



Photo by Dan Chapman, USFWS

When tracking wild hogs, hunters and animal control agents look for signs like these hoof trails through the muddy wetland. With no closed season and no bag limits, Alabama hunters can harvest hogs year round.

HOGS: Feral beasts are state's worst nuisance ever

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hogs bayed by dog hunters should be euthanized on site to avoid any accidental escapes or illegal movement of hogs off the property where they were caught.

Hunting over bait and hunting at night are both control methods that require a Wildlife Damage Permit from your local Conservation Enforcement Officer or Wildlife Biologist. Both methods can be effective depending on the habitat types in your area. Hog hunting at night is more effective in row crops or pastures. Remember that a hog's eyes do not glow at night like those of a deer. This makes finding them with a light more difficult. Monitoring bait piles regularly if increases the success of hunting over bait. Baiting can increase food intake by hogs, which can possibility increase the reproduction in sows. Do not continue to feed hogs if you are not going to have time to

hunt them.

Advanced control methods include the use of night vision, thermal imagery, helicopters and radio telemetry equipment. These high-cost techniques are utilized by state and federal agencies conducting hog control or eradication programs, but some landowners have realized spending a few thousand dollars for high-tech gear may be worth their added effectiveness at removing hogs from their property.

Control of feral hogs in Alabama is a time consuming and sometimes expensive proposition. Farmers, landowners, and wildlife managers need to utilize a multi-faceted approach to win the war to control feral hogs and decrease the damage to Alabama's natural resources. For more information on feral hog control methods contact your local Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries district office.

USING FIREARMS SAFELY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Pay Attention, or Pay the Price!



ALWAYS BE SAFE WITH YOUR FIREARM

IF YOU ARE NOT 100 PERCENT SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT'S BEYOND, DO NOT AIM! DO NOT SHOOT!

Your careless mistake can cause severe injuries or death.

THE BASIC RULES

- Treat every firearm as if it's loaded.
- Don't point the muzzle at anything you do not intend to shoot.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until you're on target and ready to shoot.
- Always be 100% sure of your target and what's beyond.



Always use a good pair of binoculars. Rifle scopes are for aiming only.