

Feral Swine Activities by USDA Wildlife Services – an update



Tim Wilson

Objectives

- Conduct reconnaissance of selected areas to define scope of local feral swine populations
- Establish outreach and communications with key organizations and individuals
- Implement control of feral swine as opportunities allow
- Conduct disease surveillance on feral swine.

Landowner Contacts

- Since January 2011: Personal contacts with > 100 landowners to inquire about feral hog activity and to scout, bait, or set up traps on new properties
- Follow-up on all leads provided by MDNR, MDARD, and MI Wildlife Conservancy

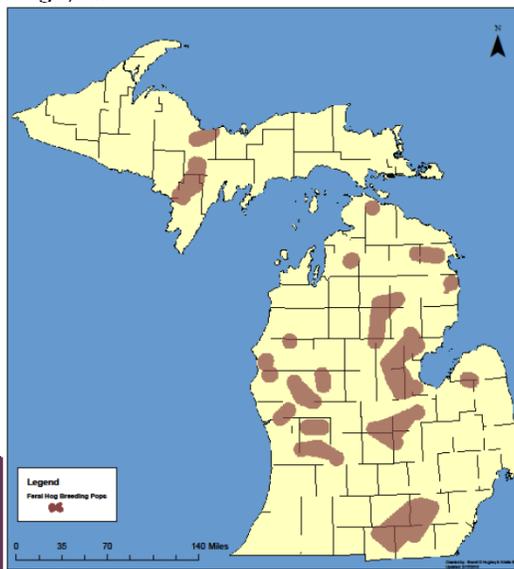


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Focus Areas

- Areas with breeding populations* of feral hogs
 - Based upon reports of sightings, kills



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Strategy for Trapping

- Set up appointment with landowner
- Scout for sign
- Set up bait site (corn, beer mash, etc.) and trail camera
- Set up trap after hogs begin using bait
- Coordinate with WS staff and MDARD field veterinarians to collect samples for disease surveillance.



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Trapping Summary (2005 to date)

- 47 traps in inventory
- 31 deployed to field
- 31 hogs trapped
 - Bay County - 9
 - Midland County – 13
 - Hillsdale County – 2
 - Mecosta County - 7



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