Feral Swine in Southern California

Western Region Tribal IPM Work Group Meeting

Dennis Orthmeyer

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/ca
Mission:
to provide federal leadership in managing problems between people and wildlife.
Feral Swine/ Wild Pigs

I am an Invasive ecological and agricultural assassin, bioterroristic petri dish, and game mammal.

Control Me......
Pig Topics

1) Assassins
2) Wrecking the place
3) Taking your temperature
4) Bacon
5) Dancing and Solutions
National Distribution

Feral/Wild Swine Populations
March 2010
Wild Pig Presence
57/58 Counties
Population Estimate
500,000 – 2,000,000
Invasive Species

Most invasive and destructive mammal in North America
Feral Swine: CDFA "A"-rated pest

An organism of known economic importance subject to state enforced action involving eradication, quarantine regulation, containment, rejection, or other holding action……. Regulatory

Wildlife Services CA spent over $1.5 Million on Feral swine control this last year
408 Limited Range, Rare, or T & E Plants are within high impact pig range

72 Rare or T&E Plants are within high impact pig range in CA
Agricultural Assassins

Estimated $1.5 Billion Annual Damage to Agriculture
On going research:

Identifying and optimizing prevention and control strategies against the spread of viral pathogens within U.S. feral swine populations.
Diseases of Feral Swine: Currently USDA National Wildlife Disease program is testing feral swine for 25 separate potential disease threats to humans, livestock, and other wildlife.

- African Swine Fever
- Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera)
- Foot & Mouth Disease
- E.coli
- Hepatitis E
- Plague
- Psuedorabies
- Salmonella
- Swine Influenza Virus
- Swine Brucellosis
- Toxoplasmosis
- Trichinella
- Tularemia

Currently USDA National Wildlife Disease program is testing feral swine for 25 separate potential disease threats to humans, livestock, and other wildlife.
# 1 Successful Hunted Game Mammal

# 1 Species For New Hunter Recruitment

# 2 Harvested Game Mammal
Litter size 4-12

Biology 2-3 Litters/year
Tribal Lands

Traditional cultural properties

Sacred sites
Burial Grounds

Public health and safety

Human remains
Who has Regulatory control Pigs in CA?

1) CA Dept. of Food and Agriculture
2) CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
3) Native American Tribes (Sovereign Nations)
4) USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service
Your neighbors have pigs

- Federal
- State
- Counties
- Cities
- Irrigation Districts

 Regulations

 Tribal Lands

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wsa/ca
The National Strategy is to

- Focus feral swine control efforts on containment (elimination of feral swine)
- Targeted population reduction,
- Mitigate damages and disease risks where feral swine populations are already established.
Partnerships through cooperation with federal, state, tribal, city, county, private, and local entities with a common interest in eliminating or controlling feral swine.

➢ Provide resources and guidance to manage from a local perspective.
So how do we dance?

- Eradicate?
- Focused controlled?
  - Sensitive Areas
  - Agricultural impacted
- Ignore – bigger problems?
Principals of Control Mgt.

1. Access
2. Refugia
3. Pressure
4. Time
5. Communication
San Diego County Project  16 Members

- County
- Cities
- Federal
- Private
- APHIS WS
- State
- Native American Tribes
- Conservation Organizations
Tribal MOU’s

• Open Discussion
• Access controlled by tribe
• Methods controlled by tribe
• WS Assistance on request
• Designates points of contact
In summary - PIGS

They are here.
They are assassins.
They are bioterroristic disease vectors.
They need to be removed.

If nothing is done and we wait...
Questions?