

Subject: Hog Management Report for BCA - September 2017

Greetings,

This is the monthly report for the BCA hog management program for September 2017. Jesse Paul took 53 hogs in September. This brings the calendar year total to 543. This month all 53 hogs were taken with dogs vs. none in traps.

Property breakdown is as follows:

1st Place: 16 hogs
2nd Place: 9 hogs
3rd and 4th (TIE): 7 hogs each
5th and 6th (TIE): 5 hogs each
7th Place: 4 hogs

The remainder of properties: had no hogs this month.

For the first time in program history, 100% of the hogs taken in September were taken with dogs. As I predicted last month, the bumper crop of acorns this fall has drawn the hogs away from traps. Corn cannot compete with native forage, and acorns are 'nutrition bombs': densely packed with protein and fat; perfect for putting on weight going into the winter. The results this month emphasize the value of the two-pronged approach used by this program. A landowner attempting to follow a 'do it yourself' strategy with traps would likely have been skunked this month, whereas JP's numbers this month were near the mean monthly totals over the past year, even with zero contribution from traps. Out of curiosity, I went back to the beginning of the year and tracked numbers of hogs taken with dogs versus traps, and found that 56% were taken with dogs, versus 44% with traps. JP's dogs more than double the productivity of the program, and access to this resource is a good reason to be a part of HOGMOP.

With that subtle segue ;-), I should remind you that November 1 is the beginning of the next 6-month trapping period, and I will be sending out renewal letters in the next few days. In an effort to reduce mailing costs, I intend to send letters as email attachments from here on, rather than hard copy via regular mail. Since most everyone uses email these days, this should be more efficient. However, if for whatever reason you would prefer to get your renewal invoice in the mail, please reply to this message and let me know.

Thank you for continuing to be a part of HOGMOP, and as always, give JP a call if you notice new damage somewhere.

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