

FERAL HOGS

Over the years the population of feral hogs in the resort has waxed and waned. Currently (fall 2019) the population of hogs appears to be fairly low. Hogs have been known to kill dogs that attack them. They forage by plowing up the turf creating depressions and mounds that can cover a relatively large area. As these areas recover the grass is frequently partly replaced by invasive plants such as cat claw. If you are feeding wild animals or birds corn or have a mulch pile that is not enclosed, there is a chance that you have had a visit from hogs.

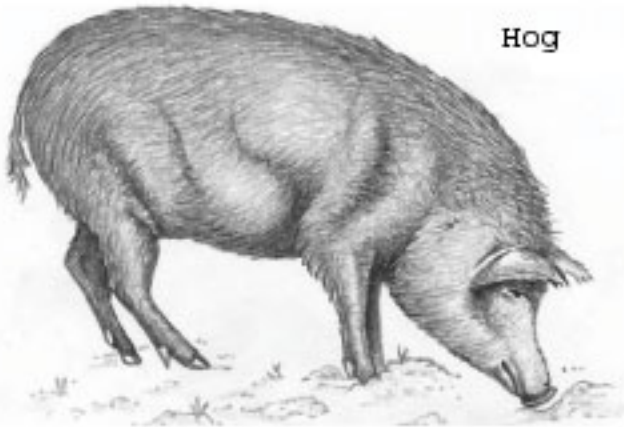
The DMPOA has 2 hog traps and a committee that can help you mitigate the hog problem on your property. **This web site will tell you how to participate in the trapping program.**



Javelina

1A) Identifying Feral Hogs:

Feral hogs are frequently confused with peccaries (javelina) (see figure). Full grown hogs are much larger than peccaries, up to 400 pounds versus 40-50 pounds. Hogs have a longish tail that sticks out horizontally when they run, while peccaries have a little nubbin of a tail. The tusks of hogs curve upward while the tusks of peccaries point downward. Most hogs around here are almost uniformly black, but can be of various other colors or spotted, while peccaries tend to be a dark gray with a whitish band of hair that extends from the top of the back over the front legs to the area of the chin. There are other distinctions between these species that you can read about in a field guide.



Hog

1B) Consequences of an incorrect identification:

Feral hogs can be killed at any time of the year. Peccaries are protected by the state; there is a hunting season on them. If you kill a peccary, even if you have a hunting license, at the wrong time of the year there is a \$3000 fine.

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2A) Getting started:

If you think that there are feral hogs at your place look for: recent signs of plowing activity, hog sightings, or game camera identifications; any one of these will do. If you want a trap give a member of the Feral Hog Committee a telephone call or send an e-mail (telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed at bottom of document). Leave your name address and telephone number. We will come out to your place for a quick visit to examine the evidence for

hogs and take a look at the site; at the same time we will describe the trapping procedure. This step is necessary because the trap is large, weighs quite a bit and has to be placed near a road. If it looks like things will work out we will bring out the next trap that is available.

2B) After the trap has arrived:

We will show you how the trap works and discuss with you the best kinds of foods to put in the trap. We will also provide you with bait food. You will need to check the trap at 12 hour intervals (you will probably see a large array of prisoners). The business of opening the trap, and resetting it is a two person job. You should call one of the members of the committee to help you. When the trap is set up you will have to sign a liability release form: if you have an accident while using the trap or get a disease from an animal in the trap (wild animals can carry a variety of diseases) you will be responsible for the bills. When you decide that you have run the trap long enough; give us a call and we will remove the trap.

2C) What happens after you catch a hog:

Give a telephone call to a committee member. We will send out one of the members of our committee to dispatch the hog. Killing a hog in a trap is not easy; it is best to have someone with experience do it. Our committee member will note its sex. We may collect a sample of blood, ticks or fleas to send to the Texas Department of Health to check for the presence of diseases that hogs may carry. If you want the hog it is yours. If you do not want it, we will take it away.

3A) Other projects of the Feral Hog committee:

The Feral Hog Committee also runs traps on property held in common by the DMPOA. You may see these traps as you drive or walk by.

3B) Feral Hogs for Butchering:

If you live in the resort and would like a freshly killed hog for butchering, send your name, address and telephone number to Feral Hog committee member, David Wilson. As hogs become available, we will call you and deliver a hog to your home shortly after it has been dispatched. If you cannot be contacted we will still keep you on the same position on the list.

The members of the Feral Hog Committee are:

Gary Freeman	-426-2083	gfree@utexas.edu
Jerry Guthrie	-426-2729	
Dale Learish	-249-2313	dlearish@gmail.com
	cell 302-893-5667	
Darryl Lewallen	-426-2205	darryllewallen@hotmail.com
David Wilson	-832-330-6333	wilsondavid1914@att.net

