

WILD PIG MANAGEMENT

WRC – SEPTEMBER 21, 2016





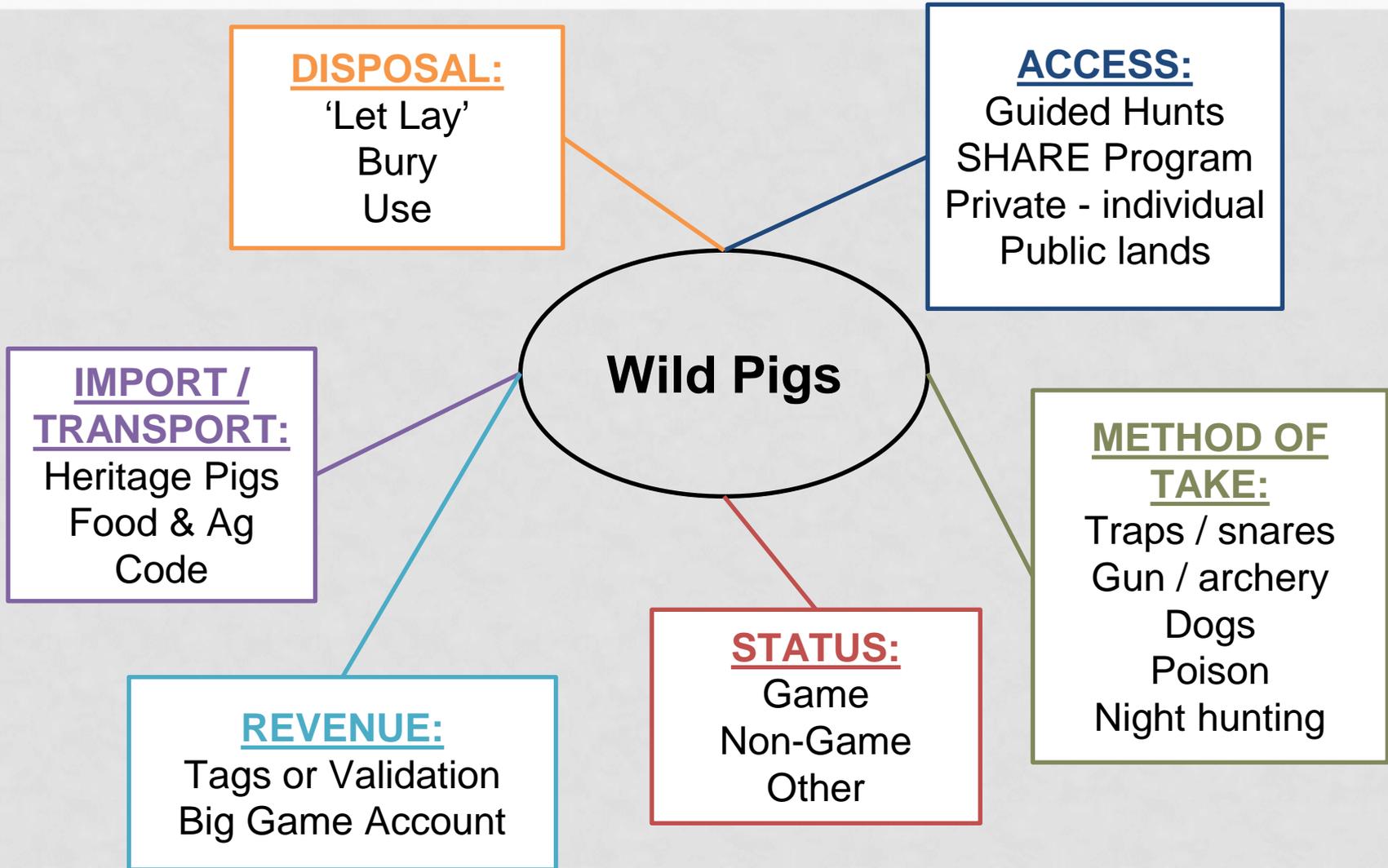
WILD PIG MANAGEMENT

Goal:

Reduce wild pig population to benefit native species and their habitats and protect private property while maintaining hunting opportunities



MANAGEMENT CONCERNS





STATUS DESIGNATION

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Big game designation
 - Limits management options
 - Burdensome for ag (depredation permits)
 - Limits methods of take
 - Gives wild pigs same standing as native game species
- Potential management options with change in status
- Potential revenue impacts associated with change in status

