



## Committee of the Whole Report

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**Report Number:** ED2022-039  
**Meeting Date:** June 7, 2022  
**Title:** Feral Pigs Action Plan  
**Description:** An Action Plan to Reduce Threats of Wild Pig Population Establishment  
**Author and Title:** Kelly Maloney, Economic Development Officer - Agriculture

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### Recommendations:

**That** Report ED2022-039, **Feral Pigs Action Plan**, be received;

**That** the Kawartha Lakes Action Plan to Reduce Threats of Wild Pig Population Establishment be adopted;

**That** a Level 1 Response be undertaken by staff; and

**That** this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

At the Council Meeting of January 11, 2022 Council adopted the following resolution:

### **CW2022-018**

That Report ED2022-004, Feral Pigs in Kawartha Lakes, be received;

That Staff initiate public education on the environmental damage and risks of allowing an invasive feral pig population to be established in Kawartha Lakes and the need for public reporting of all sightings;

That sightings of feral pigs reported in the provincial database from within Kawartha Lakes be actively monitored by Staff; and

That Staff develop and report back to Council, in Q2 2022, a recommended program to deal with feral pigs in Kawartha Lakes.

This report addresses that direction.

## **Rationale:**

As the threat of the establishment of a wild pig population in Ontario has grown over recent years, and wild pig sightings in the region have been reported, Kawartha Lakes agricultural lands and natural environment are under threat of devastation.

A Kawartha Lakes Action Plan to Reduce Threats of Wild Pig Population Establishment in relation to Ontario's Strategy to Address the Threat of Invasive Wild Pigs has been drafted and can be found included in this document as Appendix A.

The Action Plan is based on response levels. Should Council approve the adoption of this Action Plan, the Level 1 Response will be undertaken by the Economic Development Officer – Agriculture with support by the Communications, Advertising and Marketing Division where necessary.

Note that a move from Level 1 to Level 2 Response may be determined by staff, as appropriate, based upon escalating wild pig sightings reported in the Ontario database, whereas a decision to move from Level 2 to Level 3 Response must be made by Council.

Action Plan Response Levels are a representation of identified relevant actions at the municipal level in response and in support of Ontario's Strategy and the protection of local sectors, citizens and property.

- **Level 1 Response** - Passive information sharing, and public awareness through:
  - Creation of a Wild Pig page on the municipal website;
  - Sharing of social media posts; and
  - Distributing awareness flyers at public and producer events.
- **Level 2 Response** – Active information sharing, producer education and public awareness through:
  - Enhanced Level 1 Response and additional distribution channels; and
  - Hosting information meetings, webinars and/or workshops as part of the established agriculture economic development program.
- **Level 3 Response** – Active participation in protection of agricultural lands and the natural environment through:
  - Level 2 Response activities;
  - Consider appointment of staff as Wildlife Agents; and
  - Consider the purchase of removal equipment for whole-sounder removal, appointment of staff as Wildlife Agents.

### **Other Alternatives Considered:**

As the jurisdiction for wildlife management in Ontario rests with the provincial government, Council may choose to do nothing. This option is not recommended. As noted this issue poses a significant threat to the natural environment and agricultural sector, as well as potential personal risk to the citizens of Kawartha Lakes. As such, the noted need for a collaborative approach to public education, reporting of sightings and coordinated action across jurisdictions is prudent to prevent the establishment of reproducing wild pig populations within Kawartha Lakes.

### **Alignment to Strategic Priorities**

This report relates to the strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan of a Healthy Environment and a Vibrant and Growing Economy.

## **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

This report has no financial impact. If adopted by Council, the Action Plan would be initiated at Level 1 Response, where passive public awareness and monitoring by staff add no financial impact. Any future recommendation to move to a Level 3 Response would come to Council through a staff report, along with any predicted financial impacts, for approval by Council at that time.

## **Consultations:**

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee  
Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement and Licensing  
Manager of Communications, Advertising and Marketing

## **Attachments:**

Appendix A – Kawartha Lakes Action Plan to Reduce Threats of Wild Pig Population Establishment



Appendix A to  
ED2022-039

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