

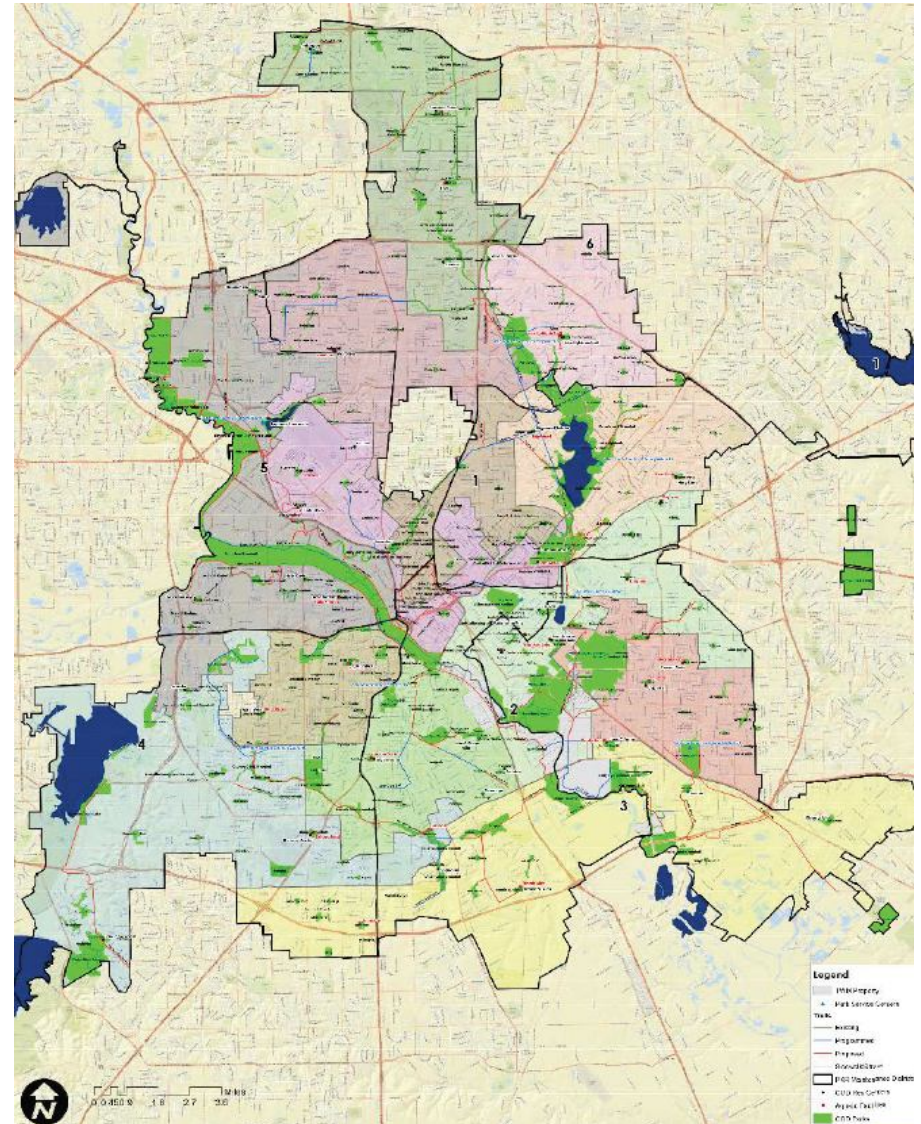
Feral Hogs: Concerns, Challenges, and Controls

**Dallas Park and Recreation Board
March 10, 2016**

Photo—Ben Sandifer

Feral Hogs in Dallas

- Initial sightings:
1993-1998
- Well established:
2004
- Reported in Kiest Park:
2010
- City-wide abatement
attempt:
2013



Feral Hog Biology

- Omnivore
- Keen sense of smell
- Prolific breeder
 - 1.5 litters/year
 - 5.6 piglets/litter
 - Population doubles every five years
- HIGHLY adaptable to urban settings
- Ultimate survivor



Photo-Ben Sandifer

Potential Feral Hog Habitat in Dallas



2011 Texas A&M University GIS Analysis of Feral Hog Habitat

Why are Feral Hogs an Issue?

