San Diego Feral Pig Eradication
Removal Locations (2010-June, 2014)

- Hauser Canyon
- Hauser Mountain
- Lake Morena
- Corral Canyon
- Corte Madera
- Barrett Lake
- Descanso
- Capitan Grande Reservation
- Palomar Mountain
- Vista Irrigation
- Santa Ysabel
- Hauser Canyon
- Hauser Mountain
- Lake Morena
- Corral Canyon
- Corte Madera
- Barrett Lake
Goals, Objectives, Requirements

- Eradication of feral pigs from San Diego County
- Document damage caused by feral pigs in San Diego County.
- Access to properties and permission to use all necessary tools and methods.
- Cooperation and accountability with other agencies and entities that are removing or monitoring pigs on their property.
- Collect samples for disease and DNA analysis (blood, liver, kidney, hair, muscle tissue)
Budget

- Funds from Forest Service, SANDAG, and APHIS.
- Support five employees (Four Technicians, one Supervisor).
- Equipment costs most significant for the first six months.
Top Secret Plan

Find pigs

Kill pigs
Damage
Damage
Tools and Methods

• Trail cameras and baiting
• Traps (cage, corral, snares)
• Shooting
• Night vision, thermal equipment
• Maps, GPS, GIS software
• Online research, webpages
• Dogs
  • Fixed wing aerial hunting
  • Helicopter aerial hunting (turbine)
Trail Cameras and Baiting

- Monitor for activity at bait holes, water sources, trap locations, and rooting activity
- Lock boxes on public land
- 270 locations and currently 150-175 active
- Bait-corn, water, yeast, kool-aid mix
Cage Traps

- 4’x3’x8’
- Simple trigger device
- Single or small numbers of pigs
Corral Traps

• Possible to catch large numbers at one time
• Customize size and configuration
• Different door designs and trigger devices
• Requires two people in most situations
• 6’x5’ panels
• 7-10 panels
Night Vision/Thermal and Shooting

- Target trap shy pigs
- Suppressor compatible
- Areas with limited access to transport traps
- Monitor bait piles with cameras for consistent activity
- Ground blinds or tripods
- Two people (spotter/shooter)
- Least cost effective and time consuming if unsuccessful...very frustrating!
Snares

- Remote areas with thick vegetation
- Trail cameras to monitor for non-targets
- Neck and foot snares
- Adjustable to minimize non-targets
- Private property with no pets or people present
- Last resort if other options have been extinguished or unsuccessful
Dogs

- Requires a very experienced houndsman and well trained dogs.
- Target individual pigs in specific locations.
- Requires a “hot” track to decrease chase time.
- Pigs are tracked and cornered
- Dispatched with firearm.
- Two WS Specialist from TX (March)
- GPS tracking collars on all dogs
### Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Camera Nights</th>
<th>Corral Trap Nights</th>
<th>Cage Trap Nights</th>
<th>Snare Nights</th>
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<td>Forest Service</td>
<td>5,565</td>
<td>16,601</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>542</td>
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<td>BLM</td>
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<td>Private</td>
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<td>4,092</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,612</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,197</strong></td>
<td><strong>516</strong></td>
<td><strong>647</strong></td>
<td><strong>210</strong></td>
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# Removal Methods

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Method</th>
<th>Take</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cage Traps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corral Traps</td>
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<td>Shooting</td>
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<td>Dogs</td>
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<td>Snares</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Camera Locations

- 270 different camera locations
- ~150 currently active
Pig Detections

- One picture of one pig near El Capitan Reservation
Pig Removal Locations

- Multiple pigs usually removed from the same locations
• Boar’s home range 30-61 square miles.
• Sounder or juvenile’s home range 1-10 square miles.

“Scar”
Population Structure

- 19 Male/27 Female
- 11 Adults/15 Juveniles/20 Piglets
- Average weight 80 lbs. (15 lbs - 400 lbs.)
Typical Sounder
Descanso

Castrated Boar
Disease Monitoring

- Swine Brucellosis
- Pseudorabies
- Classical Swine Fever
- Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome
- Toxoplasmosis
- Swine Influenza
- Leptospirosis
Conclusions

- One year ago population was estimated at 350-500, but probably closer to 1/3rd of that.
- Recreational hunting not making a large impact on population.
- No pigs recorded in Palomar Mountains, Santa Ysabel, Laguna Mountains.
- High probability of three, possibly four, separate releases between 2000-2012.
- Adult boars have a large home range (50-60 square miles).
Future Plans

• Expand monitoring areas across county
• “Ms. Piggy” method for adult boars
• Judas pig
• Continue to collect genetic samples to investigate population connectivity
• Continue to find and kill pigs
Questions?

Huh?