a little grass rope about as big as my finger. So, I tied the coyote's feet, the back feet, and left the trap on the front foot. Put him in the back of the Jeep, tied his back feet to one side of the Jeep and then I just pulled his neck down with that grass rope tied to the other side and left his front feet free.

Glynn Riley [00:49:00] So, I was driving down the highway and there was a guy behind me in a pickup that I knew. I saw him back there, and I was going along and my coyote goes to struggling, and I was watching the coyote. So, all of a sudden, I was slowing down: I was going to stop and re-rig him. And he got some slack in the rope, and he reached down and bit the rope in two.

Diana Dwyer [00:49:00] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:49:00] Of course, the front end of him comes up, and I thought about me, but he started grabbing big mouthfuls of the padding out of that back seat, and I turned the switch off and ran the Jeep off in the ditch and jumped out of the thing. Then I got him and retied him back down.

Glynn Riley [00:49:00] But the guy in the pickup behind me thought it was hilarious!

Diana Dwyer [00:49:00] Oh, I'm sure he did!

Diana Dwyer [00:51:19] Oh, that was kind of funny! Let's see. What else funny?

Glynn Riley [00:51:20] A funny thing? Yeah, I'm sure I've had a lot of funny things happen.

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Funny after you think about them afterwards.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] Uh-huh.

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Anything scary? Anytime you got in a situation?

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] One time I had to catch alligators ...

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Oh!

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] When I was down at Liberty... I've got a brother-in-law that is fascinated by reptiles. And he knew I was catching alligators sometimes, and he wanted to come and go with me. So, he came down and we loaded up and went down to this catfish farm. They had these ponds. They fed those catfish every day, and they had what I call breed feeders. They'd have a deal out over the water with a lot of feed in it, and it had a rod run up through the bottom of the paddle that extended down into the water. The catfish would bump that paddle and agitate the rod and the food would fall out. And there'd be a big mass of catfish there feeding, and an alligator'd just come cruising through with his mouth wide open, and get a load of catfish and then turn around and come back. So, they had an alligator or two or three or four or five ...

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] In this pond. Pretty big pond.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So my brother, Rand O'Brian, and I went down there in a 16-foot flat-bottomed, as a Cajun would say, "aluminium" John boat.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] You'd never get me in one!

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] With a trolling motor and whatnot on it. So, I had this little headlight that you put on your head up here, and I had a little square six-volt battery in my hip pocket, and the wire had been frazzled and broken, so it was kind of short. Got two little terminals with a screw, you know.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So we caught one little alligator and tied him up. The way you did that, we'd take inner tubes and cut big rubber bands just across the inner tube, catch the alligator, and pull his back feet up and tie him and then you walk down his back and mash his head down.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So we were in the boat, and I saw a big red eye. And I said, "Randall, there's an alligator." He's running the trolling motor. I said, "OK." I dug out a shovel handle with a coyote snare on the end of it and a rope tied to the thing so if I drop it - anyway, I'm up on the front of the boat and I said [whispers], "OK", I said, "We're getting close. Cut the motor."

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So we go silently gliding up to the alligator and I loop the alligator. Holy cow! I couldn't hold that alligator. It was jerking and carrying on, and jerked that shovel handle out of my hands and went to the bottom. 'Course I had a line on it, so it went, the thing kind of calmed down and I pulls him up to the boat. It's laying right beside the boat like this, and I can see that it's longer than half the length ...

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] Of that boat. But it was very calm. And I told my brother-in-law, I said, "Randall, I'm going to tie its feet while it's in the water here." So, I reached over, got the back feet, and the alligator threw its head [thumping sound] up on the side of the boat and just rolled over in there with us.

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Oh God!

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] And business picked up!

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] I would think so.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So, I retreated to the front of the boat with the only light, which had a short wire, and I had to kind of hold my head back. I hollered at my brother-in-law, [loudly] "Pull his head to the back of the boat!" And all I could hear was falling. "Oh, my ribs! I hit them on the motor!" This, that, and the other, and the alligator opens his mouth about this wide, and says, "Haaaaah".