- Significant property damage
- Impact to maintenance operations
- Impact water quality
- Potential disease issues
- Potential safety concerns

Feral Hog Damage



Feral Hog Damage



Feral Hog Damage



Feral Hog Damage

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Feral Hog Damage

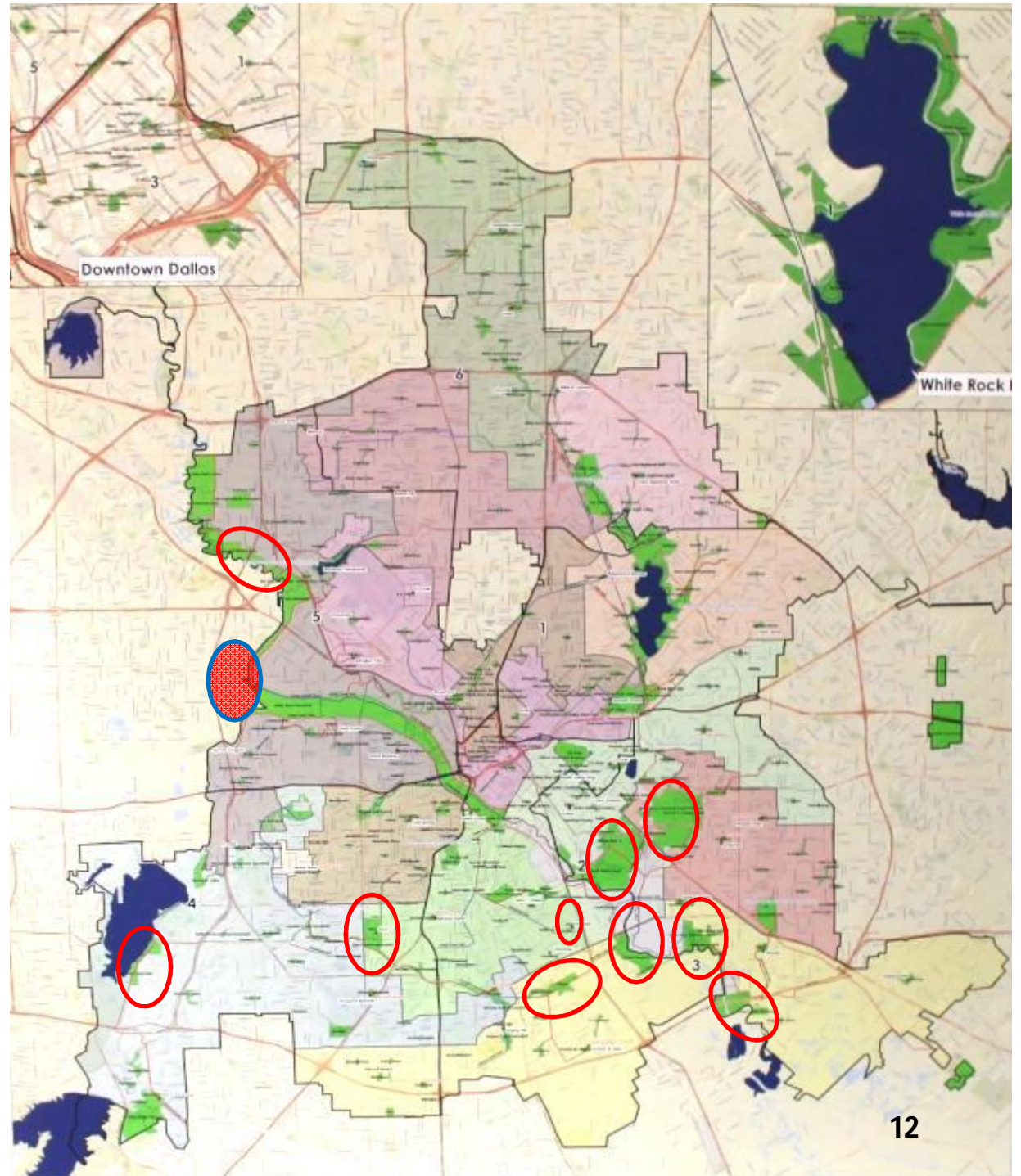


