

Wildlife Research and Monitoring Section,
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

WILD PIGS IN ONTARIO



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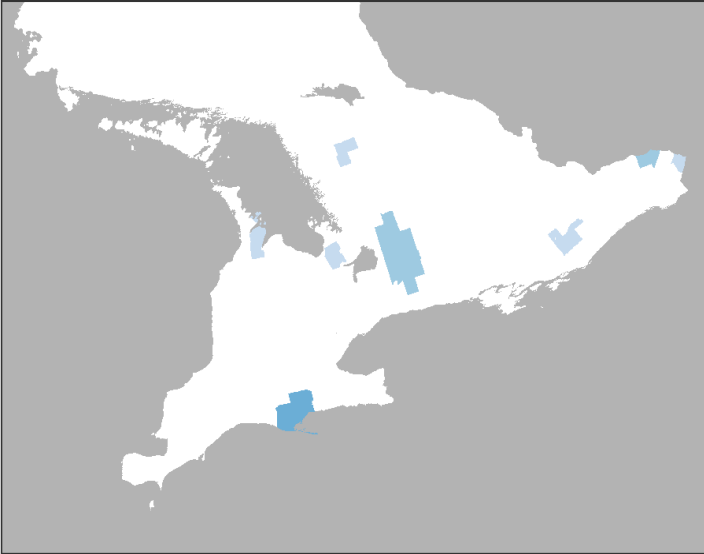
Welcome to Ontario – over 1 million km²



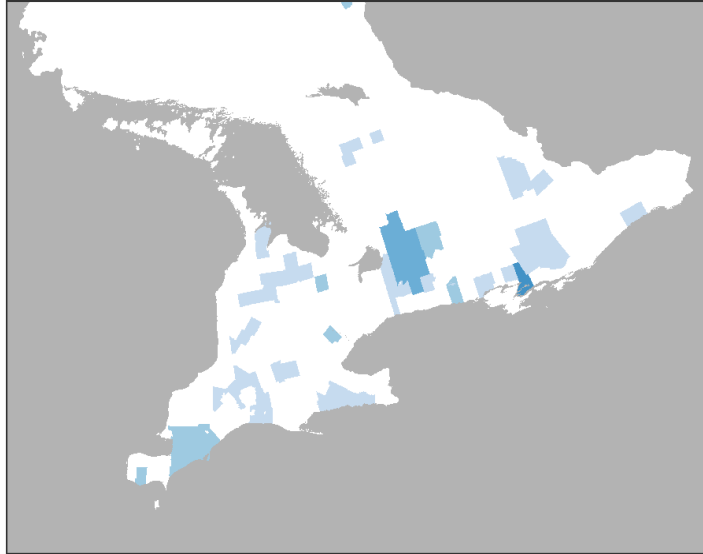
Wild Pig Sightings on Ontario

- We started collecting reports of wild pig sightings from the public in fall 2018
- We have received unverified reports of what appear to be domestic breeds, pot-bellied pigs, Eurasian wild boar, and possible hybrids
- Over half of the sightings are of single pigs

