

Greetings,

This is the monthly report for the BCA hog management program for May 2017. Jesse Paul took 50 hogs in May. This brings the calendar year total to 310. This month 24 hogs were taken with dogs vs. 25 in traps, and 1 shot, as noted.

Property breakdown is as follows:

1st Place: - 12 in a trap and 3 with dogs
2nd Place: - 7 in a trap
3rd Place: - 6 with dogs
4th Place: - 5 with dogs
5th, 6th, 7th (TIE): - 4 each with dogs, and Nunnelly - 4 in a trap
8th Place: - 3 with dogs
9th and 10th: - 1 in a trap, and - 1 shot

The remainder of the properties had no hogs this month.

May was the last month of trapping for brown-headed cowbirds for the 2017 nesting season. Jesse Paul caught 178 males and 122 female cowbirds in May, for a monthly total of 300. This brings the seasonal total to 509 males and 436 females, or 945 total birds caught. This is less than half the number of birds as last year, but there seemed to be fewer birds around. The cowbird trapper at Fort Hood related to me that there were fewer cowbirds this year at that location as well.

I will be reporting the results of the cowbird trapping effort to USFWS later in the year, as required by federal regulation. The report is very general, listing the number of birds taken from Bandera County, and no specific mention of property name is included.

Summer heat is upon us, and upland soils are drying out rapidly. Hogs are going to be concentrated in the creek bottoms, so check your water sources frequently for new evidence of damage. Call JP promptly so he can react appropriately.

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