

comment Open Space Authority Board April 11 2024 #3 Feral Pigs

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To: OSA Clerk <osaclerk@openspaceauthority.org>

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EXTERNAL EMAIL

Hello Open Space Authority Board and Staff,

This is a comment for your meeting April 11 2024

Item #3: Status of Feral Pigs on OSA Lands

I am going to complain about the message that staff are "developing" and "investigating" and "evaluating".

My problem is that I participated in the Use and Management Committee meeting on January 25 2018 on the subject of feral pigs and resource management. I remember this meeting because I challenged Director Hall for using the euphemism "depredation" instead of "killing" and his response that "everyone knows what depredation means".

I also commented on your Integrated Pest Management EIR scoping in November 2019 where I relayed a comment made at a County Parks Commission meeting that "feral pigs may be beneficial by passing through an area; however, not if they remain in an area". Compare this with the staff comment that "these disturbed areas are the prime conditions for invasive plants to colonize".

And then you have your Integrated Pest Management Guidance Manual of July 2021

4. Guidance for Management of Invasive Animals in Natural Lands

4.2.4. Feral Pigs

Some regulated game species (e.g., feral pigs) must be controlled under special depredation permits obtained from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

I haven't had a conversation with your Resource Management staff since chatting with (departed) Galli Basson at a Board retreat at Tilton Ranch. (My problem not yours.) January 2018 was a long time ago. So was November 2019. Even July 2021. Perhaps your IPM activities need a reporting dashboard.

Regards, Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill

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