

1178

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:01 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] or (415) 977-5500 for more information.

1179

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:01 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[REDACTED]

1180

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:02 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1191

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:04 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1182

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:11 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1183

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:15 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1184

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:17 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1185

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:26 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

11810

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:39 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1187

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:40 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1188

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:42 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] for more information.

1189

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:43 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

Creating a sport of hunting feral hogs is the wrong way to go about getting rid of them, as experience has shown. Picking them off one by one risks scattering herds, thus increasing the damage they do and the diseases they can spread. The Service is doing the right thing in proposing to ban hunting them in the Mark Twain National Forest.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1190

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:46 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1191

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:47 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

While employed by AmerenMO, I was part of a team of individuals working to respond to property damage caused by feral hogs on company lands in Iron and Reynolds Counties. I know it is a challenging task, but "sport" hunting is not the solution.

I support a ban on feral hog hunting throughout the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1192

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:48 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1193

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:56 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1194

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 7:30 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban Feral Hog Hunting on Mark Twain National Forest Property

I am writing in support of the proposal to ban the hunting of feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Scientific research has shown that trapping hogs is the most effective method of controlling their population. Shooting, or attempting to shoot, one feral hog causes the sounder to disperse, making it difficult to impossible to eradicate the entire sounder. Whereas trapping the entire sounder can eradicate all of the hogs in that sounder.

As a landowner in Shannon County, including agricultural property, I am concerned about the impacts of feral hogs on agricultural land and on forest land and wildlife habitat. Please do the responsible thing and ban feral hog hunting on Mark Twain National Forest Land.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

1195

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 7:36 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Hog hunting closure comments

Dear U.S. Forest Service:

Feral hogs threaten the bacon supply and prices in Missouri. I support closure of the US Forest Service Lands from hog hunting.

Feral hogs spread diseases. Hog diseases reduce supply of bacon and increase the prices at the grocery store. Hunting hogs provides incentive for transplanting them and their diseases elsewhere. Therefore, closure of hunting in US Forest Service lands will help save the bacon. It is the most superior meat.

Save the bacon!

[REDACTED]
Jefferson City, MO

1196

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:03 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Please ban hog hunting in Mark Twain National Forest!

Hello,

My husband and I strongly support a possible ban on National Forest lands in Missouri. In the first place Sammy comes from a farming background in Southern Missouri; he knows what those hogs can, and are doing, to the natural landscapes there. Many deer hunters need to hunt in the National Forest, but hog hunting there is illegal and spreads an invasive species that is damaging to livelihoods, animal health, human health, and the environment. Hog hunting is, by definition, unethical...from the importing of these animals to the hunting of them outside the law.

Further, our friends in Texas tell us how pervasive the hogs are there, and how it affects every aspect of their hunting hound kennels, their horse pastures, and their sport of mounted coyote hunting. Actually because of the hogs, southern foxhunts are starting to breed fox/coyote hounds twice the normal height and size! Ranchers welcome the hunt members because intermittent foxhunts on their properties discourages the coyotes from settling there...but nothing discourages the hogs.

Please do all you can to ban hog hunting in Mark Twain National Forest!

Thank you for your hard work, and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Mexico, MO [REDACTED]

1197

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:06 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: No Hunting Wild Pigs

You should be aware that FL allows hunting of wild pigs. I know this as my nephew loves doing this. However, hunting is NOT eliminating these destructive animals. After research a number of years ago, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest and everywhere else that is possible. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our farmers and natural resources.

Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[Redacted]

St. Louis, MO [Redacted]

[Redacted]

1198

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:32 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral swine

Please continue to let hunters kill feral pigs ! Feral pigs are a nuisance and need to be killed off. Thanks

[REDACTED]

1199

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:40 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: WILD HOG PROBLEM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
I AM A UNITED STATES CITIZEN, I HAVE LIVED IN MISSOURI MY WHOLE LIFE

SERVED IN THE MISSOURI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

I UNDERSTAND THAT WE HAVE A SERIOUS HOG ISSUE

BUT PLEASE DON'T BAN US FROM GOING ON UNITED STATES SOIL A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE FOUGHT AND DIED FOR OUR FREEDOM

DON'T TAKE THAT RIGHT AWAY BECAUSE YOU CAN THE ACTIVE HOG HUNTERS ARE DOING WHAT THEY THINK IS RIGHT, THEY DO KILL A LOT OF HOGS

I DO NOT HUNT THE FERAL HOGS BUT KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO DO WHY NOT TEACH US, THE CITIZENS TO DO WHAT IS THOUGHT TO BE THE RIGHT WAY TO CATCH OR KILL HOGS WHY NOT HELP US TO BUILD OR PROVIDE TRAPS TO US AND WORK WITH US

HAVE SEMINARS TO EDUCATE US THAT DON'T KNOW, THE RIGHT WAY TO CATCH THESE HOGS THEIRS A LOT OF LOCAL PEOPLE THAT WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP TO GET THIS PROBLEM UNDER CONTROL WORK WITH US, NOT BAN US, HELP US HELP YOU THIS IS OUR LAND AS WELL AS YOURS

THERE IS A LOT THAT CAN BE TAUGHT FROM THE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN HUNTING THESE HOGS PLEASE LISTEN TO THEM. I WANT THE FERAL HOGS TO BE GONE AS MUCH AS YOU DO.

I HAVEN'T HEARD OF ANY CLASSES OR TEACHING SESSIONS THAT MISSOURI DEPT OF CONSERVATION HAS OFFERED TO HELP GET PEOPLE TOGETHER AND TEACH THEM HOW TO EXTERMINATE THE FERAL HOGS

THEY SPEND OUR MONEY TO USE HELICOPTER'S TO TRY TO ERADICATE THE HOG POPULATION I WOULD THINK THAT

A HELICOPTER WOULD SCATTER THE SOUNDERS A LOT MORE THAN SOMEONE HUNTING THEM ON THE GROUND YOU COULD LOCATE THE SOUNDERS AND GIVE LOCATIONS TO PEOPLE WHO WILL WORK WITH YOU

WHY NOT HIRE LOCAL PEOPLE TO HELP? THE ONES WHO KNOW THE AREA WHERE THE SWINE IS LOCATED

THERE ARE A LOT OF EXCEPTIONAL GOOD HUNTERS AND WOODSMAN THAT COULD HELP WITH THIS ISSUE IF THEY ARE BANNED FROM THE LAND IT WILL DEFINITELY NOT CREATE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FOREST SERVICE, MISSOURI DEPT OF CONSERVATION AND THE PEOPLE, PLEASE DON'T BAN US FROM OUR LAND

IT FEELS LIKE THE FIRST STEP TO BEGIN BANNING US COMPLETELY FROM OUR FOREST LAND

I DO BELIEVE THERE IS A SOLUTION. THAT IS THAT WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE

11996

I LOVE AMERICA LAND OF THE FREE HOME OF THE BRAVE

MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA

THANK YOU,

██████████ CONCERNED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PLEASE REPLY

1200

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:50 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
Branson, MO

1201

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 9:16 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support the ban on hunting feral hogs

I am from Missouri and an avid camper and hiker. I want you to ban the hunting of feral hogs on the lands you control. I have witnessed some of their destruction when visiting some of the southern counties here in Missouri. Please support this tool to help stop the people releasing these animals into our wilds.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

1202

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 9:41 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: feral swine hunting prohibition

I support the proposal to prohibit the hunting of feral hogs on federal land.

[Redacted]
Jefferson City, MO [Redacted]

1203

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 10:02 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine Comment

I strongly support the proposed Forest Closure Order and interagency programs to eliminate feral swine in Missouri. The Missouri Department of Conservation and USDA trapping program are effective against this invasive and destructive species, but hog hunting by individuals seriously interferes with their efforts. By scattering the hogs, hunting has been found to actually increase feral swine numbers and cause damage on still more areas. We need to protect habitat and food for Missouri's native wildlife, not allow them and the land to be destroyed by allowing hunting of feral hogs. Please implement the strongest possible closure to the hunting and release of feral swine in the Forest.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

1204

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 5:29 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Please ban feral hog hunting

I am writing in support of the proposal to ban the hunting of feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Scientific research has shown that trapping hogs is the most effective method of controlling their population. Shooting, or attempting to shoot, one feral hog causes the sounder to disperse, making it difficult to impossible to eradicate the entire sounder. Whereas trapping the entire sounder can eradicate all of the hogs in that sounder.

As a landowner in Shannon County, including agricultural property, I am concerned about the impacts of feral hogs on agricultural land and on forest land and wildlife habitat. Please do the responsible thing and ban feral hog hunting on Mark Twain National Forest Land.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
St. Louis MO [REDACTED]

1205

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:32 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: hunting of feral hogs in Mark Twain National Forest (MO)

Please protect MTN from the damage caused by feral hogs by prohibiting hog hunting. Evidence and experience from other states clearly shows that trapping entire packs of hogs is much more productive to protect the environment than recreational hunting. Having read of success in other states which banned hunting gives me hope that we can do the same in Missouri.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

1206

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:45 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

Thanks for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

1207

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 8:16 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

Thank you!

[REDACTED]

1210

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:06 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Comment on proposed policy

I write this as a resident of Ste. Genevieve County, as a frequent visitor to Mark Twain lands, and as a citizen of the state of Missouri.

I strongly support the proposed policy to ban the hunting or shooting of feral hogs on Forest Service lands. This is not because of opposition to those activities as a general practice, but because our understanding from the Conservation Department is that the only effective approach to eradication of these destructive animals is through group trapping, and that uncoordinated shooting renders the trapping programs less effective.

Eradication must be the goal, and trapping is the only way to achieve that, so we must give the professionals the opportunity to succeed.

