

WILD PIG MANAGEMENT

WRC – JANUARY 18, 2017
STAFF PRESENTATION





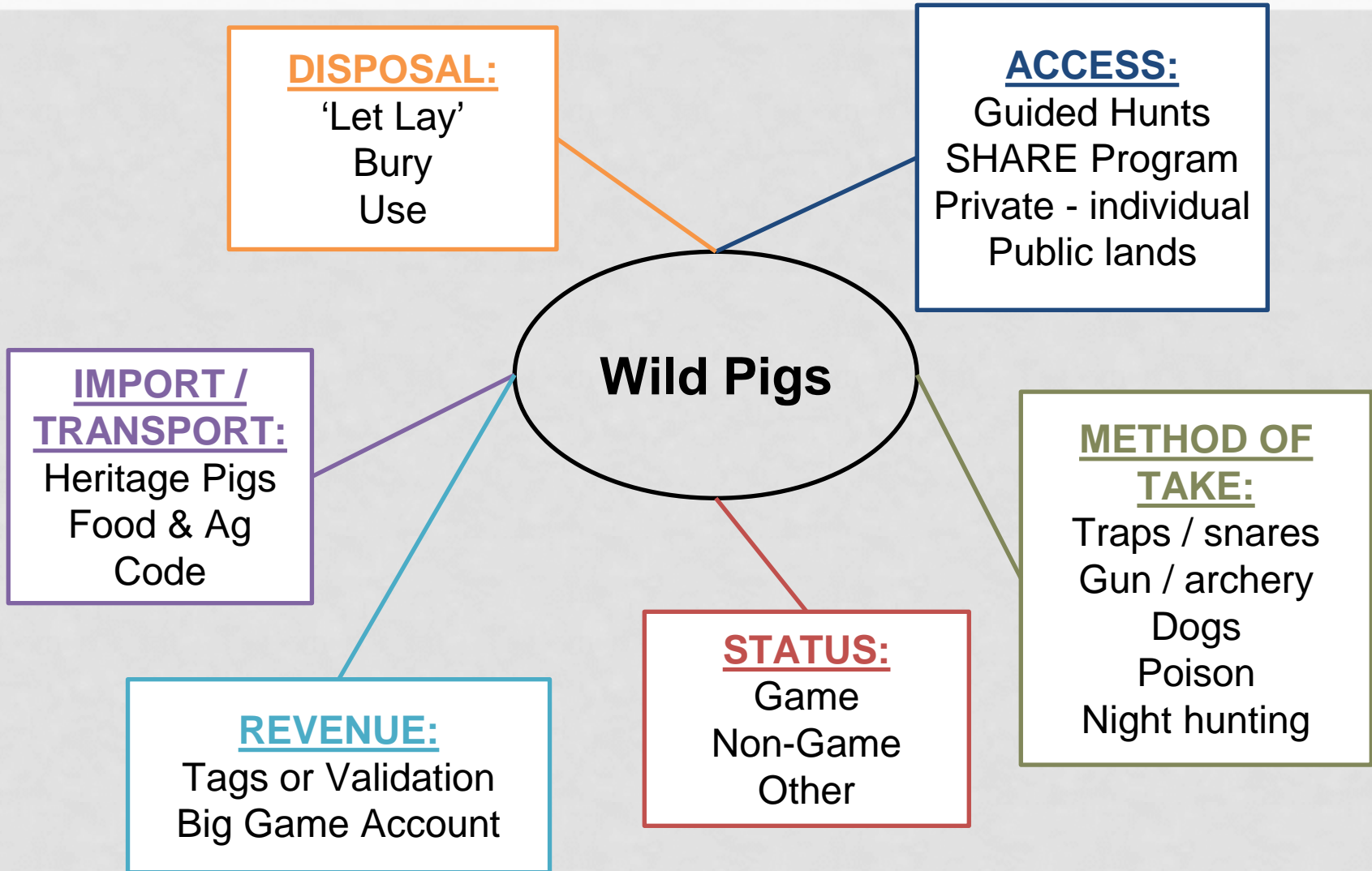
WILD PIG MANAGEMENT

Goal:

