

Feral Pig Survey for Land Owners and Lessees



The Tejon Ranch Conservancy and UCSB Bren School of Environmental Science and Management request your help with a survey aimed at understanding your local knowledge of the effects of feral pigs on your land. Feral pigs are present in many areas throughout California, where they are viewed both as valuable wildlife resources and as economic and ecological threats. Although landowners and others in California come into contact with feral pigs, little is known about damage they cause in our state.

Therefore, your help is critical for determining the type and extent of damage from feral pigs in the areas on and surrounding Tejon Ranch. Your answers are important and will increase our understanding of how feral pigs affect landowners and lessees. The answers you provide will also help us develop more effective programs to deal with feral pigs. Individual responses will be kept strictly confidential.

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions about your views on feral pigs. Whether you have feral pigs on your property or not, your answers are important to us. If you have questions or would like a copy of the results, please contact us at the address on the last page of this survey. THANK YOU for your time.

If possible, please take this survey online at [insert web link here].

Section I. The following questions are important in helping us understand feral hog damage in California and how people feel about feral pigs in this area. Please answer every question as completely as possible.

1. In what county do you own/lease land? _____
2. What is the approximate acreage of your land? _____
3. What is the **Primary** use for this land? (Please select one)
 - ____ Hunting ____ Recreation (non-hunting) ____ Timber Production ____ Conservation
 - ____ Livestock Production (Please list animals) _____
 - ____ Crop Production (Please list crops) _____
 - Other/Mixed Use (Please specify) _____
4. Are feral pigs present on your land? ____ YES ____ NO ____ UNSURE
(If **YES** or **UNSURE**, please continue below. If **NO**, please skip ahead to Question 29.)
5. How many feral pigs have been seen on your land in the last year? _____
6. Do you hunt/shoot feral pigs on your land? ____ YES ____ NO
7. Do you allow others to hunt/shoot feral pigs on your land? ____ YES ____ NO
8. How many feral pigs have been killed on your land in the last year? _____
9. Have feral pigs ever damaged your land or property? ____ YES ____ NO
(If **YES**, please continue below. If **NO**, please skip ahead to question 29.)

10. When did you first notice feral pigs or feral pigs sign on this property?

_____ Year _____ Month

11. Please tell us which of the following were damaged by feral pigs on your land. (check all that apply.)

_____ Wine Grapes _____ Fruit Trees _____ Pasture

_____ Timber _____ Vegetables

Other (Please Specify) _____

12. During the last year, what types of damage have you had **due to feral pigs**? (Please select **ALL** that apply)

- _____ Damage cash crop (non-timber) _____ Damage to wildlife habitat
- _____ Damage or injury to pets _____ Damage or injury to livestock
- _____ Damage or loss of livestock feed _____ Damage to streams or ponds
- _____ Damage to pastures _____ Damage to fences
- _____ Damage to equipment _____ Landscape damage (e.g. yard, etc.)
- _____ Loss of land value _____ Loss of lease value
- _____ Loss of stored commodities _____ Rooting or grubbing
- _____ Loss to timber _____ Wallows
- _____ Other (please specify) _____

13. From the list above, please tell us the **ONE** type of damage that was most important to you.

14. The type of damage caused by feral **pigs hogs** is viewed differently between landowners. The importance of that damage also differs. In Question 11 above, you told us which type of damage was **MOST IMPORTANT** to you. How do you define importance?

- _____ Cost me the most money _____ Changed the appearance of my land in a bad way
- _____ Negatively impacted how I use my land
- _____ Other (please explain) _____

15. Considering the current population of feral **pigs hogs** on this land, how has the population changed in the following time spans? (Please circle one answer in each row)