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Jeez!

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So, I backed up just as far as I could get. I had one foot here [pounding sound] and one foot here [pounding sound], and was about to abandon ship. I hollered at my brother-in-law, I said, [loudly] "Dammit, pull his head to the back of the boat!"

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] And the alligator said, "Haaaaah!" And about that time, the alligator starts to turn around to go to the back of the boat but he went over the side.

Diana Dwyer [00:51:21] Oh good!

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] And we didn't get eaten up or anything.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So, we went on and got him. He was nine and a half feet long. We got it out on the bank and I tied it up and we took it out.

Glynn Riley [00:51:21] So, my brother-in-law was a big Rotarian, and he had, you know, those folks, Lions and whatnot. They've got to have a speaker. And so, he wanted me to come to Mexia and talk to his Rotary Club, which I did, and the first thing when I got up there, I had to pay for my meal for speaking. The first thing some gentleman in the audience says, "Tell us how Randall saved you from the alligator!"

Diana Dwyer [00:56:09] Sounds like...

Glynn Riley [00:56:09] He did. So, I related the story. It was funny after it was all over, but it wasn't funny there for a while.

Diana Dwyer [00:56:09] God.

Glynn Riley [00:56:09] That all happened pretty quick. Quicker than I've told it. That was an adventure for sure.

Diana Dwyer [00:56:09] Oh, God! Oh, wow! I would think that would have been the end of my alligator-hunting career. I would have said, "That's enough."

Glynn Riley [00:56:09] We had one time, you know, there's a Make-A-Wish program on TV that came down one time and I had to catch alligators and they filmed me doing that...

Diana Dwyer [00:56:09] Oh, jeez.

Glynn Riley [00:56:09] And put it on Make-A-Wish down at the Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. That's where we did that.

Glynn Riley [00:56:09] So anyway, yeah, it's been an interesting career. It sure has. I'm really about as lucky a fellow as you'll ever see in your life, because I got to make my living doing exactly what I liked to do best.

Diana Dwyer [00:57:04] I hear it from a lot of people we've interviewed. They've found the perfect career.

Glynn Riley [00:57:07] Yeah, I found my niche I fit in. And then I've had a ... I'll be married 50 years the 8th of September. I'm going to be 71 the 1st of September. I've had a very find wife. We've got one boy who's turned out to be a fine young man. No problems. No trouble. One grandson that's going to be 20. We got him in college. And I've just had a very fortunate life.

Diana Dwyer [00:57:07] Do they live near here?

Glynn Riley [00:57:07] They live in Flower Mound, up by Dallas. Funny thing: they live right - I used to catch canids, well, coyotes and coyote-dog crosses right there where they live. And they're still there.

Diana Dwyer [00:57:07] Did they, did your son and grandson, go out with you?

Glynn Riley [00:57:07] Yeah, David did when he was little, but I carried him when he was little too much, and he'd get tired and thirsty and hot. He never was interested in this stuff like I am. Christopher, my grandson, I used to keep him all we could get him. We'd go get him and keep him two or three weeks at a time. I'd carry him to the country with me. We had a lot of fun. We sure did, we sure did.

Diana Dwyer [00:57:07] Did your wife go out with you at all?

Glynn Riley [00:57:07] She did some, yes. Bless her heart, back when my son was a little baby. I decided to go back to college and I went down to North Texas at Denton there. I signed up for algebra and English. [Sigh]. I grew up in a little country school, and when I got out of it, I was very ill-prepared for a real world. I had a horrible time with spelling. So, I went down there and signed up for English and they had us write a paper, two pages, and use the dictionary. And I thought I did real good on Tuesday, and Thursday it had a big red "F". It had 18 misspelled words. I didn't speak English.

Diana Dwyer [00:57:07] Speak Texas.

Glynn Riley [00:57:07] I though "cavalry" and "Calvary" was the same thing.

