

**Bankhead Liaison Panel**  
**Feral Swine Working Group**  
**Potential Next Steps - Initial Meeting**

Ideas for next steps and progress on next steps are outlined below.

**Use of volunteers**

Identify Forest Service volunteer opportunities that select volunteers may be invited to participate in. Ideas include implementing a damage assessment program, scouting new areas for control efforts, or assisting with trap construction/relocation as needed.

Summer 2014, Bankhead National Forest secured interns to assist with feral swine control program, in addition to other program areas where needed.

**Document damage**

Develop a plan to document damage from feral swine. Monitor feral swine damage occurrence over the long-term. Use combination of volunteer, cooperator, employee and university research efforts for monitoring.

Summer 2014, Alabama A&M University Research Project in development re: use and damage

**Cemetery damage**

Investigate possibilities and options for protecting Gum Pond cemetery from damage from feral swine rooting. Potential volunteer opportunities related to exclusion. Coordinate with Forest Service cultural resources program and engineering program. Evaluate costs associated with exclusion and consider funding sources. Evaluate trapping at cemetery or adjacent locations to reduce damage.

June 2014, Bankhead & Black Warrior staff are scouting, pre-baiting and monitoring with cameras to identify possibilities of trapping to reduce cemetery damage.

**Engage local communities/government**

Develop a plan of action for engaging local governments and organizations. Goal is to disseminate information on the problem with feral swine (disease, damage, etc.), effective trapping programs, landowner opportunities, and regulations (hunting, trapping, etc.).

**Monitor feral swine populations, new sightings, etc.**

Use combination of volunteer, cooperator, employee and university research efforts for monitoring. Consider developing program to allow Forest/WMA visitors (hunters, hikers, etc.) to report activity for effective use by Forest Service & cooperators. Investigate monitoring programs and potential research opportunities.

Summer 2014, Continue working with research cooperators (Alabama A&M and Auburn) on project possibilities.