

resident people. Capture of these swine would require two or three well-trained teams, each team consisting of two natives and two dogs. This system is the one essentially employed today for capturing wild hogs. From the practical standpoint, however, and in the interest of keeping disturbance of the indigenous wildlife at a minimum, the following recommendation holds higher priority than the above method. The full time employment of two men trained as professional hunters. Each hunter, with the use of a silencer rifle and without the use of dogs, will systematically hunt and, with the objective of total extirpation, shoot swine on the island. Each hunter also will supervise two natives in dressing out those animals which are killed near roads and which can be transported to needy families on the island or disposed of at sea. It is not anticipated that the extermination of the swine will greatly influence the normal plant succession or interrelationships of plants and animals as would, for example, the removal of the mongoose from the island. Careful appraisal of the effects of the reduced number of swine, however, should be continually maintained.

Horses, burros, and cattle: Horses, burros, and cattle are causing irreparable damage in many areas of the Virgin Islands National Park. The greatest damage in bottomlands, at fresh water holes and around areas of habitation, is where the ground has been made bare by overgrazing and trampling and the leaves of the trees have been grazed as high as the animals can reach. A notable example of the effects of trampling is at Annaberg Estate House and Mill where the slopes are being eroded by trampling alone. The many Danish artifacts that have come to lie on these slopes are being destroyed beyond recognition--artifacts that could be useful in defining the culture of these people. Burros are girdling small trees (mainly Acacia) and at Annaberg Estate House and Mill, 42 such girdled trees were noted. Damage by cattle is mainly from overgrazing and trampling.