Glynn Riley [00:59:24] And so, I got a little red Brace [?] college handbook in there on my desk somewhere, and every Tuesday we had a spelling test and I made 100 on all of them, because Patsy Jean rode around in the pickup with me in the pasture while I was trapping, calling out spelling words.

Diana Dwyer [00:59:25] That's good.

Diana Dwyer [00:59:25] That's a good wife!

Glynn Riley [00:59:25] Very good, very good wife, yes.

Glynn Riley [00:59:25] Yeah, she went with me some. But not a whole lot. She doesn't ever go any more. She came to Minnesota one time and spent two weeks, 10 day or so, up there. We caught some wolves. The day I took her and put her on a plane, I came back and had a bear caught, and darn it, I wish she'd been there for that. Me and Jeff Rennaburne [?], we had chased a bear down through the woods with a trap on its foot. Sometimes it'd chase us and sometimes we'd chase him. But we finally got him.

Diana Dwyer [01:00:28] That's what I was going to ask you. You've done bear work. Have you done any bird work at all?

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] Yeah, I've done some - pigeons. A long time ago, we used to have a little more stuff to work with and you'd have ... we'd do sparrows and grackles and stuff like that.

Diana Dwyer [01:00:28] It seems like there's a lot of damage at feedlots with starlings.

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] Yeah. I've got a deal here now, 3M over here, has got pigeons. They want to get rid of them, but they don't want anybody to know about it. They'll probably call this week. They're feeding them, pre-baiting them, for me.

Diana Dwyer [01:00:28] Do you modify your traps or anything? Do you use them right out of the box? Any special lures?

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] I saw that question there: "What's your favorite trap?" My favorite trap's a #4 Newhouse trap. A bunch of those guys will go running backwards and scream and stuff, but that's the best trap that there is, but most people don't know how to use them. The ones that, the old ones that use, have the plain jaw in it are pretty hard old things, but we had, when I first went to work in Texas, "Special" they call it, that had wider, thicker jaws, offset jaws. And those traps don't wear out if you take care of them. You can work on them. Of course, you can't get them any more. They're gone. But that was the best trap to use for coyotes. A lot of people say it's way too big, but it's the best trap, as far as I'm concerned. I've used every kind of trap that they make.

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] We're having to go to different types of traps, and I really don't know where all that's going. The #3N and the Victor that the government uses - that's a sorry, sorry trap. I don't like it at all. I've caught a lot of coyotes in them, but it's not a good trap. The chain and swivel was the best part about it. Somebody will scream about that, but that's just the way it is.

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] We've got MB650s and Sterlings, and oh, I don't know whatall, and I don't know what the BMP thing is going to wind up doing to us. They may dictate which trap you have to use and all that, so I don't know where that's going.

Diana Dwyer [01:00:28] You don't have a problem here with banning traps in this state?

Glynn Riley [01:00:28] No, not here.

Diana Dwyer [01:00:28] That hasn't come up? It's agriculture.

Glynn Riley [01:03:06] No.

Diana Dwyer [01:03:06] Because Colorado's banned traps.

Glynn Riley [01:03:06] Yeah, Florida and California. I don't know if they - I know in California they did that through a initiative referendum. Was Colorado the same way?

Diana Dwyer [01:03:06] Yes, same way.

Glynn Riley [01:03:06] Well, an initiative referendum sounds like a good thing, and it probably is, but not all the time. That's the situation that you have there. Unfortunately, there's a lot of politics mixed up in this business. Unfortunately, you have well-meaning citizens telling professional people how they ought to run their business, whether it be trappers, wildlife biologists, doctors or whatever. It can affect a lot of people in a lot of ways. So, where that's going to go, I don't know. I know we've got, we've got more wildlife problems now than we've ever had in varying degrees and types, and that's going to continue because you have more people than you've ever, and that's going to continue.

Diana Dwyer [01:04:31] And that's one of my questions, is what do you think it'll be like 50 years from now?

Glynn Riley [01:04:36] I hate to think. I'm glad I've lived when I've lived. I don't think I'd like it in 50 years. I see she's waving at me.

Diana Dwyer [01:04:37] OK.