I also support efforts to provide assistance to adjacent landowners to protect their lands and resources from hog damage, especially when from hogs using Forest Service lands for refuge.

I am very concerned that there seems to be a coordinated effort to misrepresent this issue in southern Missouri in such a way as to confuse the public and generate opposition to this proposed policy. The Forest Service should be obligated to recognize that much of the opposition to this policy is based on misrepresentation of the actual facts of the matter, and proceed to carry out policies based on the best stewardship of the resources under its administration.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

1211

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:09 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: hog hunting ban

As a 25 year state park naturalist at Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park, I can attest to the damage that hogs do to the natural resources, plant and animal alike.

In speaking with international experts in the field of feral hog "control", I agree with the proposed ban on hog hunting. The local people certainly have a stake in feral hog policy, having seen their personal property destroyed. They also understand the damage hogs do to animal populations, like deer and turkey, which affects their hunting and aesthetic enjoyment.

What many folks do not understand yet is the effect that their personal hog hunting can do to the population as a whole. They mean well, and honestly believe that their actions are helping, that they are doing their part. Education here is key.

I support putting the ban in place, and then doing what can be done to help explain to folks why. The sooner and the more widespread the ban, the better.

Thank-you for your efforts.

[REDACTED],
[REDACTED]

I Love Computers!
[REDACTED]

"Take pride in your work,
but have no pride."

1212

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:13 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I am for the ban on hunting/opposed to feral hog hunting in the National Forest.

I am opposed to feral hog hunting in the National Forest, specifically the Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF) as I live in southwest Missouri. Feral hogs do incredible damage to agricultural land, forest land and wildlife habitat. Scientific research shows that hunting feral hogs actually disperses them, making it more difficult to trap them, which is much more effective. There can still be hunting on private land. I support the proposed ban in the MTNF.

[REDACTED]

12.13

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:27 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hog Hunting

Dear Friends,

I am borrowing a letter a friend recently sent but these are my opinions as well.

I am opposed to feral hog hunting in the National Forest, specifically the Mark Twain National Forest <x-apple-data-detectors://6> (MTNF) as I live in southwest Missouri. Feral hogs do incredible damage to agricultural land, forest land and wildlife habitat. Scientific research shows that hunting feral hogs actually disperses them, making it more difficult to trap them, which is much more effective. There can still be hunting on private land. I support the proposed ban in the MTNF.

Best,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

12/14

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:42 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral hogs comment

I am opposed to feral hog hunting in the National Forest, specifically the Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF) as I live in southwest Missouri. Feral hogs do incredible damage to agricultural land, forest land and wildlife habitat. Scientific research shows that hunting feral hogs actually disperses them, making it more difficult to trap them, which is much more effective. There can still be hunting on private land. I support the proposed ban in the MTNF.

Thanks

[Redacted]

1215

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:53 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban the Hunting of Feral Hogs

I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are a long-term problem that I well recall from my childhood. Feral hogs had been released for "snake control" near Girl Scout Camp Latonka on Wappapello Lake in the 50's. They were very destructive and dangerous, tearing up our tents, outhouses and even attacking the cabins, as well as us. The population of copperheads and rattlers didn't appear to have changed either. And the hogs multiply like crazy.

I urge you to ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri. Hunting hasn't worked so trapping and other best practices must be used.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]

12/16

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:57 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Hog Hunt on Mark Twain

Unfortunately, it has been shown that paid hunters and limited trapping of feral hogs is an utter and complete failure. The only way to control feral hogs is to enlist the help of the Missouri Hunter and handle the hogs the same way we handled they coyotes in the 1980's and 90's. Unlimited and unrestricted hunting and maybe even a bounty. Not to mention, the government functions at the will of the people and a majority of the people in the area oppose a ban in the Mark Twain National Forest. 14 of the 17 counties in the South Central Region County Commissioners Association voted to oppose a ban on hog hunting in Mark Twain National Forest. That alone speaks volumes!! Since federal land is land owned by the people, try listening to those who live near the National Forest. Those people are speaking up and saying Don't Restrict Our Rights to Hunt Feral Hogs!!

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

1217

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:58 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hogs

As concerned citizens of the state of Missouri, we support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[REDACTED]
Stockton, MO [REDACTED]

1218

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:59 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: In favor of Ban on Hunting of Feral Swine
Attachments: Fertility Control.pdf

Not only am I in favor of MDC and FS banning hunting on public lands, I am also in favor of increasing trapping and aerial gunning by our agencies. Are there other agencies that will support cost sharing more aerial gunning? In looking forward, I hope that we could potentially also utilize the Judas pig method to find larger sounders and potentially bait them with warfarin or phosphodiesterase 3 inhibitor two types of birth control (bait carried) that could at least support lower numbers while we cull as fast as we can. Fertility control isn't an answer in and of itself, and doesn't prevent damage, but has been shown to support an active culling regimen by another 10-20%. Have there been any options for NRCS to help farmers by reimbursing them for erecting fencing as well? Attached source material.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS — Researchers at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) are finalizing development of an oral contraceptive to help to control wildlife populations and that might one day be modified for companion animals.

Called phosphodiesterase 3 inhibitor, the tabular and powder-formed birth-control drug will be used to help landowners protect their property by reducing the number of coyotes, wild pigs, cougar, deer and other wild animals, says Duane Kraemer, one of the researchers. The professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology is a recognized expert in embryo transfer and cloning.

"It prevents the egg from maturing. The animals continue to cycle, but because the egg isn't mature they can't get pregnant," he explains.

Kraemer and his research team — a pharmacologist and statistician — are testing the contraceptive to identify administration methods, minimum effective dosage levels and consumption safety for various species.

--

[REDACTED]

1219

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 10:03 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ozark Land Trust Comment in Support of Ban on Feral Hog Hunting
Attachments: PastedGraphic-1.tiff

July 23, 2019

Forest Supervisor
Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Road
Rolla, MO 65401
Sent via email: SM.FS.MTFeralSwine@usda.gov <mailto:SM.FS.MTFeralSwine@usda.gov>

Re:Feral Swine Management Comment

Dear Forest Supervisor.

I am writing on behalf of Ozark Land Trust (www.ozarklandtrust.org
<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ozarklandtrust.org&data=01%7C01%7C%7C846d1bda68424f80268e08d70f7ed107%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=4bipL57KU3XmT4sqpa%2Bo4p3iCluMuSmb00SIs07010Y%3D&reserved=0>>) in support of the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to ban the hunting, pursuit or release of feral hogs on Mark Twain National Forest land. Ozark Land Trust, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, is a nationally accredited land trust that has protected and conserved almost 30,000 acres of land throughout the Ozark region.

Feral hogs are neither non-native nor a wildlife species, and cause billions of dollars in damage nationwide to farmers, landowners and to local state and federal agencies charged with managing public lands. Many of the landowners we work with throughout the Ozarks are seeing major damage to their property caused by feral hogs. Feral hogs destroy agricultural crops, hay fields and wildlife habitat, reduce water quality, cause soil erosion and the destruction of sensitive natural areas. These animals multiply rapidly and carry and transmit numerous bacterial and viral diseases to livestock, pets and humans.

12196

While the damage caused by feral hogs is undeniable, there is ample evidence that trapping is the proven best method to eliminate (or significantly reduce the numbers of) feral hogs. Hunting feral hogs, on the other hand, exacerbates the problem by causing the population to spread and grow to a broader geographic area and this in turn makes them harder to trap.

We are pleased to discuss this matter with you further. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or desire additional information.

Sincerely,



1221

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 10:46 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I am in support of the ban on hunting in MTNF

I have done my research to understand this topic better and found that scientific studies find that hunting feral hogs actually scatters them, making them more difficult to trap. Trapping is much more effective. There can still be hunting on private land, but I support the proposed ban on hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest.

[REDACTED]

Pottersville, Missouri

Sent from Mail

<[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgo.microsoft.com%2Ffwlink%2F%3FLinkId%3D550986&\[REDACTED\]ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=njivirFQs5xvXmRZmStOPnLbivzppNkgciwWsqvghdvT0%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgo.microsoft.com%2Ffwlink%2F%3FLinkId%3D550986&[REDACTED]ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=njivirFQs5xvXmRZmStOPnLbivzppNkgciwWsqvghdvT0%3D&reserved=0)> for Windows 10

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 10:04 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Cc: Leroy, Emily; aaron.jeffries@mdc.mo.gov
Subject: Feral Swine Comment
Attachments: Feral Swine Comment Letter.pdf

Please find the attached letter from Representative Rehder concerning feral swine. If you should have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact our office at any time.

Thank you,

Daris Patterson
Legislative Assistant to
State Representative Holly Rehder
148th District
Missouri State Capitol, 412-C
Office Phone (573) 751-5471

Due to the recent passage of Amendment 1 on November 6, 2018, please be advised that any communications or documents received by this office that were previously treated as confidential may now be subject to public disclosure pursuant to any request made under the Missouri Sunshine Law.

12226

CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol, Room 412C
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: 573-751-5471

E-MAIL
holly.rehder@house.mo.gov



COMMITTEES
Member:
Rules, Chair Woman
Administration and Accounts
Children and Families

Missouri Seismic Safety Commission

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOLLY REHDER
State Representative
District 148

July 23, 2019

ATTN: Feral Swine Comment
Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Road
Rolla, MO 65401
Email: SM.FS.MTFeralSwine@usda.gov

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express our concern for the proposed end of hunting of feral hogs on public land. Many farmers have property that is adjacent to the Mark Twain National Forest and they have seen a painful amount of damage to their crops and property. Our concern is that they will no longer be able to kill the hogs damaging their lands because they run across the property line into the National Forest as they are being pursued.