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



MANAGEMENT CONCERNS





GAME MAMMAL REGULATIONS

Title 14 Section	Title	Description	Notes / Recommendation
250.1	Use of Lead Projectiles	Phases in use of non-lead ammunition	Similar for both; no change
251.3	Feeding Big Game	Prohibits feeding of big game	Addressed by Section 251.1
251.8	Transportation off Reservations	Transport of game species w/ tribe-issue permit	Modify to include wild pigs
257.5	Take with Aid of Bait	Prohibits take within 400 yards of bait	Move provision to nongame



GAME MAMMAL REGULATIONS

Title 14 Section	Title	Description	Notes / Recommendation
260.2	Lake Oroville Recreational Area	Permits hunting of game species (with restrictions)	Modify to include wild pigs
265	Use of dogs	Allowance under depredation permit	Move provision to nongame
352	Shooting Hours	Allows for daytime only	Modify in nongame to allow for depredation
353	Methods of Take	Provisions for type of weapon and lights	Move provision to nongame



GAME MAMMAL REGULATIONS

Title 14 Section	Title	Description	Notes / Recommendation
368	Wild Pig	Season, bag and possession limits	Move to nongame
401	Depredation Permit	Provisions for permit	Move some provisions to nongame
465.5	Use of Traps	Provisions for use	No change, applies to both
671	Import, Transport, or Possession	Requires DFW permit for restricted species	No change, applies to both
708.13	Wild Pig Tags	Provisions for wild pig hunting tags	Move to nongame



FISH AND GAME CODE SECTIONS

Fish & Game Section	Title	Description	Recommendation
2005	Use of Artificial Lights	Provisions for artificial lights, infrared lights, and night vision equip.	Modify to include wild pigs provisions
3950	Game Mammals	Enumerates game mammals	Modify to remove wild pigs
3953	Big Game Management Account	Deposit and expenditure of revenues	Modify for wild pig validation
4181-4181.2, 4188	Depredation	Depredation permits and conditions	Modify to remove wild pigs; create new provisions



FISH AND GAME CODE SECTIONS

Fish & Game Section	Title	Description	Recommendation
4304	Neglect of game mammals	Provisions to prevent waste of meat	Modify to include wild pigs
4650	Wild Pig	Definition of wild pig	Work with CDFA to modify
4651	Wild Pig Management Plan	Requirements in plan	Remove
4652-4657	Wild Pig Tags	Provisions for wild pig tags	Modify to hunting validation



NEXT STEPS



Wild Pigs: An Example for Integrating into Nongame Mammal Regulations

Prepared by Fish and Game Commission staff for discussion at the
Wildlife Resources Committee
January 18, 2017

Discussion at the September 2016 WRC meeting concerning possible changes in wild pig regulations, currently within big game mammal generated interest in seeing an example of how proposed changes in wild pig regulations might read. Based on WRC direction, and using the discussion points from the September meeting, staff has prepared the following text as an example of how wild pigs **could** be integrated into the nongame mammal regulations in Title 14, California Code of Regulations, for WRC discussion purposes only. The current regulation text is italicized and proposed language is bolded and underlined. For purposes of brevity, only the full text for relevant subsections is provided.

Title 14, CCR, Subdivision 2. Chapter 6. Nongame Animals

*472. General provisions. Except as otherwise provided in Sections 478, 485, and **4XX** and subsections (a) through (d) below, nongame birds and mammals may not be taken.*

- (a) Take of English sparrow, starling, coyote, weasel, skunk, opossum, moles, and rodents (with exceptions)
- (b) Non-native deer
- (c) Non-native sheep/goats and feral goats
- (d) American crow
- (e) *Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2003, it is unlawful to offer any prize or other inducement as a reward for the taking of nongame mammals in an individual contest, tournament, or derby.*

473. Possession of Nongame Animals. Any nongame bird or mammal that has been legally taken pursuant to this chapter may be possessed.

