### INVASIVE EXOTICS



Feral Hog

# Feral Hog (Sus scrofa)

#### Instant ID

- A large mammal with coarse, bristly hair covering a stout body with short legs, elongated snout and short tail
- May have tusks protruding from lips
- Comes in a variety of colors, normally dark browns to blacks

#### **Hijacked Habitats**

- Descended from domestic pigs and European wild boar
- Originally brought over by Spanish explorers in 1539
- Invades all Florida habitats, but commonly found in woodlands

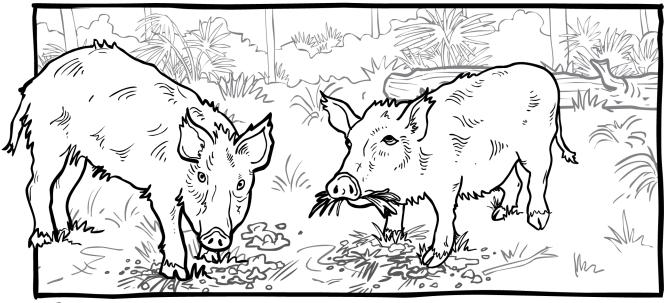
#### **Favorite Foods**

Generalists, will eat roots, tubers grasses, nuts, small animals and carrion





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#### **Critter Characteristics**

- A feral animal (domestic animal reverted to a wild state)
- A single female can have as many as 24 piglets in a single year
- Rapidly expanding to locations where previously not seen
- Finds food by rooting (digging in the ground with its snout)

#### **Population Prevention**

- Carry diseases transmittable to people and to domestic and wild animals
- Rooting damages soil and leads to erosion and habitat change
- High birth rate and adaptability to many habitats causes rapid range expansion
- · Eats native plants and animals, and outcompetes native animals