As you know, these animals reproduce at a rapid rate, and across the nation, we are seeing millions of dollars in damages to our land and waterways. We are very concerned that the Mark Twain National Forest will become more of a breeding ground with these proposed changes; inadvertently harming some counties much more than others. Counties such as Wayne, have an extraordinary amount of National Forest. I believe the number is close to 60% of their land mass. This could make them even more susceptible to the terrorizing and damage from the hogs.

I have tried to educate myself on the issue by speaking to those affected as well as reaching out to our state departments who are trying to help control the population. I have also tried to review what other states have accomplished. I very much realize it is incredibly complex and there honestly is no silver bullet. I know that you are trying to find the best solution for our lands and landowners. Our ask is that you allow these landowners the freedom to do whatever they need to do to kill and remove the hogs. It is my understanding that some states have taken an "all of the above" approach that involves hunting, bounty, trapping, and all other strategies for population management. In the very least, we ask that you allow those in pursuit of hogs on their property to cross into the federal land and still complete the kills.

I do appreciate you listening to our thoughts and concerns. I've learned the town hall meetings are very helpful but nothing compared to speaking with one landowner/farmer at a time while reviewing their damage. It was enlightening as to show the human side of this issue. A farmer who has planted three times

1232c

before finally giving up. A farmer and father who leaves his family in the middle of the night several nights a week to run the hogs from his corn once again, after working the fields all day. Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Holly", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rep. Holly Rehder
148th District

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 11:07 AM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Closing MTNF to feral hog hunting

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close Mark Twain National Forest to the hunting, pursuit, or release of feral hogs. The closure is the right option to protect the National Forest, as well as surrounding natural communities, state parks, and farmland, from feral hog damage.

Please consider the following points:

- Feral hogs are non-native and not a wildlife species. They are wild-living hogs descended from domestic swine, and hybrids of domestic swine and Eurasian wild boar. Feral hogs can destroy agricultural crops, hay fields, and wildlife habitat while reducing water quality, contributing to soil erosion and the destruction of sensitive natural areas such as forests, glades, fens, and springs. They out-compete native wildlife for habitat and food. For example, places with many feral hogs experience a decline in wild turkey and deer populations. There are feral hog problems in 37 Missouri counties, most of which contain Mark Twain National Forest land, and which threaten the 1.5 million acres of your national forest land in Missouri.
- Closing the Mark Twain National Forest to feral hog hunting means just that---the Mark Twain will still be open to hunting of deer, turkey, and other game species per state law.
- According to the Mark Twain National Forest, the rooting and foraging behavior of feral hogs causes nearly \$2.4 billion in damage and control costs nationwide to farmers, landowners, and to the local, state, and federal agencies charged with managing those lands for the good of all. Farmers and landowners alone sustain nearly \$800 million in damages each year.
- Feral hogs can carry and transmit numerous bacterial and viral diseases to domesticated swine, livestock, pets, and humans.
- The U.S. Forest Service proposes to ban the take (hunting), pursuit, or release of feral hogs on Mark Twain National Forest land based on a request made by the Missouri Department of Conservation, and as part of the Missouri Feral Hog Partnership. In 2017, the Partnership developed and started implementing a statewide strategic plan for eliminating

1223b

feral hogs, and they are already seeing success in some parts of the Missouri countryside through targeted trapping. However, when landowners try to control feral hogs through hunting, hog herds scatter, making trapping more difficult. Trapping with no hunting interference is the proven best method in Missouri and other states to eliminate feral hogs.

- The U.S. Forest Service supports the elimination of feral hogs as an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and to ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners.
- Feral hog eradication is supported by every credible outdoor organization in the state, government, or industry including the Missouri Department of Conservation and the USDA/APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service). Taxpayer-funded state and federal efforts have made great progress against feral hogs in Missouri, but finishing the job is a challenge.
- In 2016, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), and in 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the LAD Foundation established regulations against feral hog hunting on lands owned, leased, and managed by these three entities. Other agencies have passed regulations similar to MDC's to eliminate hog hunting on land they own—except the Mark Twain National Forest.

Closure of Mark Twain Natural Forest is a scientifically supported, reasonable approach to address the considerable threat feral hogs pose to our natural and agricultural resources. I encourage you to do the right thing and pass the regulation.

Sincerely,


Ashland MO

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." Aldo Leopold

1224

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:00 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Attn: Feral Swine Comment

I support the *ban* on hunting of feral hogs in Mark Twain National Forest. As a Wildlife Science graduate of Texas A&M, a former resident of Texas, and a farm owner in Missouri, I've witnessed the incredible negative impact of hogs on nature preserves, farms, and ranches. Trapping is the only effective control method currently available - hunting only accelerates the dispersion of hogs.

Thank you for your consideration!

[REDACTED]

1225

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:25 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] en
Subject: Letter in support of the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to ban take of feral hogs- Mark Twain National Forest
Attachments: FWS ES Support Letter- FS Closing hunting of feral hogs_June 2019.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please see our attached letter supporting the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to ban take of feral hogs on the Mark Twain National Forest. Thank you for all of your good work on this effort. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our comments.

Take care,

--

[Redacted]

12256



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Missouri Ecological Services Field Office
101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite A
Columbia, Missouri 65203-0057
Phone: (573) 234-2132 Fax: (573) 234-2181

July 22, 2019

Sherri Schwenke
Forest Supervisor
401 Fairgrounds Rd
Rolla, MO 65401

Dear Ms. Schwenke:

This letter is in response to the U.S. Forest Service's proposed Forest Closure Order 09-05-19-02, published in the May 17, 2019 *Federal Register* [Vol. 84 (No.96):224354-22435] that would prohibit feral hog hunting on all areas of the Mark Twain National Forest. The Missouri Ecological Services Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (MO-ESFO) is charged with implementing the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in Missouri and overseeing the recovery and conservation 43 federally endangered, threatened, or candidate species in Missouri. We submit these comments pursuant to the ESA of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544).

The MO-ESFO fully supports your agency's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to recreational hunting of feral hogs. The Service is a member of the Missouri Feral Hog Partnership and fully understands the severe negative effects of feral hogs on the state's agriculture and the environment. Feral hogs are not native to Missouri and have spread prolifically throughout the state in the last 20 years. Elimination of this exotic animal would align management of the Mark Twain National Forest with efforts of the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources-Division of State Parks, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and other partners to eradicate this nuisance species from the state.

While there has been a concerted effort to eliminate feral hogs from the state, the illegal release of hogs for recreational hunting has seriously hampered control efforts. As you are aware, feral hogs destroy agricultural crops, eliminate most important for native species, carry numerous types of disease, and severely impact sensitive natural communities. We are particularly concerned about the documented negative impact to federally listed endangered or threatened species including Mead's milkweed (*Asclepias meadii*), Geocarpon (*Geocarpon minimum*), Missouri bladder-pod (*Physaria filiformis*), and Hine's emerald dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*).

Populations of Mead's milkweed on the rhyolite glades of southcentral Missouri are essential to the species recovery as plants on this natural community exhibit the highest rate or reproductive success of anywhere within its limited range. Despite concerted control efforts in this area, feral

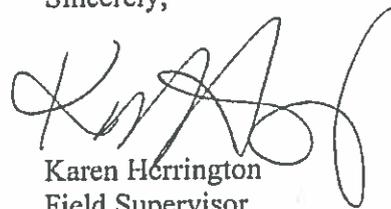
1225c

2

hogs have uprooted and killed milkweed plants. Digging by feral hogs has also caused damage to sensitive fen larval habitat of Hine's emerald dragonfly in one of the best populations of the species in Reynolds County, Missouri. Only the construction of hog proof fence by state park staff around the periphery of the fen prevented further irreparable damage. Protection of critical larval habitat of the dragonfly in the state is crucial to potential recovery of Hine's emerald dragonfly in North America as Missouri populations contain the highest genetic diversity found anywhere within the species range. Digging by feral hogs could also kill Missouri bladder-pod on limestone glades and Geocarpon on sandstone glades.

We applaud your efforts to reduce the spread of feral hogs and contribute to the elimination of the species in Missouri. Closing the Mark Twain National Forest to recreational hunting of feral hogs will also help reduce impacts on federally listed species and contribute to species recovery. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed closure rule. If you have any questions on our response, please feel free to contact me by email at Karen_Herrington@fws.gov or by phone at 573-234-5031.

Sincerely,



Karen Herrington
Field Supervisor
Missouri Ecological Services Field Office

cc: Sarah Parker Pauley, Director, MDC, Director, Jefferson City, MO
Alan Leary, MDC, Jefferson City, MO
Ben Ellis, Division of State Parks Director, MDNR, Jefferson City, MO
Tim Turpin, MDNR, Division of State Parks, Jefferson City, MO

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:02 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: St. Francois County Resolution
Attachments: U.S. Forest Resolution Feral Hogs_against.pdf

Please find the attached Resolution for your comment period. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
St. Francois County Commission

St. Francois County Commission
RESOLUTION NO. 07232019
AS PREPARED BY MISSOURI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
in OPPOSITION to US FOREST SERVICE CLOSURE of
MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST to PUBLIC
(FERAL) HOG HUNTING

WHEREAS, County Commissioners are tasked with the responsibility of serving the best interests of County Residents, and managing all aspects of county business not assigned by law to other elected officials, and

WHEREAS, County Commissioners are elected by County Residents to serve as a liaison for the county between other local units of government, regional bodies, state and federal agencies, and

WHEREAS, as a rule, Commissioners in rural Counties uniquely deal with private landowner, farm and ranch, hunting and trapping, wildlife, livestock and other similar agricultural interests and issues on a larger percentage per capita than urban Commissioners, and

WHEREAS, the wild and/or feral hog population is currently most dense in Southern Missouri Counties, therefore proper management is imperative to keep them from moving to Northern Counties, and

WHEREAS, Commissioners are in agreement that all avenues and resources, Public and Private, of wild and/or feral hog management must be utilized to keep the at-large population in check, and

WHEREAS, Mark Twain National Forest represents over two million acres of Public property, which adjoins millions of acres of Private Properties, and contains a large concentration of Missouri's wild (feral) hogs, and

WHEREAS, we are in consensus that deliberately banning or inhibiting thousands of current law-abiding Public and Private Hog Hunters, Trappers, Landowners from participating in said game management on Public property, and by default, subsequent adjoining Private Properties, will ultimately result in rampant over-population in current locations, and threatens to spread across the State, and

WHEREAS, we believe that the closure of Mark Twain National Forest will also inadvertently create undue Federal criminal charges against Citizens who have participated in wild (feral) hog management on said Public Property for generations, for the lawful purposes of recreation, conservation, and human consumption.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the under-signed St. Francois County Commissioners hereby go on record in **OPPOSITION** of the proposal by the US Forest Service to ban Public Hog Hunting on Mark Twain National Forest.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UPON ITS PASSAGE.

