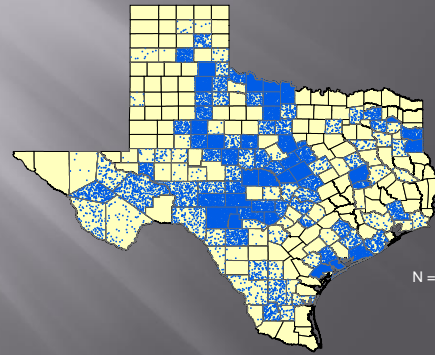


## CONTROL METHODS FOR WILD PIGS IN THE U.S.- BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

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## Feral Swine Take 2013



## Objectives

- ❑ Wild pig control objectives must be understood to effectively manage
- ❑ Some large metapopulations are managed to reduce damage and prevent spread
- ❑ Some isolated populations are managed to eliminate wild pigs entirely

## Integrated feral swine management

- ❑ Trapping trapping
- ❑ Fixed wing aerial management
- ❑ Helicopter aerial management
- ❑ Snares
- ❑ Shooting
- ❑ Night-vision assisted shooting
- ❑ Dogs

## Relative Costs by Method per Animal Removed

Method	Number of Projects	Total Hours	Total Dates	Estimated Cost	Total Swine Removed	Cost per Animal Removed
Corral Traps	28	952.0	640	\$27,465.20	585	\$46.95
Fixed-wing Aerial	3	256.4	53	\$39,810.00	1495	\$26.63
Turbine Helicopter Aerial	9	156.2	33	\$93,720.00	5129	\$18.27
Piston Helicopter Aerial	7	27.4	7	\$11,042.00	523	\$21.11
Snares	1	13.0	6	\$ 375.05	6	\$62.51
Night-vision Shooting	15	278.0	112	\$ 8,020.30	320	\$25.06
Multiple Methods	17	1787.5	874	\$51,569.38	906	\$56.92

## Trapping

CORRAL TRAPS



CAGE TRAPS



## Trapping

- ❑ Traps easily located by pigs and accessed by trappers
- ❑ Electronically monitored traps cost-effective where service is available
- ❑ Remote feeders reduce pre-baiting expenses



## Trapping



- ❑ Gates need to be wired open when pre-baiting and after captures
- ❑ Once set, traps need to be tended daily
- ❑ Disposal worked out in advance

## Fixed wing Aerial Shooting



- ❑ Effective in Open terrain
- ❑ 12 ga. shotgun
- ❑ Effective for population reduction, but ineffective for complete removal
- ❑ Cover flights w/ helicopters to keep track of wild pigs

## Helicopter Aerial Shooting

- ❑ Effective in open terrain, can move pigs from cover into openings for removal
- ❑ 12 ga shotgun or rifles
- ❑ Recovery difficult
- ❑ Trained pilots and crews
- ❑ May be used for eradication



## Neck Snare



- ❑ Most effective under fences adjacent to fields
- ❑ Low capture rate but snares can change behavior
- ❑ 1/8" cable + #8 - #12 swivels- Consider drags
- ❑ Check regularly
- ❑ Expect small pigs to knock them down

## Shooting

- ❑ Consider AVMA Humane Death guidelines
- ❑ Night vision assisted shooting effective at reducing numbers and changing behavior
- ❑ FLIR scopes able to detect and differentiate pigs from other wildlife
- ❑ Need to know area well- daytime scouting



## Shooting



- ❑ Daytime shooting effective at changing behavior
- ❑ Will not reduce populations effectively
- ❑ Efficient for disease sampling in high density areas

## Dogs



- ❑ Dogs necessary for eradication
- ❑ Useful for detection
- ❑ GPS collars and track logs identify areas searched
- ❑ Bay dogs will hold multiple pigs
- ❑ Protective gear necessary

## Summary

- ❑ Clear objectives are necessary in any wild pig control program
- ❑ Control methods dictated by objectives, terrain, vegetation and landowner considerations
- ❑ Costs continue after removal of last animal in many cases