



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



RODNEY A. STOKES
DIRECTOR

March 8, 2012

Mr. Jason Foscolo, General Counsel
American Mangalitsa Breeders Association
315 Mattison Reservoir Avenue
Branchville, New Jersey 07826

Dear Mr. Foscolo:

Thank you for your letter dated February 23, 2012, regarding Invasive Species Order Amendment No. 1 of 2011 (Invasive Species Order). The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) understands your concern regarding purebred, heritage breed Mangalitsa swine and the application of the Invasive Species Order. The Invasive Species Order and subsequent Declaratory Ruling were not intended to affect purebred Mangalitsa swine. It is the DNR's understanding that purebred Mangalitsa swine do not exhibit characteristics listed in the Declaratory Ruling, other than potentially striped piglets. The Invasive Species Order would not prohibit purebred Mangalitsa swine based solely on this characteristic.

Contrary to the contention in your letter, the Invasive Species Order is not aimed solely at "feral" swine. The Invasive Species Order prohibits possession of:

Wild boar, wild hog, wild swine, feral pig, feral hog, feral swine, Old world swine, razorback, Eurasian wild boar, Russian wild boar (*Sus scrofa Linnaeus*)

Additionally, the Invasive Species Order prohibits possession of any hybrid or genetic variant of the prohibited swine.

In response to a request from the Michigan Animal Farmer's Association, the DNR issued the December 13, 2011 Declaratory Ruling that describes how animals subject to the Invasive Species Order will be identified. The Declaratory Ruling outlines phenotypic characteristics of *Sus scrofa* swine, most notably referred to as Russian boars or Eurasian wild boars. The phenotypic characteristics listed in the Declaratory Ruling will be used by the DNR to identify swine prohibited by the Invasive Species Order.

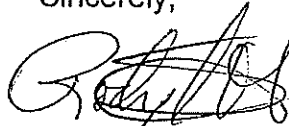
Your letter further states that Mangalitsa breeders were not part of the public notice process for the Invasive Species Order. I respectfully disagree. The DNR and its predecessor agency, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, provided multiple public notices of the Invasive Species Order, both at public meetings of the Natural Resources Commission and in news releases. The DNR has reached out to

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individuals that it knew may be affected by the Invasive Species Order, but DNR had no way of specifically identifying Mangalitsa breeders. However, general public notice, consistent with DNR policies, was given for all of the public meetings held by the DNR on the Invasive Species Order, Declaratory Ruling, and enforcement of the Invasive Species Order.

To date, all of the Mangalitsa breeders the DNR has spoken with do not have swine subject to the Invasive Species Order. If any of your members have questions as to whether the swine they possess are subject to the Invasive Species Order, DNR staff welcomes the opportunity to visit their facilities and make that determination in advance of April 1, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney A. Stokes", written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Rodney A. Stokes
Director
517-373-2329