Approved this 23rd day of July, 2019.

Harold Gallaher, Presiding Commissioner
 Gay Wilkinson, Associate Commissioner 1 District
 Patrick Mullins, Associate Commissioner 2 District

1227



Missouri Coalition for the Environment
1969  2019

July 23, 2019

Forest Supervisor Sherri Schwenke
Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Rd.
Rolla, MO 65401

Re: Public Comment on Proposed Ban of Feral Swine Hunting

Dear Forest Supervisor Schwenke,

Missouri Coalition for the Environment (MCE) supports proposed Forest Order 09-05-19-02, prohibiting feral swine hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral swine have caused a significant amount of damage to Missouri's natural resources and the problem is only getting worse. Allowing hunting, rather than trapping, is part of the reason this problem is getting worse.

The Missouri Department of Conservation banned hunting feral swine on its land and we encourage the Mark Twain National Forest to do the same. Some of the land managed by the National Forest contains endangered species, like the Hellbender salamander, which are sensitive to changes in their environment. Feral swine negatively impact the conditions needed for endangered species to thrive.

We know the Mark Twain National Forest is acutely aware of best practices for reducing feral swine populations. In fact, most of the success stories in Missouri are in areas where Mark Twain National Forest does not manage land, specifically in areas around the Stockton, Pomme and Truman reservoirs, where government land management practices have already banned feral swine hunting.

MCE supports the Mark Twain National Forest finalizing a rule that prohibits feral swine hunting on its land in order to preserve Missouri's natural resources and protect endangered species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Smith', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ed Smith
Policy Director
Missouri Coalition for the Environment



[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:50 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Forest Order 09-05-19-02 Comments
Attachments: FeralSwineCommentsMCE_07_23_2019.pdf

To whom it may concern,

Please see attached and let me know that you received our comments.

Best regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.moenvironment.org&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=sZvFGouBP7liBvKJu8EB3xvRa3RxzPsbIX8blxRI25Y%3D&reserved=0](http://www.moenvironment.org?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.moenvironment.org&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=sZvFGouBP7liBvKJu8EB3xvRa3RxzPsbIX8blxRI25Y%3D&reserved=0)

Like us on Facebook

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fmoenviron%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=71m5V5%2BekOLiJ06lBxXlKkfb%2FZJuyIVPaPGuQtOI24Q%3D&reserved=0>

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fpages%2FThe-Little-Bit-Foundation%2F394472885076%3Fref%3Dnf&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=LBDPzf7usL0P0SWqGDCr7TVoqj8%2BQZ3oGL%2FeGGckTvg%3D&reserved=0>

Follow us on Twitter

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftwitter.com%2Fmoenviron&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=o4Xz08Z1c2Tj2alUFPcPkY3A3WHlKysMtiK2gFkDzc%3D&reserved=0>

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftwitter.com%2FlittlebitSTL&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=m%2FTcBV4AZa7NleR8aQLxeJMjTSiiAflqR%2BkzZuXplbA%3D&reserved=0>

Follow us on Instagram

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.instagram.com%2Fmoenvironment%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=6Z84PXnhIU%2BuA9SrGCamHGXBV6zmwh%2Fi%2BJzpeQru2Vw%3D&reserved=0>

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmoenvironment.org%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ca9f254768f3a40ccd39308d70f962eb3%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=ykABwbqt5OBSEs4wr79m7JStfGtq3VUxKU89zgUuWRM%3D&reserved=0>

1229

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:50 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Mark Twain National Forest/ Feral Swine Comments
Attachments: MarkTwain National Forest Letter.pdf; Mark Twain National Forest Rep. Signatures 3.pdf

Hello,

Please see my attached letter in regards to the Mark Twain National Forest Feral Swine Comments. I have another Representative that wanted to sign on to the letter that I am attaching.

Thank you,

Chris Dinkins
State Representative, District 144
201 W. Capitol Avenue, Room 110A
Jefferson City, MO 65101
573-751-2112
chris.dinkins@house.mo.gov <mailto:chris.dinkins@house.mo.gov>

<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhouse.mo.gov%2FCapitolReport.aspx%3Fdistrict%3D144&data=01%7C01%7C%7C846f5383b2b3415f92de08d70f963bcb%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=UMP1ZXfmRk1wQT4GqcTP4AOpdPHRjJbhCWebepxZekQ%3D&reserved=0>>

1230

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 12:55 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Keep ban on feral hog hunting

Given the damage feral hogs do and the success of the trap method of eliminating them, it's hard for me to understand why some counties want to end the ban on hog hunting. Please, please do not end the ban. Hunting rarely kills all the hogs in a group, whereas the traps do.

I support hunting but not this kind.

[Redacted]

1231

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:01 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine Comments

Please accept these comments as part of the public record regarding the Mark Twain proposal to prohibit hunting of feral hogs on national forest lands in Missouri.

Despite our best efforts over the past twenty years to hunt and trap feral hogs across Missouri, that effort failed. The feral hog population remains high and seems to be growing.

More control over feral hog populations will encourage more successful trapping and statewide eradication. The Mark Twain proposal is the next logical step.

I support eradication and oppose the hunting of hogs for sport. We must establish the great state of Missouri as hog-free, there is too much to lose if we don't.

[REDACTED]

1232

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:07 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban Hog Hunting on Mark Twain National Forest lands

Dear USDA staff,

I am a property owner in Reynolds County, Missouri and I am in support of a ban for hunting hogs on National Forest land, of which there is significant acreage in this and adjacent counties. I have given this decision a lot of thought because I know many responsible local citizens whose lands adjoin the Mark Twain National Forest. Most of these are people with pasture who raise cattle as a significant part of their yearly income. If one of them is attempting to kill hogs and ends up following them onto National Forest land, I don't think it is right for them to face criminal charges. Many of these adjoining land owners have participated in joint trapping operations and DO want to eradicate the hogs. They should not be punished and for this reason I hesitated to support the hunting ban on National Forest lands.

However, I am disturbed by some local and absentee landowners who are now making it their business to bring in outsiders for the express purpose of hunting hogs. I certainly do not begrudge any local person from trying to make a living because it is very difficult to do in our counties. One local landowner, Brad Parker, in interviews for the local newspapers has talked about how destructive the hogs were to his farming operation. He has a website devoted to his new hog hunting business and NO WHERE in this website, does he talk about eradication of feral hogs as the goal. He only refers to how "established" the hogs have become as though this is how things will remain. Another operation which is located on County Rd 204 in Reynolds County is near friends of mine. The owner of the operation (Dakel) does talk about eradication as a goal on their website but then makes the assertion that hunting helps reduce feral hog numbers. This is contrary to information I have read elsewhere which is based on hog numbers in Tennessee going up with hunting allowed on federal lands and goin down when there is a ban on hunting. Hunters who have paid to hunt on this land have strayed onto my friends land and have been very demanding in stating they should be able to follow the hogs where they go to shoot them. This becomes a major safety issue for anyone living next to one of these operations.

There are now a core group of local young men in their 20's and 30's who love to hunt hogs and think of it as "traditional". They were students of mine when they were in high school and I have known them for some time as well as their families.

They are very vocal in their dislike of "the government's" efforts to trap and in particular to aerially shoot. They often cite the cost of the aerial operations as justification for their objections. If hunting is allowed to continue on our local National Forest lands the hunting problem will only get worse as these young men pass on this "sport" to their children.

My own property experiences hog damage as does my nearest neighbor who has finally had a MDC trapping operation come to his property. He has been requesting MDC trapping assistance for 3 years straight. Clearly more resources need to be put into helping land owners effectively trap to eradicate feral hogs. I would also help if agencies like MDC, USFS and USDA made an attempt to hire local citizens to help in these efforts. This would go a long way toward better communication between local citizens and the state and federal agencies, especially when the end goal of eradication of feral hogs is what most local landowners want.

I have added two links to the two hunting operations I reference above so that you can see them for yourself. Although both of these are on private lands, I am pretty confident more operations like this will develop if hunting feral hogs on National Forest lands does not ban the hunting.

Respectfully,

1a32b



<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.huntparkerfarms.com%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ceed648b24fd64ed8ec3308d70f987e75%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&data=CfHSII6N1DLAZsg34ztpsvUAhvBNg5XVk2M6hUIUcNQ%3D&reserved=0>

[https://gcc01.safelinks\[redacted\]akelhog Hunts.net%2Fdefault.html&data=01%7C01%7C%7C\[redacted\]ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&data=ZIV3YbZen7qDd71U\[redacted\]reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks[redacted]akelhog Hunts.net%2Fdefault.html&data=01%7C01%7C%7C[redacted]ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&data=ZIV3YbZen7qDd71U[redacted]reserved=0)

1233

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:08 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Let MDC take care of them.

Not the hunters who are not as effective. [REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

<[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foverview.mail.yahoo.com%2F%3Fsrc%3DiOS&d\[REDACTED\]e4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=8SwRpY9jqV6Vxvdrj1gHHI%2Fqx7W%2FnSiQ5XHLCSi9s5U%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foverview.mail.yahoo.com%2F%3Fsrc%3DiOS&d[REDACTED]e4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=8SwRpY9jqV6Vxvdrj1gHHI%2Fqx7W%2FnSiQ5XHLCSi9s5U%3D&reserved=0)>

1234

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:09 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: OPPOSED to Proposal to ban hunting of feral hogs on Mark Twain Nat. Forest.
Attachments: IMG_2939.JPG; IMG_2948.JPG; 0801-143644.jpg; 0801-144828.jpg; 0801-143447.jpg

I am a landowner in NW Iron county that has 260 ac of hayfields and pasture surrounded on three sides by Mark Twain Nat. Forest.

We have been overrun with Feral Hogs for over four years.

For two years I reported approximately 350 hogs on our property to the MO Conservation Dept, supported by game cam footage, before any action was taken by the state.

I personally observed three sounders at one time on one long field that contained 30-40 hogs in each sounder.

As a result, In 2018 Eli Holmes of the USDA installed a hog trap at our farm that trapped only 37 hogs over a 12 month period.

The hogs became aware that the traps were a threat and no longer would go into the enclosures. In effect...they became trap shy.

In addition, deer would repeatedly trip the trap... only to jump out leaving the trap ineffective for hogs.

Our only effective option is to kill these hogs using semi-automatic rifles with night vision and thermal imaging scopes since the traps are inconsistent at best, and are now no longer effective as they have educated the sounders to avoid them.

Currently, we can only use night-vision devices on our own property as we cannot legally hunt on Mark Twain Nat. Forest Property using these devices.

As a result...the hogs do thousands of dollars of damage to our private property and then take refuge on Mark Twain where they have learned that they are safe from the threat of hunting.

I am VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED to banning hunting on Mark Twain National Forest.

I would go further in lifting the restriction of the use of night vision devices for hunting feral hogs when used on Mark Twain property ONLY by private landowners of ADJOINING PRIVATE PROPERTY.

This would give adjoining landowners the ability to track and kill the sounders that are creating so much damage to our private fields.

I have attached representative photos of the damage to our fields that we have suffered from these destructive invasive hogs. This damage and deep ruts created prevents hay equipment from harvesting hay and also poses a risk for injury to the cattle in our pastures.

We HAVE to be able to control these growing populations of destructive feral hogs by hunting them, when necessary, on Mark Twain Nat. Forest..!

1235

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:14 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban Hunting of Feral Hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest

I support banning the hunting of feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. The Conservation Dept. and U.S. Forest Service have years of data and evidence that prohibiting hunting works best. In southern states where hog hunting is a standard practice, the population of feral animals is out of control.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:20 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hog Comment - Conservation Federation of Missouri

On behalf of The Conservation Federation of Missouri, which includes 42 Board of Directors, 103 Affiliates, and over 82,000 Missourians who are members of these affiliates and organizations under CFM, we are in overwhelming support of the closure of the Mark Twain National Forest to Feral Hog hunting.

Our mission is: To ensure conservation of Missouri's wildlife and natural resources, and preservation of our state's rich outdoor heritage through advocacy, education and partnerships. We know that this is a difficult decision, but it's the right thing to do for all Missourians moving forward to preserve our precious resources and the outdoor heritage in which so many Missourians are proud of.

You have heard from many, many of our members individually regarding this historic decision. Know that our collective voice of members strives to make educated and sound decisions, and we keep the overall greater good of the resources in mind. We understand the ramifications and what is at stake if we cannot all work together to eradicate feral hogs from our landscape. CFM has a long history of supporting government agencies in science-based decision making and know that we will support you in any way that we can moving forward.

Please see the current list of our affiliate organizations in which we proudly represent in Missouri. Please reach out to me directly if we can be of any further assistance.

[REDACTED]
Executive Director

Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 W. Main Jefferson City, MO 65101-1559
Office: (573) 634-2322 ext. 102
Cell: (573) 619-0966

tschwartz@confedmo.org <<mailto:tschwartz@confedmo.org>>

www.confedmo.org

<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.confedmo.org%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7C0e1ae36b6d0c4f5611a708d70f9a6e77%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=Jl0Jk6CAp3uPfwGqSNpDoxSdMKQvxTXSEg%2F%2BcHobeGA%3D&reserved=0>>

Anglers of Missouri

Archery Big Bucks of Missouri
Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives
Audubon Society of Missouri
Bass Slammer Tackle
Big Game Hunters
Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City
Capital City Fly Fishers
Chesterfield Citizens Committee for the Environment
Columbia Audubon Society
Conservation Foundation of Missouri Charitable Trust
Deer Creek Sportsman Club
Festus-Crystal City Conservation Club
Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri
Forest Releaf of Missouri
Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park
Garden Club of St. Louis
Gateway Chapter Trout Unlimited
Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri
Greenway Network, Inc.
Heartland Conservation Alliance
James River Basin Partnership
Katy Land Trust
L-A-D Foundation
Land Learning Foundation
Legends of Conservation
Little Blue River Watershed Coalition

Mid-Missouri Outdoor Dream
Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited
Midwest Diving Council
Mississippi Valley Duck Hunters Association
Missouri Association of Meat Processors
Missouri Atlatl Association
Missouri B.A.S.S. Nation
Missouri Bird Conservation Initiative
Missouri Bow Hunters Association
Missouri Caves & Karst Conservancy
Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Missouri Chapter, Walnut Council
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
Missouri Community Forestry Council
Missouri Conservation Agents Association
Missouri Conservation Pioneers
Missouri Consulting Foresters Association
Missouri Ducks Unlimited- State Council
Missouri Forest Products Association
Missouri Grouse Chapter of QUWF
Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association
Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation
Missouri Master Naturalist - Hi Lonesome Chapter
Missouri Master Naturalist- Miramiguo Chapter
Missouri Master Naturalist- Osage Trails Chapter

Missouri Master Naturalist-Boone's Lick Chapter

Missouri Master Naturalist-Springfield Plateau Chapter

Missouri National Wild Turkey Federation

Missouri Native Seed Association

Missouri Outdoor Communicators

Missouri Park & Recreation Association

Missouri Parks Association

Missouri Prairie Foundation

Missouri River Bird Observatory

Missouri River Relief

Missouri Rock Island Trail, Inc.

Missouri Rural Water Association

Missouri Smallmouth Alliance

Missouri Society of American Foresters

Missouri Soil & Water Conservation Society-Show-Me Chapter

Missouri Sport Shooting Association

Missouri State Campers Association

Missouri State Chapter of the Quality Deer Management

Missouri Taxidermist Association

Missouri Trappers Association

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association

Missouri Whitetails Unlimited

MU Wildlife & Fisheries Science Graduate Student Organization

Northside Conservation Federation

Open Space Council of the St. Louis Region

Osage Paddle Sports

Ozark Chinquapin Foundation
Ozark Fly Fishers, Inc.
Ozark Trail Association
Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club
Perry County Sportsman Club
Pomme De Terre Chapter Muskies
Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation, Inc.
Quail Forever & Pheasants Forever
River Bluffs Audubon Society
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association
South Side Division CFM
Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers
St. Louis Audubon Society
Stream Teams United
Student Air Rifle Program
The Fallen Outdoors-Team MO
Tipton Farmers & Sportsman's Club
Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers
Troutbusters of Missouri
United Bow Hunters of Missouri
Wild Bird Rehabilitation
Wonders of Wildlife
Young Outdoorsmen United

1237

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:52 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1238

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:06 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Please Ban Hunting Feral Hogs

Dear USDA National Forest Service,

As a concerned Missourian and animal rights activist, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hog hunting is both unkind and potentially destructive to Missouri's natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests, and use humane removal techniques to reduce their overall population.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Resident of Owensville, Missouri

The materials in this message are private and may contain Protected Healthcare Information or other information of a sensitive nature. If you are not the intended recipient, be advised that any unauthorized use, disclosure, copying or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender via telephone or return mail.

1239

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:21 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[REDACTED]

1240

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:36 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on hunting feral hogs

This is not the way to fix the problem. Much better is to trap them in groups, and I suggest checking with Coalition for the Environment, as they have studied this and have well-reasoned, wise ideas to implement.

Thank you!

[REDACTED]

(573) 443-5985

1241

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:36 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1242

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:53 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: ATTN: FERAL SWINE COMMENT

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I am for a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mart Twain National Forest.

Feral hogs hurt Missouri economy and citizens. My parents have a family farm, and they suffered damage to their barn gutter system and multiple bee hives used to pollinate their crops this year due to feral hogs. Encouraging hunting only expands the problem to more areas.

Additionally, sensitive botanical resources of Missouri are degraded by feral hogs. These include wetland fens, which provide an ecosystem resource of flood mitigation, and prairie habitats containing the very rare federally endangered Mead's milkweed (*Asclepias meadii*). Our rare native plant species and ecosystems are an invaluable treasure to Missouri and need protection to allow further generations to enjoy them.