474. Hours for Taking. Nongame mammals may be taken at any time except as provided in this section.

- (a) Area Closed to Night Hunting.
- (b) *On privately-owned property, not included in (a) above, nongame mammals may be taken from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise only the landowner or his agents, or by persons who have in their immediate possession written permission issued by the landowner or tenant that states the permittee can trespass from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise on property under the ownership or control of such landowners or tenants.*
- (c) Non-native deer, sheep, and goats and feral goats
- (d) Wild pig may be taken only from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except as provided for in Section 4XY(a)(3).**

475. *Methods of Take for Nongame Birds and Nongame Mammals.* Nongame birds and nongame mammals may be taken in any manner except as follows:

(a) *Poison may not be used.*

(b) *Recorded or electrically amplified calls or sounds for coyote, bobcat, crows, and starlings.*

(c) *Fallow deer, sambar deer, axis deer, sika deer, aoudad, mouflon, tahr, feral goats, and **wild pigs** may be taken only with the equipment and ammunition specified in Section 353 of these regulations.*

(d) *Traps may be used to take nongame birds and nongame mammals only in accordance with the provisions of Sections 465.5 of these regulations and sections 3003.1 and 4004 of the Fish and Game Code.*

(e) *No feed, bait or other material capable of attracting a nongame mammal may be placed or used in conjunction with dogs for the purpose of taking any nongame mammals. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an individual operating in accordance with the provisions of Section 465.5 from using a dog to follow a trap drag and taking the nongame mammal caught in that trap. **The take of wild pigs shall be in accordance with Section 257.5 of these regulations.***

(f) *The take or attempted take of any nongame bird or nongame mammal with a firearm shall be in accordance with the use of nonlead projectiles and ammunition pursuant to Section 250.1 of these regulations.*

478. Bobcat.

478.1 Bobcat Hunting Tags.

479. Bobcat Pelts.

479.1 Bobcat Pelts [Repealed]

480. Bobcat Depredation [Repealed]

485. American Crow.

4XX. Wild Pig. (Note: used bobcat regulations as model)

(a) **It shall be unlawful to pursue, take, or possess any wild pig without first procuring a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation. This section shall not apply to wild pigs taken pursuant to Section 4152 of the Fish and Game Code and subsection (c) of this section.**

(b) **Hunting: The pursuit, take, or possession of a wild pig under the authority of a hunting license and a wild pig hunting validation shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 3960 of the Fish and Game Code, this Section, and sections 472, 473, 474, 475, and 4XX.1 of these regulations. Wild pigs may be taken statewide under the authority of a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation at any time of year and in any number.**

4XX.1 Wild Pig Hunting Validation. Any licensed hunter, 12 years of age or older taking wild pigs, including feral pigs and European wild boars (genus Sus), must have a current state wild pig hunting validation in possession.

4XY. Wild Pig Depredation. A person who is a property owner or tenant may take wild pigs that are damaging or destroying or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property without a hunting license and hunting validation under the following conditions.

(a) Methods of Take.

- (1) Wild pigs may be taken by any method in accordance with sections 465.5 and 475(c) of these regulations.**
- (2) Use of dogs shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 265 of these regulations.**
- (3) Artificial lights may be used to assist in taking pigs. If using spotlights at night, the property owner shall notify DFW to inform them of night operations and location.**

(b) Government Employees and Designated Agents.

- (1) A landowner may authorize an employee of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity to take depredating wild pigs on the property.**
- (2) A landowner may designate other persons, including any dog handler who will be utilized in any pursuit, as their agent to take depredating wild pigs on their property. The designated agent must have a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation.**

(c) Tagging Animals. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property by the property owner or tenant. Tags shall clearly show the property owner's name, address, date and location the animal was taken and shall include the signature of the person taking the animal.

(d) Utilization of the Carcass. Animals taken shall be utilized by the property owner, tenant, or designated agent except the property owner, tenant, or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high air temperature, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass.