Mississippi Delta Feral Swine Abatement Project

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Background

- In the United States there has been estimated population of over 6 million Feral Swine
- 35 States have reported Feral Swine Population
- In 1988 only 23 Counties in MS had Feral Swine Population
- Today, all 82 Counties in MS have a Feral Swine Population

- Sows usually have 2 litter per year
- Litter size varies due to factors of age of Sow, nutrition, and time of year
- Feral hogs average 3 to 8 young per litter, but can range up to 13
- Plants make up 85% of their diet







Feral Swine Impact

- Estimated $1.5 Billion in Damages in the United States Annually
- Estimated $60-$67 Million Annually in Mississippi



















Purpose

- Reduce Feral Swine populations
- Reduce impacts of Feral Swine in project area
- Provide support to exciting USDA Wildlife Service Feral Swine management activities
- Provide technical and direct assistance to private landowners to actively trap and remove Feral Swine

Project Details

- Pilot Project
- 9-County Project Area
- 48 Month Project
- Round 1 began January 1, 2021
- Round 2 began January 1, 2022
- Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts Inc. hired a project coordinator

Education

- Delta Wildlife will work directly with landowners to implement management activities.
- Each cooperating landowner will receive trap training.
- Other partners will coordinate area wide Feral Swine training and education efforts.

Project Objectives

1. Identify private landowners in 9-County project area seeking assistance with Feral Swine.
2. Identify private landowners in 9-County project area with Feral Swine damage.
3. Document economic damages caused by Feral Swine on private property.
4. Assist private landowners, farm operators, and USDA Wildlife Service staff with trapping of Feral Swine
5. Document economic damages, if any, 1 year after trapping each tract.
6. Document economic return on trapping efforts in terms of reduction in damages per tract.
7. Educate private landowners, farm operators, and land managers in the project area on proper tapping techniques.
8. Establish long-term trap loan program to begin after formal project is complete for land owners, farm operators, and land managers that participate in at least on trap training session to use tap equipment purchase through this project.

Project Process

1. Landowners of project area seeking assistance will request services through their respective Soil and Water Conservation District office.
2. Project coordinator will then interview to document damages and assign priority management activities.
3. Delta Wildlife will work directly with landowner to implement management practice.
4. Drop traps will be used on landowners place to capture and remove Feral Swine.









Project Numbers as of Date

Round 1: (Issaquena, Sharkey, Yazoo, and Warren Co.)

- 170,312 Acres Enrolled.
- 47 Landowners/ Properties Treated by Implemented Trapping Efforts.
- 126,828 Acres Treated by Implemented Trapping Efforts.
- 2,134 Feral Swine removed to date.

Round 2: (Claiborne, Holmes, Humphreys, Jefferson, and Washington Co.)

- 67,599 Acres Enrolled.
- 25 Landowners/ Properties Treated by Implemented Trapping Efforts.
- 30,042 Acres Treated by Implemented Trapping Efforts
- 674 Feral Swine removed to date.

Success of the project will be measured by the total number of Feral Swine removed from the project area and reduction of associated Feral Swine damage.


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