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Keep status as big game
- Change status to non-game
- Change status to non-game with provisions
- Create new status designation which recognizes unique standing



STATUS OPTIONS

PROVISIONS	KEEP AS GAME	CHANGE TO NON-GAME	CREATE NEW DESIGNATION
Use	Required for hunting; Allowed for depredation	Not required or prohibited	Develop requirements, new or existing, targeted at management goal
Methods of Take	More restrictive	Less restrictive; Some methods ineffective for pigs	
Night Hunting	Prohibited	Allowed (with some exceptions)	
Depredation Permit	Required	Not required	
Monitoring / Management	Required	Not required	



STATUS OPTIONS

DESIGNATIONS IN OTHER STATES:

- Game (6)** – AL, HI, ME, NY, OH, WV
- Non-Game (5)** – FL, NE, NC, OR, TX
- Invasive/Nuisance (18)** – CO, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, MN, MS, MO, NJ, OK, PA, TN, UT, VA, WA, WI
- Prohibited Species (2)** – LA, MT
- Feral Livestock/Domestic (5)** – NV, NH, ND, VT, WY

STATES THAT SPECIFY NON-NATIVE/EXOTIC:

Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, Wyoming



DISPOSAL

CONSIDERATIONS:

- 'Let Lay' – concerns about lead exposure; predator attraction near urban areas; wanton waste
 - Section 250.1(d)(2)(F) – non-lead required when using shotgun to take any wildlife for depredation purposes
- Bury – option for reducing lead exposure and predator attraction; not option in all areas; willingness of land owner (time, equipment, cost)
- Use – required for hunters; current depredation regulations allow for use by permittee or designated agent; potentially burdensome

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Broaden provision for use when taken under depredation
- Add provision prohibiting disposition near water bodies and/or urban areas
- Add provision requiring use of non-lead ammunition for depredation
- Add provision regarding burial (lead ammunition)



METHODS OF TAKE

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Providing multiple tools for depredation
- Humane practices / safety measures for dogs
- Avoiding impacts to non-target species (poison, traps, snares)
- Night hunting as management tool

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Provisions for use of traps and/or snares
 - Use of live traps (*Fish and Game Code Section 3005)
 - Use of snares with conditions
 - Use of leg snares designed to exclude non-target species (i.e. break-away, pan-tension devices)
- Add safety provisions for use of dogs
- Add provisions for night hunting with conditions



HUNTING ACCESS

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Limited accessibility to private lands for hunters
- Liability concerns for private landowners
- Limited opportunities on public lands for hunters

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Expansion of SHARE program
- Guided hunts
- Expansion of public land hunts



IMPORT / TRANSPORT

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Contribution of import/transport on population size and distribution
- Potential conflicts with Food and Ag Code related to import/transport of domestic pigs

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Restrict import/transport/release of wild pigs
 - Kansas – ‘No person shall import, transport, or possess live feral swine in this state.’ ‘No person shall intentionally or knowingly release any hog, boar, pig, or swine to live in a wild or feral state upon public or private land.’
- Clarify definition for wild pig to differentiate from domestic stock
 - Kansas - “feral swine” means any untamed or undomesticated hog, boar, or pig; swine whose reversion to wild state is apparent; freely roaming with no visible tags, markings, or characteristics. Includes Russian wild boar, European wild boar, Eurasian wild boar, and razorbacks.



REVENUES

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Tags versus validation
- Big Game Management Account (BGMA)
 - Limits use of funds and ability to meet management goal
 - Ability to meet big game objectives if diverted (\$1.2M/year)
 - Resource impacts of managing separate funds

POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Continue directing funds to BGMA
- Continue directing funds to BGMA with provisions to address wild pig impacts to native game species
- Create separate account for pig revenues
- Hybrid approach – direct portion to BGMA and rest to separate account
 - Phased transition
 - Provisions for how money spent



MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Minor modifications

- Maintain game status
- Change tag to validation
- Expand SHARE program
- Modify provisions for disposal, methods of take

Moderate modifications

- Change status to non-game
- Add provisions for tags/revenue, methods of take, use, night hunting

Substantial modifications

- Create new designation and modify definition
- Add provisions for hunting and depredation
- Add restrictions on import/transport/release
- Expand SHARE program



NEXT STEPS