Feral Hog Damage



Impacted Parks

- Impacted park properties
- City of Irving's trapping effort



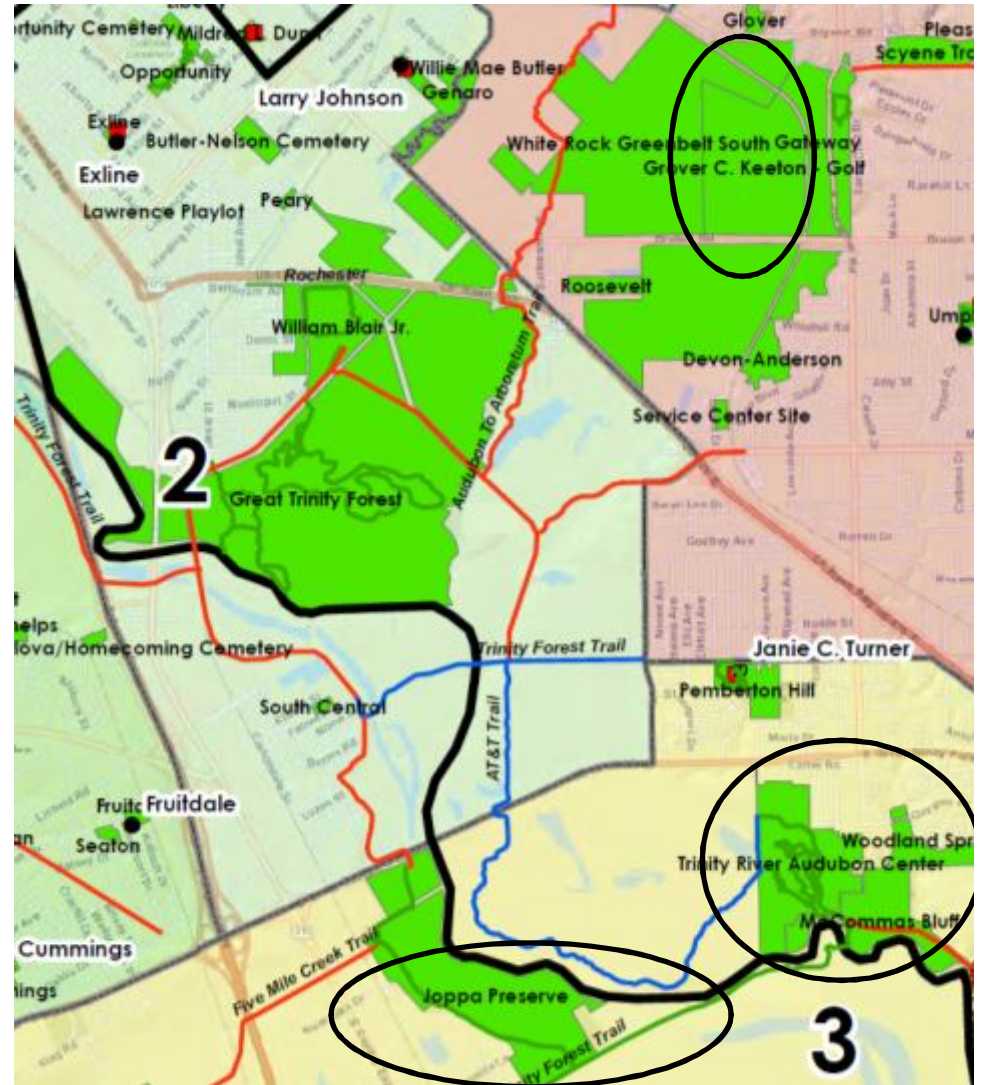
Action Plan

- Private trapper
- 12 month contract
- Limited scope area
- Expressed expectations on professionalism and humane treatment
- Park and Recreation Department Biologist oversight
- Public outreach



