

Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*)

Aim: To prevent the establishment of wild boar in the wild in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Priority: This ISAP is given **HIGH** priority by the Invasive Species Ireland Steering Group.

Implementation timescale: Immediate.

Review timescale: Subject to continual modification. See www.invasivespeciesireland.com for the latest version. The next planned review is November 2013.



Objectives:

1. Protect animal health, biodiversity and human health and safety by preventing further releases and/or escapes of wild boar into the wild.
2. Control legal importations and prevent illegal importation.
3. Ensure information on the keeping of wild boar in a manner that will prevent its escape is readily available and adhered to by those farming or keeping wild boar.
4. Ensure that those keeping wild boar are aware of and act on the need for timely reporting of escapes.
5. Ensure rapid response to any incursion of wild boar in Ireland and Northern Ireland.
6. Ensure effective lines of communication and information sharing between the departments of agriculture and nature conservation organisations in Northern Ireland and Ireland.

Aim	Number	Action	Coordinating body	Support	Status
Confirm	1	Ascertain location of currently legally kept captive wild boar.	NIEA DARD DAFM	-	Not started
	1A	Review relevant databases to ensure that all holdings of wild boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) and hybrids can easily be distinguished from the domestic pig (also <i>Sus scrofa</i>).	NIEA DARD DAFM	-	Not started
	1B	Establish and maintain a database of wild boar holdings.	DARD NIEA DAFM	-	NIEA already maintain a database. DARD and DAFM to review their respective databases.
Prevent introduction to the wild in Ireland and Northern Ireland	2	Detect attempted illegal importations.	DARD DAFM	-	Ongoing
	3	Conduct a short internal review of legislation governing the keeping of wild boar in Ireland and Northern Ireland to ensure that the regulations place adequate controls, which are adhered to, to prevent escape and trace all animals.	DAFM DARD	-	Not started
	4	Develop guidance on the minimum standards for fencing that must be complied with if seeking to keep wild boar.	DARD DAFM NIEA	ISI NPWS	Not started
	5	Continue to develop reporting and information sharing mechanisms for wild boar escapes.	DARD DAFM NIEA	NBDC CEDaR NPWS ISI	Ongoing

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Invasive Species Action Plan

Aim	Number	Action	Coordinating body	Support	Status
Prevent introduction to the wild in Ireland and Northern Ireland continued	5	Undertake a detailed risk assessment	ISI	DARD DAFM NPWS NIEA	Detailed risk assessment process in development.
	6	Continue to raise awareness of nature conservation legislation governing the release of non-native species in Ireland and Northern Ireland.	NPWS NIEA ISI	DAFM DARD	Ongoing
Surveillance and early detection	7	Ensure condition of licenses regulating the keeping of wild boar and hybrids require the keeper to report all escapes in a timely manner.	NIEA DARD DAFM	-	Not started
	8	Include wild boar in epizootic disease eradication strategic planning.	DARD DAFM	-	Ongoing
	9	Maintain and promote the Alien Watch reporting function on www.invasivespeciesireland.com .	ISI NBDC	NIEA NPWS	Ongoing
	10	Make available guidance on how to identify this species and its tracks and signs.	ISI	DARD DAFM NIEA NPWS	Not started
	11	Maintain an online database of all records of wild boar in the wild in Ireland.	NBDC CEDaR	ISI NPWS NIEA DAFM DARD	Ongoing
Rapid response	13	Develop and implement a local response plan should wild boar be confirmed in the wild. This plan should ensure that eradication of the population is the goal.	Landowner	NPWS NIEA DARD DAFM Other relevant stakeholder groups to be identified when drafting local response plan.	Not required at this time
	13A	If large population is found, conduct a cost benefit analysis of undertaking rapid response to inform management.	TBC	TBC	Not required at this time
Review	14	Review and update the Policy Position Statement and Invasive Species Action Plan as circumstances change.	ISI (or other appropriate body)	NPWS NIEA DAFM DARD	Not required at this time

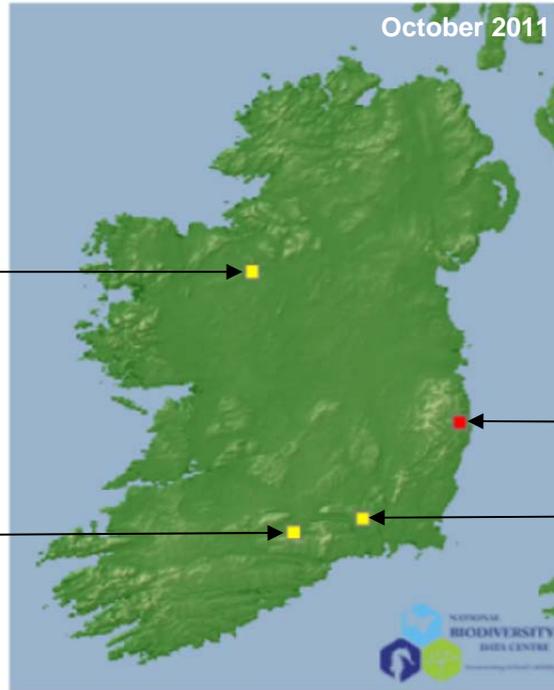
Measurable outcomes

- Timely reporting of escapes of wild boar.
- No further releases of wild boar in the wild in Ireland or Northern Ireland.
- Establishment of maintained database(s) of wild boar holdings in Ireland and Northern Ireland.
- Increased awareness of nature conservation legislation governing the release of non-native species in the wild in Northern Ireland and Ireland.
- Publication of guidelines on the keeping of wild boar Ireland and Northern Ireland.

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Status of verified wild boar sightings

October 2011



Details: 4 animals recorded.
Status: 1 animal found dead on nearby road soon after sighting.

Details: Two separate sightings totaling 1 mature sow, 3 juvenile females, 1 juvenile male and 9 piglets.
Status: Removed from site and destroyed.

Details: 1 male boar weighing 180 kg.
Status: Culled.

Details: 3 sows and one juvenile male.
Status: Removed from the site to be destroyed.

Risk Register

Associated Aim	Risk	Location	Mitigation
Prevent introduction to the wild in Ireland and Northern Ireland	Further releases into the wild.	Northern Ireland	Promote compliance with Article 15 of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order (as amended).
		Ireland	Promote compliance with Section 49 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011.
Surveillance / early detection / rapid response	Slow reporting of wild boar in the wild.	Ireland and Northern Ireland	Promote Alien Watch, this ISAP and associated Policy Position Statement.
Rapid response	Cost of eradicating this species from the wild outstrips available budgets.	Ireland and Northern Ireland	Relevant state bodies work in partnership to identify cost effective solutions and funding options to allow complete eradication.
	Refused access to land to enable control.	Ireland and Northern Ireland	Work closely with landowners to gain compliance. Consider access through legislative means if required.
	Interest groups or the general public do not support undertaking control programme.	Ireland and Northern Ireland	Continue to provide information on the threats this species poses to animal health and biodiversity should it be allowed to persist in the environment.