

Subject: Hog Management Report for BCA - July 2019

Greetings,

This is the monthly report for the BCA hog management program for July 2019. Jesse Paul took 85 hogs in July. This brings the calendar year total to 581. This month 47 hogs were taken with dogs vs. 38 in traps, as noted below.

Property breakdown is as follows:

1st Place: 2 with dogs and 12 in trap.
2nd and 3rd (TIE): 13 in a trap; 5 with dogs and 8 in a trap.
4th and 5th (TIE): 7 each with dogs.
6th and 7th (TIE): 6 each with dogs.
8th Place: 5 in trap.
9th, and 10th (TIE): 4 each with dogs.
11th and 12th (TIE): 3 each with dogs.

The remainder of properties: had no hogs this month.

Our normal hot, dry, summer weather is here, although thankfully, 100+ degree days have been somewhat late in arriving. August and September promise to be brutal. Drying conditions and daytime heat will limit hog movements to nighttime hours and short distances away from water sources. Hogs can't sweat, so heat works against them in a couple of ways: first, they have to roll in cool water/mud to stay cool, and second, they overheat quickly when the dogs get after them, so they are easier to catch. But, the dogs don't perform as well in the heat either, so Jesse Paul tends to run them at night when air temps are at least a bit cooler. Don't be surprised to hear a chorus of dogs from your 'back 40' (or even your front yard!) in the middle of the night; it just means that JP is on the job.

We are still looking for 1 or more landowners to contribute grant funds totaling \$3500, to acquire another cellphone operated gate. Consider this: JP has never been a '9 to 5', '40 hours a week' kind of guy, but there are only so many hours in a day. He drives hundreds of miles in a week servicing traps, looking for hog sign, and running dogs. Every cell gate in operation gives him the opportunity to take a real-time pic of the trap at any time, to make sure there is bait on the ground and the gate is open. He can do this from his breakfast table before he ever leaves home in the morning, while he's planning his daily route. Remote observation of the trap saves the time it would take to drive to the ranch, open/close gates, and drive rough ranch roads to remote locations to physically visit the trap. Time saved is roughly 30-60 minutes, per trap, per day, depending on the ranch location and how far off the paved road he has to go. This is time that can be spent with the dogs on properties where hogs are not currently visiting traps. Reducing commute time and increasing time on task improves program effectiveness and efficiency.

Orion and BCA are both 501c3 nonprofit organizations, making your grant tax-deductible. It doesn't matter whether you send funds to Orion or BCA; either way, it will go directly to the Hog Management Program.

Thanks for being a part of the BCA hog management program. As always, keep your eyes open for new hog sign on your property, and give JP a call so that he can respond in a timely manner.

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