

...Feral Hogs

they are not compatible.

What is a hog shield that I hear about?

Feral hogs are equipped with a tough shoulder hide, which is made of a tough scar tissue. This is formed through continuous fighting and it hardens as the animal ages and survives more fights.

What are feral hog signs?

Because feral hogs are largely nocturnal, the visible signs they leave behind are often all there is to indicate their presence. These signs include wallowing, rooting, rubs, crossings, trails and scat (droppings). Wallows are found in muddy areas and are made where hogs root and roll in the mud. They do this to cool off and also the mud protects their skin from the sun and insects. Rubs are then made when hogs scratch or rub themselves on tree trunks, telephone poles, fence posts, and rocks leaving a noticeable sign with mud and hair often left clinging. The height of the rub often indicates the size of the hog.

Rooting is easily recognized because it looks as if the soil has been plowed. Most often rooting takes place over a large area. Some rooting holes can be as much as three feet deep, which possibly could cause vehicle damage. A hog track is similar to a deer track except the toes are more rounded and wider in comparison to length. Hog hair is easily distinguished from other mammals and may be found at fence crossings and rubs. Scat appears very much

like that of a small calf, being dropped in several small piles, which is very distinct from deer pellets or predator cord-like droppings.

Are feral hogs dangerous?

All wild animals have the potential of being dangerous, especially when wounded or cornered. In a natural state, feral hogs will prefer to run and escape danger, and are not considered dangerous. Extreme caution should be maintained when tracking wounded animals, trapping animals or encountering females with young. Their razor sharp tusks combined with their lightning speed can cause serious injury.

How do I hunt feral hogs?

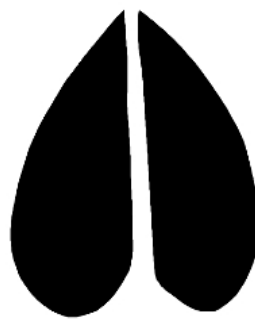
Although feral hogs are not classified as game animals, a hunting license is required to hunt them. Feral hogs are very intelligent and considered to be challenging quarry. Many hunters consider the long tusks and mean appearance a genuine trophy, in addition to the quality of meat. They also provide a great off-season challenge and opportunities to hone hunting skills and spend time in the field.

There are many hunting techniques used, including stand hunting over a baited area, quite often incidental to white-tailed deer hunting. Stalking or still hunting over baited areas and areas indicating recent hog activity, such as wallows, are commonly used techniques. Corn or milo, often soaked in water and allowed to sour and then buried underground is good bait.

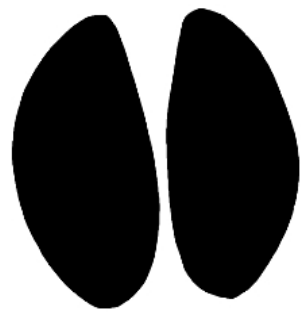
Tracks



Javelina



Deer



Hog

Night hunting with a spotlight is often used; however, the local game warden must be notified beforehand. (There are certain laws which prohibit using artificial light where deer are known to range.)

Hunting with well-trained dogs is another hunting method utilized and can be very exciting. Because the feral hog has such a tough hide the best rifle calibers to use should be a .243 or greater to prevent wounding and loss of the animal. Bowhunting, muzzleloading, and handguns are also popular among sportsmen to hunt feral hogs.

Additional control methods?

Trapping is a common method utilized by sportsmen and landowners. Live trapping enables the individual to harvest the animal, fatten it up, or sell it. It also allows numerous

ASKINS PROPANE

FOR ALL YOUR
PROPANE NEEDS

New & Used Tires

Flats Fixed

*Hours - 8:00 - 5:00 Monday thru Friday
9:00 - 12:00 Noon Saturday

202 Commerce - Robert Lee Hwy. 277 North - Bronte
453-2060 1-800-722-1106

ASH REAL ESTATE



JOE ASH

21 E 6TH STREET
PO BOX 726
ROBERT LEE, TX 76945
325-453-5144 OFFICE
325-473-0164 MOBILE

**WE
SPECIALIZE
IN RANCH,
HUNTING,
AND RURAL
PROPERTIES.**

JOE ASH
325-453-2554
325-473-0164

JOE ASH
OWNER/BROKER

E-MAIL: amcrealestate@wcc.net

WEBSITE: www.amcwesttexasranches.com

THE CASTON COMPANY LLC

Conservation Contractor Specializing in
Conserving Our Natural Resources

Marty Caston • Leta Caston
(325) 277-1375 • (325) 453-2453 office

During Your Stay, Stop In At

This 'N That Shop

711 Austin Street • Downtown Robert Lee
Store • (325) 453-4307

Leta Caston • (325) 453-2453

Store Hours:

Thursdays & Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm

Open by Appointment, call

Leta Caston • (325) 277-2650



Gifts - Past and Present

