

**Committee:** Public/Private Lands Committee

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**Intended Recipient:** Missouri Department of Conservation Director, Missouri General Assembly, Missouri Congressional Delegation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources Director, Mark Twain National Forest Supervisor

### **Support for Feral Hog Eradication**

**WHEREAS**, feral hogs have been a growing problem in Missouri, causing serious damage to property and farms, competing with native species for habitat, and often harboring serious diseases, such as brucellosis, pseudorabies, and trichinosis, that could threaten domesticated pigs; and

**WHEREAS**, these feral hogs are damaging private farmland and public lands equally; and

**WHEREAS**, the fight to control feral hogs requires unrelenting and often expensive efforts to outsmart them and deal with their prolific breeding ability; and

**WHEREAS**, studies show that one must kill 80 percent of a feral hog population to prevent population growth; and

**WHEREAS**, these hogs are not migrating on their own from other states but are being brought here to be hunted and are either deliberately set loose or escape which complicates the eradication problem; and

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri Department of Conservation has had success with baiting and trapping these animals and acceptance of this method has helped farmers and ranchers begin to gain some ground against these nuisance animals; and

**WHEREAS**, drop traps and corral traps are showing great promise in fighting the population of feral hogs; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019, encourages federal, state, local, private landowners, NGOs, and members of the general public to support the Missouri Department of Conservation, and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to continue prohibition of feral hog hunting on Commission controlled lands and properties; encourages other government agencies to do the same on properties under their control, and to maintain strong enforcement efforts to discourage illegal feral hog release and promote voluntary compliance with conservation laws, in order to eradicate feral hogs.

Searchable Key Words: feral hogs, Missouri Department of Conservation, partners, landowners, eradication, APHIS, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Mark Twain National Forest

**Expires:** March 10, 2024