Please help Missourians and our natural resources by putting a stop to the practice of feral hog hunting.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1243

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 2:56 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I am opposed to feral hog hunting in MTNF

I am opposed to feral hog hunting in the National Forest, specifically the Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF) as I live in southwest Missouri. Feral hogs do incredible damage to agricultural land, forest land and wildlife habitat. Scientific research shows that hunting feral hogs actually disperses them, making it more difficult to trap them, which is much more effective. There can still be hunting on private land. I support the proposed ban in the MTNF.

Sent from my iPhone

1244

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:02 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1245

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:05 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Proposed ban on hunting feral hogs at Mark Twain

I am opposed to banning hunting feral hogs at Mark Twain National Forest. I am not a hunter. But I also recognize shame arguments promoted by organizations who are opposed to hunting generally.

Logically, trapping and hunting are two assets you have to control feral hogs. Strong leadership that figures out to make those two work synergistically is more likely to lead to success than relying on just one asset. Hunters and trappers are both motivated but have different approaches that should be structured not to interfere with one another but to facilitate one another. The goal will be to structure regulation that assures that they work together effectively for maximum achievement of the goal. Can't this be done?

In addition, I have to say I am appalled by the Editor of Heritage, the newsletter of the Missouri Parks Association, of which I and my wife have been loyal members for over twenty years. Her recent editorial is not even disguised anti-hunting. It is egregious. What fact there is as been misapplied and twisted to support the ban on hunting. I have over the years kept track of the feral hog problem and both the pluses and minuses of hunting and trapping them. I own land, but do not have feral hog problem, just a deer and turkey problem. Nonetheless, one must consider that the hunting community throughout the State of Missouri has been since the beginning the backbone of the conservation movement and still is. Just look at the history. Missouri has a proud history of conservation, much of it due to the care of hunters. They are every bit as moral and caring as those who would claim otherwise.

Thank you for your consideration,

[REDACTED]

1246

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:18 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban hog hunting

It is imperative that the Mark Twain ban hunting in their forests. Forest resources alone should be enough reason for the ban. Hunting only supports and reinforces the release of feral hogs.

Choosing to not ban hunting would only benefit the few hunters/supporters of this sport in missouri. Not only are these hogs not wildlife, they are a non-native nuisance species that causes taxpayers billions of dollars annually. Choosing to not ban hunting would in-turn cost the majority of Missouri tax-payers millions of dollars in damage and losses.

These losses come in many forms from crops, degradation of natural resources, property, not to mention the human and livestock health safety concerns that these feral hogs present.

Thanks for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

1247

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:19 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hogs - In Support of USFS Proposal

Good Afternoon,

I strongly support the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs. Thank you for your important work.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2Fwww.mobot.org%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Caa
cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=xxch6fbSTrwqMN4AJdMO3

[REDACTED]

1248

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:19 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support feral hog hunting regulation

Hello,

I support the USFS proposal to close Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs. Several of my friends have property bordering MTNF and feral hogs are a big problem. Hunting them does not control the population. Regulating hunting and establishing a trapping regime is the best solution.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
Jefferson City, MO, [REDACTED]

1249

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:22 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

Hello,

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[REDACTED]

1250

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:29 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support the USFS proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to hunting, pursuit and release of feral hogs

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support the proposed ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest.

Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources.

The Missouri Department of Conservation has the science and proven methodology to eradicate feral hogs from our landscape. A vocal minority of public recreationists that support feral hog hunting for their own hobbyist purposes should not be given precedence over using sound management practices in a National Forest.

Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in the national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

[REDACTED]

1251

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:27 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1252

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:33 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Hunting of Feral Hogs

Please accept the proposal of the U.S. Forest Service proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit and hunting of feral hogs. I believe that this proposal will greatly benefit this beautiful and valuable area. Thank you. Dan Burkhardt, Marthasville, Missouri.

1253

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:34 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Comment in SUPPORT of U.S. Forest Service's Feral Hogs Proposal

I support the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

1254

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:40 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine Hunting Ban

This is [REDACTED] secretary of the River Bluffs Audubon Society in Jefferson City, MO. I am writing on behalf of the chapter board and members in support of the proposed rule to ban feral swine hunting on the Mark Twain National Forest.

We believe such a ban will help protect vital habitat for birds and other wildlife. Thank you.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

1255

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:41 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine

I support the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Missouri Botanical Garden | www.mobot.org
<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foutlook.office.com%2Fowa%2F%3Frealm%3Dmobot.org%26exsvurl%3D1%26ll-cc%3D1033%26modurl%3D0&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ce8d8c05fc0f4481b952a08d70fae0552%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=hZdehgzsPOZMwKY9M%2BbiLOcyTvDYPOs%2FR%2BaYIA6IWts%3D&reserved=0>>

[REDACTED]

1256

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:51 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Cc: Samantha Davis
Subject: Comments on proposed FS closure order
Attachments: Feral Hog Letter.pdf

Please find the attached comment letter pertaining to the proposed Forest Service closure order submitted on behalf of the Missouri Corn Growers Association.

[REDACTED]

1257

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:58 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Cc: Casey Wasser
Subject: Comments on proposed FS Closure Order

July 23, 2019

ATTN: Feral Swine Comment
Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Rd.
Rolla, MO 65401

RE: Comments on the Forest Service's Proposal to Close the Mark Twain National Forest to Feral Swine Hunting

To whom it may concern:

The Missouri Soybean Association (MSA) supports complete eradication of feral swine in Missouri. MSA agrees with the Missouri Department of Conservation that hunting will not work as a viable tool for eliminating feral swine. Simply put, allowing the hunting of feral swine creates an economic incentive to move hogs to new areas and to increase their population. Therefore, MSA fully supports the USDA-Forest Service's proposal to permanently close the Mark Twain National Forest to the hunting of feral swine.

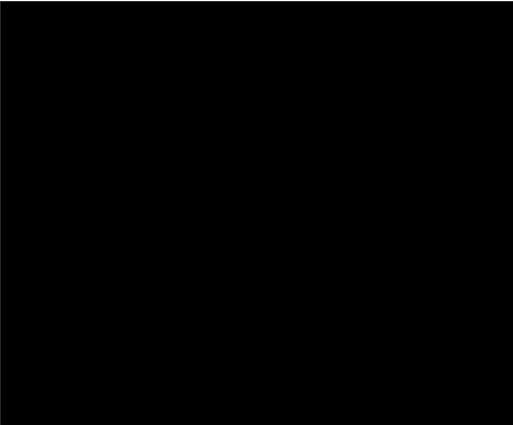
Feral swine are an invasive species that are both harmful and destructive to farmland and to Missouri agriculture. Feral swine spend a lot of time rooting and wallowing which contributes to soil erosion, reduced water quality and damage to Missouri's agricultural crops like soybeans and corn as well impacting the livestock industry from damage to pasture and hay fields. Losses from crop damage and livestock predation in the United States alone are estimated to be more than \$1.5 billion annually.

Presently, feral swine populations are well established in many counties in southern and central Missouri, including most of Mark Twain National Forest. Feral swine have shown they can quickly destroy large amounts of productive farmland and cause extreme damage on the public land managed by Mark Twain National Forest.

12576

The State of Missouri's feral swine elimination program already bans the taking, pursuing or releasing of feral swine on state lands. The State of Missouri has asked the Forest Service and National Park Service for support as part of the Missouri Feral Hog Partnership. We strongly recommend that USDA align all lands managed by the Forest Service with the efforts already underway by the State of Missouri and other cooperating federal agencies, including USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. This action will make federal policies consistent across all public lands in Missouri and will better combat and halt the spread of feral swine and the resulting damage they cause.

Sincerely,



1258

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:59 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine Comment

Dear Forest Supervisor,

As a native Missourian, land-manager, sportsman, and a conservation professional, I wholeheartedly support the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Shaw Nature Reserve | www.shawnature.org
<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.shawnature.org%2F&data=01%7C01%7C%7Cbaf1c8b567764b079f5608d70fb08b43%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=mCUcpGPTSZ18tDMi0U9MplcEK4R9KHab9ombT2jTg4w%3D&reserved=0>>

[REDACTED]

1259

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:00 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Support Ban on Hunting Feral Hogs

To Whom it May concern:

As a concerned Missourian, I support the proposal ban of hunting feral hogs in the Mark Twain National Forest. Feral hogs are invasive, destructive, and are a threat to our natural resources. Please ban the hunting of feral hogs in national forests in order to expedite their elimination from Missouri through proven trapping and removal techniques.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

1260

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:08 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Ban Feral Hog Hunting on the Mark Twain N.F.

I support the Mark Twain Forest plan to ban feral hunting on all Forest Service land in Missouri. These are not indigenous animals and have no place in the natural landscape. Hunting only encourages their release and spread while providing no control of numbers, just the opposite. Please ban hunting hogs within the Federal lands.

[Redacted]

1261

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:11 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1262

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:13 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine

I support the closing of public hunting of feral hogs on the Mark Twain National Forest.

Closing public hunting would better allow public agencies to trap feral hogs in order to eradicate them from Missouri. Hogs are not wildlife and should not be allowed to persist in Missouri. They are destroying natural communities, forest and agricultural lands and karst features.

[REDACTED]

1263

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:30 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: IMPERATIVE: Ban hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

As a U.S. taxpayer and advocate for public lands, I am writing in support of the U.S. Forest Service's proposed ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest. The negative impact of feral hogs, exacerbated by the irresponsible and ecologically destructive recreational tradition of hog-hunting, is undeniable. Data, facts, and evidence point to the long-term damage done to agricultural fields, grasslands, glades, wetlands, and other ecologically important natural areas. Banning hog hunting in the Mark Twain will not only help protect this important forest, it will send a strong signal to other state parks, conservation areas, agencies, and private landowners to follow suit. Responsible hunters and outdoorspeople overwhelmingly agree - they have no interest in pursuing activities that damage the very ecosystems, habitats, and species they have loved and stewarded for generations. A ban, while not a silver bullet, will significantly help curb the negative impact. When coupled with community education and voluntary best practices among hunters and large landowners, a policy tool like a ban can be extremely effective. These are my public lands too, and my family's. Lessen the harm to them by passing the ban on hog-hunting.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

1264

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:31 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Please ban feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest and encourage trapping to eradicate this invasive and destructive species..