Trapping Areas

- Access to areas
- High hog numbers or extensive damage
- Limited scope of area
 - Grover C. Keeton Golf Course
 - Joppa Preserve
 - Great Trinity Forest Trails



Trapping Methodology

- 20' baited corral trap
- Real time trap surveillance
 - Maximize efficiency
 - Reduce non-targets
 - Minimize trap time
- Remove entire sounder
- Trailer removal
- Humane considerations



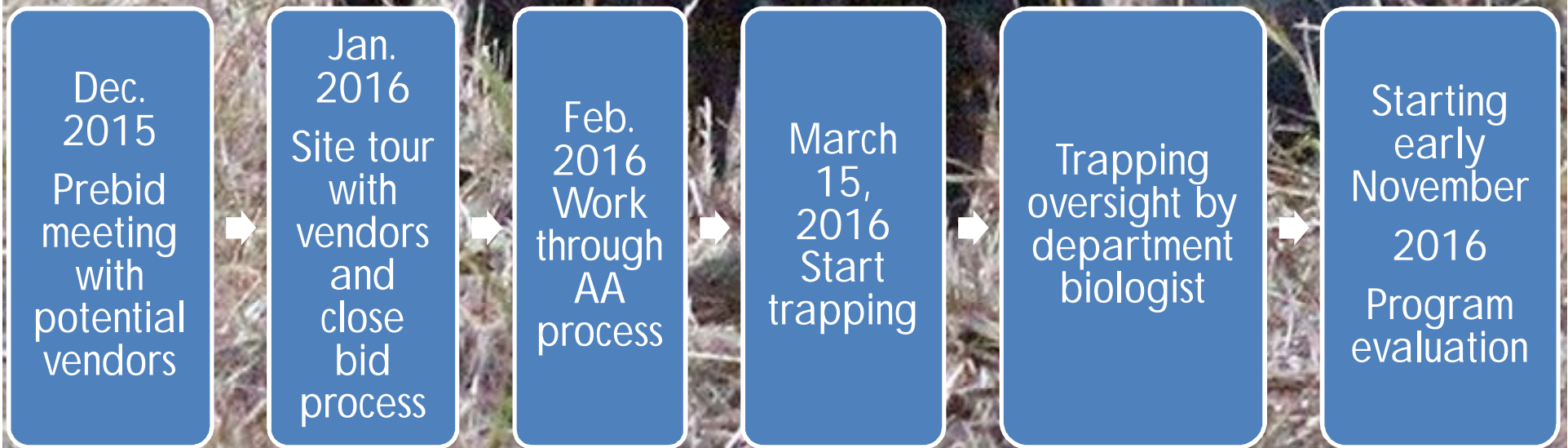
Compliance and Oversight

- Pre-bid tour with stated expectations
- Biologist receives photos when baiting is active
- Biologist receives photos when trap becomes active
- Biologist receives photos of ALL pigs captured
- City provided with receipts of all pigs delivered to holding and/or processing facility
- Random spot checks of trapping locations by biologist



Photo—Ben Sandifer

2016 Timeline




Anticipated Results

- Reduced turf and trail shoulder damage
- Reduced citizen complaints
- Reduced standing water puddles



Next Steps

- Monitor for continued or newly impacted park properties
- Expand trapping to other impacted properties
- Meet with interested stakeholders
- Develop city-wide feral hog abatement plan
 - Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) also initiating a trapping program



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