Compared to last year: _____ LOWER _____ SAME _____ HIGHER _____ UNSURE

Compared to 3 years ago: _____ LOWER _____ SAME _____ HIGHER _____ UNSURE

Compared to 5 years ago: _____ LOWER _____ SAME _____ HIGHER _____ UNSURE

16. Did you seek outside help to deal with feral pigs on your land? _____ YES _____ NO

17. If YES, please tell us who you contacted (select all that apply)

___ California Department of Fish and Wildlife

___ Landowner

___ USDA Wildlife Services

___ Private hog control company

Other (Please list) _____

18. Did this outside help reduce the damage? ___ YES ___ NO ___ UNSURE

19. Would you seek outside help again from this source? ___ YES ___ NO ___ UNSURE

20. Would you seek help from another source? ___ YES ___ NO ___ UNSURE

21. What do you think is the main cause of increases in feral pig populations? (Please check all that apply)

___ Neighbor's management practices

___ Lack of hunting pressure

___ Illegal release/transfer

___ Natural causes

Other (please specify) _____

22. In the last year, which lethal control measures have you used to control feral pigs on this property?

___ Dog Hunting

___ Night shooting

___ Trapping

___ Opportunistic shooting

___ Still Hunting

___ None

Other (please specify) _____

23. Which lethal method did you find most effective? _____

24. Which lethal method did you find least effective? _____

25. In the last year, which non-lethal control measures have you used to control feral pigs on this property?

___ Electric Fencing

___ Harassment

___ Non-Electric Fencing

___ Repellent

Other (please specify) _____

26. Which non-lethal method did you find most effective? _____

27. Which non-lethal method did you find least effective? _____

28. Estimate your losses to crops and/or crop related damage (i.e. equipment damage, etc.) during the last year.

\$_____ .00

29. Approximately how much have you spent on control of feral pigs on your property during the last year?

\$_____ .00

30. Based on your experience, who **currently offers** assistance for feral pig management on private lands?

31. Based on your experience, who **should be** offering assistance for feral pig management in your area?

SECTION II. Please give us your views about feral pigs in your area. Your views help us better understand how citizens and landowners feel about feral pigs.

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about feral pigs by **circling one number** on each row.

Neither Agree Nor Disagree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
<i>Feral pigs should be managed primarily for...</i>					
a healthy ecosystem	1	2	3	4	5
a healthy pig population	1	2	3	4	5
minimizing human/pig conflicts	1	2	3	4	5
<hr/>					
I enjoy seeing feral pigs around around my property.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are an important part of the environment.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are Native to California	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are a welcome addition to the number of big game species I can hunt	1	2	3	4	5
I only kill boars	1	2	3	4	5
I worry about problems feral pigs might cause to my property	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are a nuisance.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are a source of disease.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs should be eliminated whenever possible.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs detract from deer or other hunting opportunities.	1	2	3	4	5
Feral pigs are not a threat to the safety of people.	1	2	3	4	5
People should learn to live with					

feral pigs near their homes or farms.

1 2 3 4 5

Neither Agree Nor Disagree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Unsure	Agree	Strongly Agree
I enjoy seeing feral pigs					
Feral pigs have a negative impact on local wildlife populations.	1	2	3	4	5
Increasing hunting pressure alone can control feral pig numbers.	1	2	3	4	5
Trapping and culling should be used to help control pig numbers	1	2	3	4	5
Dog hunting for feral pigs should be allowed	1	2	3	4	5
I would kill sows or piglets to help control pig numbers.	1	2	3	4	5

Section III. Please tell us about yourself. All answers are strictly confidential and specific responses will not be shared with others.

1. How many years have you owned, leased or managed this land? _____ Years
2. How long have you resided in California? _____ Years
3. What is your Gender? _____ MALE _____ FEMALE
5. Before you received this survey, did you know that feral pigs could be a problem for landowners? Please circle one. _____ YES _____ NO
6. Are you a non-agricultural landowner such as forester, consulting forester, wildlife biologist, real estate agent, etc. Please circle one . _____ YES _____ NO

Please provide any additional comments, observations, details, or questions in the space provided below.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY.

PLEASE RETURN THIS SURVEY IN THE POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE PROVIDED.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE RESULTS OF THIS SURVEY,
PLEASE CONTACT:

Adam T. Kreger
Survey Contact
Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

Send To: PO Box 216, Frazier Park, CA 93225

Survey ID # _____

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