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners, as well as our beloved state parks and conservation areas. Those involved in meeting this goal of eradication overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Hunting feral hogs, normally done with dogs, causes the hogs to disperse to places where they form new groups (sounders) and reproduce, resulting in sport but not eradication. Trapping entire sounders without interference from hunters is considered to be the proven best method to eliminate feral hogs and prevent the potential spread of bacterial and viral diseases to animals and humans.

Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take, and I support the ban on hunting feral hogs..

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1265

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:36 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Cc: Schwenke, Sherri K -FS
Subject: Rep. Smith comments
Attachments: 7.23 JTS MTNF Feral Hog Rule.pdf

Please find attached Rep. Jason Smith's comments on the Forest Service proposal to prohibit the hunting of feral hogs on Mark Twain National Forest.

Thank you,

Hilary Pinegar | Legislative Assistant

U.S. Rep. Jason Smith (MO-8)

Rayburn House Office Building 2418

(202) 225-4404

12656

JASON SMITH
8TH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

2418 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4404
www.jasonsmith.house.gov

   @RepJasonSmith

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE

TAX POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Sherri Schwenke
Forest Supervisor
ATTN: Feral Swine Comment
Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Rd.
Rolla, MO 65401

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2508

CAPE GIRARDEAU OFFICE
2502 TANNER DRIVE, SUITE 205
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO 63703
(573) 335-0101

FARMINGTON OFFICE
22 E. COLUMBIA STREET
PO Box 1165
FARMINGTON, MO 63640
(573) 756-9755

POPULAR BLUFF OFFICE
2725 NORTH WESTWOOD BLVD SUITE 5A
POPULAR BLUFF, MO 63901
(573) 609-2996

ROLLA OFFICE
830A S BISHOP
ROLLA, MO 65401
(573) 364-2455

WEST PLAINS OFFICE
35 CHURCH SQUARE, SUITE 300
WEST PLAINS, MO 65775
(417) 255-1515

July 23, 2019

Supervisor Schwenke:

I write to voice my opposition to your recently announced proposal to ban feral hog hunting on Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF) land. This proposal will not assist in the elimination of feral hogs and ultimately will only hinder efforts to eradicate their populations in Missouri.

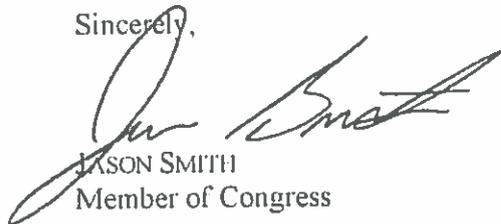
Every year, feral hogs inflict millions of dollars of damage in Missouri. They destroy crops, damage conservation land, harm native wildlife and spread disease. They are more than a nuisance in southern Missouri; these pests threaten the very way of life of local farmers and landowners. While eradication and awareness efforts have increased in recent years, unfortunately feral hog populations continue to spread and grow.

I have personally spoken with numerous farmers in southern Missouri about this problem and the response I hear is always the same: trapping alone isn't enough. I've heard many stories from farmers about trap smart hogs and the other potential draw backs to a trapping only approach. I've also heard many ideas. Farmers and landowners have been leading the fight against feral hogs for years. They want to work in partnership with MTNF to tackle this issue.

It is my understanding that the Forest Service has received feedback from local communities affected by these vermin. I'm confident that the concerns local farmers and landowners have voiced to you and your staff are the same concerns they've shared with me.

If we are going to get rid of these hogs, we need an "all of the above" approach. That means hunting and killing them wherever they are found, by whatever means necessary. We must utilize every tool in the tool box. Banning the hunting of feral hogs would be detrimental to Southeast Missouri for years to come. I urge the Forest Service to reject its proposal to ban feral hog hunting on MTNF land and instead work collaboratively with the local communities to eliminate feral hogs with an "all of the above" approach.

Sincerely,



JASON SMITH
Member of Congress

1266

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:37 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: ATTN: Feral Swine Comment

Hello-

I am writing to voice my support of the Proposed Forest Closure Order No. 09-05-19-02, banning hog hunting on the Mark Twain National Forest. Those individuals most knowledgeable on the methods of feral swine eradication have determined baited trapping with no hunting to be the most effective strategy for hog elimination, and I trust in their findings.

--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1267

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:47 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hog Comment

I'm writing as a citizen of Missouri who enjoys hiking and camping on the Mark Twain National Forest. I support the Forest Service proposal to ban feral hog hunting on the Mark Twain as part of a larger, collaborative effort to eradicate feral hogs in the state. These animals are damaging our landscapes and recreational areas and wrecking havoc on habitat that native species depend on, and I believe our best bet to eradicate them lies in trapping them at scale.

I know there are a lot of folks who see the hunting ban as counterintuitive, but I've been convinced by the evidence from other states that have dealt with this issue. Unregulated access to hog hunting is associated with higher populations of hogs. Not only is this an observed correlation, but I believe there are definite, easily identified causal mechanisms at play. Simply put, unregulated hunting leads to misaligned incentives, both cultural and economic, and can actively interfere with trapping efforts.

In terms of cultural incentives, it's easy to see how having a large animal with no bag limit or restricted season would be attractive to hunters. It's more opportunity to participate in an enjoyable activity. For those who enjoy hunting hogs, the incentive is to maintain a population within the state, whether by advocating for less-effective eradication methods, or by actively releasing hogs into the woods, as we've seen happening already. Over time, this incentive will only get stronger as cultures develop around hog hunting, and as it becomes a "tradition" passed on between generations. The last thing we want is to entrench hog hunting as a part of Missouri's hunting culture.

On the economic side of things, those who stand to profit from hog hunting (though hunting leases or outfitting initiatives) have an even more concrete incentive to maintain a population of hogs in the state. We do not want Missouri to become a destination for recreational hog hunting. We do not want people to stand to profit off an animal that causes millions of dollars in damage annually.

Finally, I believe hunting can actively interfere with trapping efforts if hunters are scaring hogs away from trap sites, if they are bringing dogs around trap sites and compromising them with more scents that the hogs can pick up, or if they are scattering the herds into areas where eradication efforts have been previously successful. I believe that there is some degree of cross-purposes inherently at play if hunting efforts are not closely regulated to be in line with trapping efforts undertaken by state and federal agencies. This inefficient working at cross-purposes costs tax payers money. As a tax payer, I'd prefer we use our dollars efficiently to tackle this problem.

I've read the various comments on this with interest, and I do believe an exception should be carved out for landowners whose properties adjoin the national forest, particularly farmers. They should be allowed to pursue hogs onto federal land in order to protect their property. They, at least, are more likely to have incentives in line with federal and state agencies as they have an active interest in protecting their crops and their own livestock. However, I think there should be imitations placed on this exemption: only property owners or their paid contractors are exempt, and only within a certain distance of their property. No one hunting recreationally or as part of a hunting lease should be allowed to pursue hogs onto federal land. I realize this is a fine line, but it's a loophole sure to be exploited if left unaddressed.

Ultimately, trapping hogs is effective. We should focus our efforts there and try to limit the perverse incentives caused by leaving hog hunting unrestricted on federal land.

12676

Thank you for all you do to maintain Missouri woods and streams for public enjoyment. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,



1268

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:57 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1269

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 5:17 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Swine Comment

I oppose restricting any method of Feral Hog removal on MTNF. In zone 4 of the Missouri Hog population map having some of the most dense feral hog populations, countless Farmers and Private land owners struggling to make a living and protect their land from the ever growing hog problem in the past 12 to 15 years has taken the advise of the MDC and tried the trap only approach and not allowing hunting on their property. Over time populations have grown due to repeated trapping efforts and unsuccessfully catching the whole sounder thus making trap wise hogs. It will take all the resources available to accomplish the goal of elimination.

1270

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 5:33 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hogs

Hello,

I support using methods such as trapping, rather than hunting, to eliminate feral hogs in our state parks. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

1271

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 6:19 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Eradicate Feral Hogs

I want tto go on record that we need ERADICATION of feral Hogs. They should be completely eliminated.

Tim

[REDACTED]

The information transmitted (including attachments) is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521, is intended only for the person(s) or entity/entities to which it is addressed and might contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

In addition to the above, you may be receiving copyrighted material and be subject to violation of United States Laws.

Birdman Productions LLC and Birdman Adventures LLC will vigorously defend intellectual material, proprietary material and prosecute theft, or plagiarism to the fullest extent of the law.

1272

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 6:21 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral hog hunting

To whom it may concern:

I strongly support a total ban on hunting feral hogs in Mark Twain National Forest, as does every conservation organization in Missouri. The animals pose a serious threat to our natural habitats in many ways, and a hunting ban (plus removal by qualified personnel) is the only approach that is proven to be successful in reducing hog numbers. Hunting only leads to more hogs.

I know that those who enjoy, or profit from, the hunting of hogs will be loud and persistent in their lobbying, but the USDA's job is to put the interests of the whole community first -- in particular, the community of those interested in a healthy outdoor environment.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO
[REDACTED]

1273

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 6:40 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1274

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 6:45 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I support a ban on feral hog hunting in the Mark Twain National Forest.