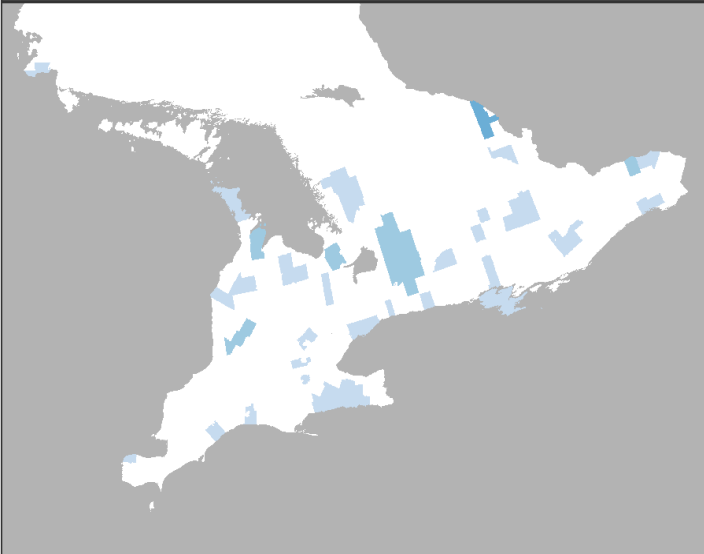
wild boar



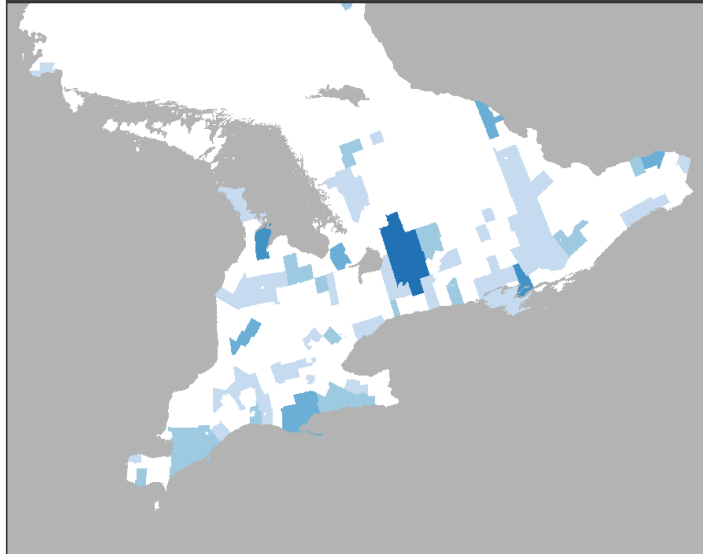
domesticated and pot bellied pigs



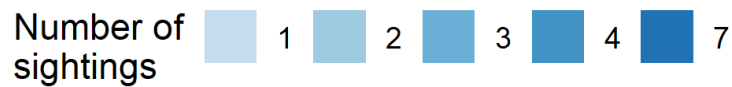
unknown breed of pig



all sightings combined



Unverified reports of wild pigs in Ontario since Oct 2018




Pilot study – winter 2020

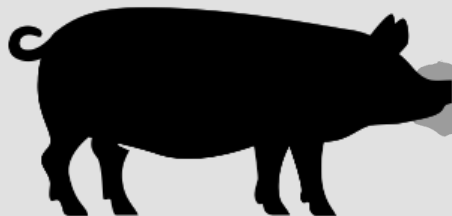


- Followed up in-person with key reported sightings
- Educated landowners about invasive wild pigs, learned about recent sightings
- Used baited trail cameras to detect wild pigs
- Where necessary, we were prepared to remove wild pigs from the landscape using whole-sounder removal

Ontario 

WILD PIG PILOT PROJECT OVERVIEW

19  Sightings investigated



Sightings included escaped domestic pigs, pot bellied pigs, and Eurasian wild boar

4 cases where wild pigs are likely no longer on the landscape

4 cases where wild pigs may still be present

Domestic pig icon by Ealancheliyan s from the Noun Project. Pot bellied pig by clipart email.



590 litres of bait at camera trap sites

16 cameras deployed at **13** sites



89,492 photos downloaded from **514** camera trap-nights

200 conversations with landowners



residences mailed or left with information pamphlets and contact information **278**

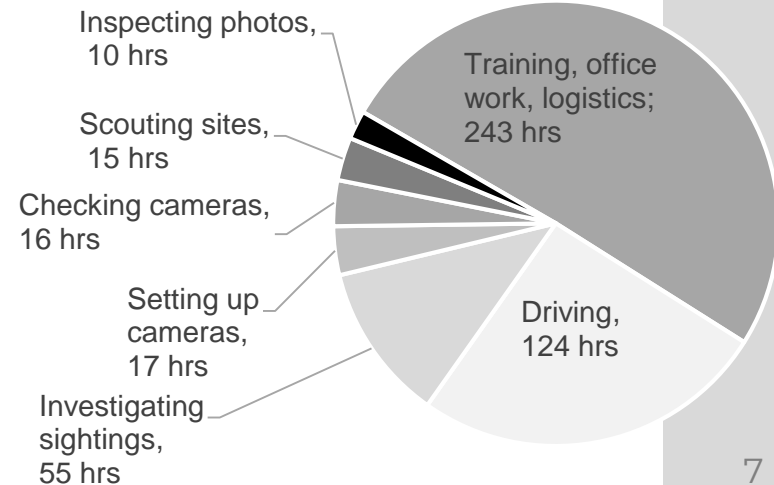


15 properties encompassing 1082 hectares of land now accessible to wild pig technicians

WILD PIG FIELD TECH STATS

kilometers driven

8,745



We have reports of Eurasian wild boar in central Ontario, where human population density is low and forest cover is dense. This area is vast and thus difficult to detect and monitor wild pigs.



Do you have advice on how to detect low density wild pig populations in remote areas with high forest cover?

We would love to chat about your experience with eDNA, detection dogs, or other ways to detect pigs at low densities

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