The elimination of feral hogs is an essential step in the conservation of our public lands and would ease the enormous financial burden this invasive species puts on Missouri farmers and other private landowners. Those involved in meeting this goal overwhelmingly support a ban on feral hog hunting. Enacting this ban in the Mark Twain National Forest is a very sensible action to take.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact [REDACTED] for more information.

1275

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:05 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: feral swine comments

i have been a victim of feral hogs on my property this past winter and early spring. the local missouri conservation agent and an agent from the U.S. Dept. of agriculture assisted me in the quest to remove the hogs. a trap was set up adjacent to my pasture/hay field. this venture lasted for approximately 5-6 weeks and there was some success whereby 4 boar hogs weighing approximately 200 pounds each were trapped. however the damage done by the hogs was extensive enough to the pasture/hay field area that my wife and i spent about 20-25 hours with a rake to try to fill in the holes created by the rooting of the hogs.

i asked the agents from the above agencies if they considered the damage done to my property as excessive, about average or below damage and the men indicated that they had seen worse and some not as bad. i can tell you that i certainly don't want to have to attempt to repair my field's damage again. despite the effort to rake the area where rooting was done, when i eventually mowed and baled hay from the fields, i could certainly tell when my equipment's wheels hit those holes.

during the time when the traps were used on my property, these two agencies were spread quite thin with their traps and areas where they were attempting to eradicate other hogs. i live in sligo, 18 miles north of salem. i know that they also had traps in the bourbon and ellington areas. they did not have the traps set or baited over the weekend, just during the week.

i personally feel, that to have the best means of eradicating the feral hogs, a combination of trapping AND hunting is required. i know that there are expert hog hunters that have indeed had success and in my opinion can actually kill more hogs than can be trapped. i would like to see BOTH methods used. that being said, i am also aware that there are some who are trapping hogs, moving them and transporting them to areas where they can be hunted. once moved to the new "hunting ground" location, i truly suspect that hogs are being fed so as to provide hunting opportunities for some hunters that have no regard for the landowners that are victimized by their actions. i truly hope that these "hunters" are arrested and prosecuted to the FULLEST.

my neighbor was blackberry picking in the Lost Lake area near dillard and he saw 10-12 hogs. this would have been on national forest land. and he saw the hogs about a week ago. this area was about 4-5 miles from my property as the "crow flies."

i honestly do not feel that the trapping equipment or the manpower of the USDA or the Missouri Conservation Department is ample enough to succeed.

respectfully,

[REDACTED]

1276

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:24 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hog Hunting in Mark Twain NF

To whom it may concern:

It seems to me that it would be a great waste of the investment taxpayers have made in Feral Hog eradication programs if you permit the one thing that makes proven methods (trapping) harder to accomplish: hunting.

We need responsible effective leadership on this.

Thank You,
[REDACTED]

1277

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:53 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: USFS Should Ban Hog Hunting

The Forest Service should ban all hog hunting on their federal lands in Missouri.

Missouri should do whatever it takes to eliminate hogs from the state. And they shouldn't listen to politicians or anyone who hunts hogs recreationally.

[REDACTED]
Columbia, MO

Sent from my iPhone

1278

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:17 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral hogs

I support the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close the Mark Twain National Forest to the pursuit, hunting, and release of feral hogs.

Sincerely,

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

<[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foverview.mail.yahoo.com%2F%3Fsrc%3DiOS&data=0\[REDACTED\]70fdd18e4%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=z0TaFa%2FVBOC8mH5E4K4kctGOqJx4671MZ2Tsl02DX7U%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foverview.mail.yahoo.com%2F%3Fsrc%3DiOS&data=0[REDACTED]70fdd18e4%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=z0TaFa%2FVBOC8mH5E4K4kctGOqJx4671MZ2Tsl02DX7U%3D&reserved=0)>

1279

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:32 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral hog hunting

I support the public closure of feral hog hunting on the Mark Twain National Forest.

I feel that trapping by experts is the best way to eradicate wild hogs.

1280

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 9:50 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Feral Hog Comment

Dear Officials,

I support the ban on feral hog hunting. This non-native species has proven to be a problem that requires a coordinated, proactive eradication program. Hunting just makes the problem worse. As much as I would like to hunt them myself, I know it is not the solution. The cost associated with damage to public land that would result from delaying the appropriate removal methods can be reasonably estimated and the only responsible decision would be to move forward with the ban.

As an ecologist, with a degree in Wildlife Management, I recommend taking the advice of my many peers with expertise in this particular issue and do the right thing in dealing with this challenge. Listen to the MDC and other conservation groups. Ban the take, pursuit, or release of these non-native hogs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
website: www.mrbo.org

<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mrbo.org&data=01%7C01%7C%7C694e005013cd41717bab08d70fe18f54%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=eVwT%2FX0Qnv0wyJTIDn%2FC%2BIPmgXPI%2BnyUwFRCEICcC5s%3D&reserved=0>>

<https://www.facebook.com/moriverbirdobs>

<<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fmoriverbirdobs&data=01%7C01%7C%7C694e005013cd41717bab08d70fe18f54%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1&sdata=8dQqcPgMOW%2BLhz8b0bj1E%2B%2B%2F8c5dMgjAgjA9L6czlQI%3D&reserved=0>>

660.837.3888

"A land ethic, then, reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. Health is the capacity of the land for self-renewal. Conservation is our effort to understand and preserve this capacity." ~ Aldo Leopold, "Land Ethic" 1949

1281

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 10:13 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Hog hunting in Mark Twain National Forest

Feral hogs are destructive to both private and public lands. Hunting kills a few but lets the others scatter and continue to multiply. The most effective method to eradicate them is trapping but hunting interferes with these efforts. I'm writing to ask you to support Mark Twain's proposal to ban hog hunting on the forest lands.



<[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avast.com%2Fsig-email%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dlink%26utm_campaign%3Dsig-email%26utm_content%3Demailclient%26utm_term%3Dlink&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ce01f16d6a21f410c185808d70fe4be50%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0\[REDACTED\]a10HKZXRZpRK2VvVkmaVsNg%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avast.com%2Fsig-email%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dlink%26utm_campaign%3Dsig-email%26utm_content%3Demailclient%26utm_term%3Dlink&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ce01f16d6a21f410c185808d70fe4be50%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0[REDACTED]a10HKZXRZpRK2VvVkmaVsNg%3D&reserved=0)>

Virus-free. www.avast.com

<[https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avast.com%2Fsig-email%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dlink%26utm_campaign%3Dsig-email%26utm_content%3Demailclient%26utm_term%3Dlink&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ce01f16d6a21f410c185808d70fe4be50%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0\[REDACTED\]a10HKZXRZpRK2VvVkmaVsNg%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avast.com%2Fsig-email%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dlink%26utm_campaign%3Dsig-email%26utm_content%3Demailclient%26utm_term%3Dlink&data=01%7C01%7C%7Ce01f16d6a21f410c185808d70fe4be50%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0[REDACTED]a10HKZXRZpRK2VvVkmaVsNg%3D&reserved=0)>

1282

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 10:46 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Comments on proposed closure hog hunting

My name is [REDACTED] I have a undergraduate degree in biology and I have spent a life time in the outdoors and hunting.

I am the owner of approximately 1,000 acres in Wayne County.

I have a lot of respect for MDC

but I believe the plan to eradicate hogs adopted by MDC and proposed by Mark Twain national Forest is not biologically sound, based on some erroneous assumptions, all or nothing, and does not incorporate all stakeholders.

#1 hogs Probably cannot be eliminated with any of the proposed options on the table.

#2 To obtain the best long-term results requires open minded study of all the proposed options.

#3 shooting hogs does not necessarily impact trapping.

Case in point; three years ago we trapped 22 hogs in one trap. Less than 12 hours before I shot a large hog less than 1/4 mile west of the trap and 24 hours before that a hog was shot 1/4 mile south of the trap.

#4 It makes sense to allow some limited area closures as long as a study is implemented to determine the results.

#5 But also allow hunting on some areas and study the results.

#6 Landowners that border the national forest should receive special consideration.

#7 It makes absolutely no sense to not allow hunters who saturate the woods during deer season with high powered rifles to shoot all the hogs they can.

#8 Try multiple options

#9 maybe allow hunting some months and closed some months.

#10 Keep researching eradication options. Something might work sometime. Possibly some genetically engineered option.

Etc etc etc

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

1283

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 11:41 PM
To: FS-Mark Twain Feral Swine Comment
Subject: Proposed hunting ban on feral swine in National Forest land

I support the proposal to ban hunting of feral swine, and rely on trapping to reduce the number of these invasive animals. They are very destructive of native habitat.

Thank you,

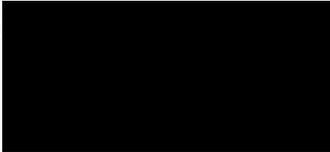
[REDACTED]

1284

TO: US Forest Service

Re: Feral Hogs

From:



As a landowner with 2 miles of common land boundary with the Mark Twain Forest I would submit the following comments regarding the banning of hunting feral hogs on the Forest.

I am in favor of banning the hunting on feral hogs on the Forest. Hunting has not worked as past decades have proved.

The bleating of the hog hunters that they want to eradicate feral hogs is in contrast to documented cases of active interference with trapping efforts.

However comments about adjacent landowners in "hot pursuit" of hogs crossing over into the Forest may have some basis in fact. Do Feral Hogs establish a home "nesting range" or are they just roaming. When I first noticed a hog problem I contacted the MDC without any response. The Forest Service hog trappers who are working adjacent to my property stated the MDC trappers were simply overwhelmed. If the hogs do establish a nest area adjacent to my property and I am unable to obtain help what can I do? If the hogs don't establish a nest area and simply roam the question becomes moot.