



STANISLAUS COUNTY FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, SUITE C, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95358



THURSDAY, July 23, 2015

Meeting Time: 4:00 P.M.

AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order & Introductions:

The Stanislaus County *Fish & Wildlife Committee (F&WC)* encourages public participation and welcomes the public's interest.

Members of the public may be heard on any item of the Fish and Wildlife Committee's agenda. A person addressing the Committee will be limited to five (5) minutes, unless the Chairperson of the Committee grants a longer period of time. The Committee will allow comments by members of the public on an agenda item only during consideration of the item.

Requests for Funds & Project Updates:

1. Approval of request for mileage reimbursement of 160 miles in the amount NTE \$92 for students of the Wood Duck program at California State University of Stanislaus, Department of Biological Sciences.
2. Approval of request for funds in the amount NTE \$8,500 to purchase fish to plant at Woodward and Modesto Reservoir, Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation.

Correspondence:

1. Notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Waterfowl regulations for the 2015-2016 season. *Fish and Game Commission, 5/5/2015.*
2. Notice of proposed regulatory action relative to the implementation of the Bobcat Protection Act. *Fish and Game Commission, 6/9/2015.*

Agenda Items:

1. Public Comment(s)
2. Approval of April 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes FW Members
3. Approval to issue a certificate of appreciation to Tim Galas, Fish and Game Warden, for 25 years of contributions to fish and wildlife in Stanislaus County.
4. Appoint Dave Doubledde and Cody Johnson as alternate members, and Bob Bashaw as a regular member.
5. Discuss residence and working districts, and assign representing districts.
6. Wildlife Management Report Cristen Langner, DFG
7. Fishery Report Steve Tsao, DFG
8. Wildlife Enforcement Report Phil McKay, DFG
9. Wood Duck Report Ed Ayers
10. Old Business
11. Committee Comments

Adjourn: Next meeting – Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. (Please notify the Department of Parks and Recreation at 525-6770 in advance if you will be attending this meeting and/or require special accommodation for the meeting.)

Agendas can also be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/er/parks/fish-wildlife-committee.shtm> subject to staff's ability to post prior to the meeting. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the main office of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA 95358.



STANISLAUS COUNTY FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE



PARKS AND RECREATION

Jami Aggers, Director

Merry Rorabaugh, Asst. Director

Ed Ayers, Chair

3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, SUITE C, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95358



MINUTES

APRIL 23, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M.

3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, 2ND FLOOR, CONFERENCE ROOM

(Agendas can be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/er/parks/fish-wildlife-committee.shtm>)

COUNTY FISH & WILDLIFE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Ayers
Red Bartley
Ken Meidl
Jim Atherstone
Ed Channing (ALT)
Jason Guignard
Robert Bashaw (ALT)

STATE FISH & WILDLIFE REPRESENTATIVE:

Phil McKay
Ryan Detrick

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:

Cathy Amaral Winchester

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Don Vanwey (ALT)
Anthony Maxell
Dave Doubledee
Cody Johnson

GUESTS PRESENT:

A. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Ed Ayers called the meeting to order and those in attendance introduced themselves.

B. REQUESTS FOR FUNDS/PROJECT UPDATES

1. None received.

REPORTER & ACTIONS

C. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee acknowledged the correspondences received, and suggested further action or comment be directed to the corresponding agency.

1. Notice relating to the prohibition on the use of lead projectiles and ammunition using lead projectiles for the take of wildlife, *State of California, Fish and Game Commission, 1/26/2015.*
2. Notice relating to Deer Tagging and Reporting Requirements, *State of California, Fish and Game Commission, 3/3/2015.*
3. Notice relating to Central Valley Salmon, *State of California, Fish and Game Commission, 3/31/2015.*

ACTIONS

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comment was received.

ACTIONS/REPORTER

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTIONS

Minutes for the January 22, 2015, meeting was approved upon motion and second with a minor correction to note under Section I – The Fish and Wildlife Committee has taken over 200 active boxes. The Committee plans to turn them over to California Waterfowl Association to take over the boxes.

*Atherstone, Bartley
unanimous approval*

F. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT REPORT

ACTIONS/REPORTER

We have been chasing calls/reports on the endangered red-winged tri-colored blackbird and educating land owners on the programs available to them where they can get financial reimbursement from NRCS for setting aside a certain portion of their land for a colony.

Phil McKay

G. FISHERY REPORT

ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. It was reported, due to the drought, that there are not many fish moving through the rivers and the rivers are running out of water.
2. The State Fish and Wildlife are getting rid of the fish in the hatcheries due to warm water and water conditions.
3. Stanislaus River – 5500 salmon
Tuolumne River - 600-700 salmon
Merced River – no report
4. The Wardens did give citations for snagging some sturgeon. They did relocate 15 sturgeons in San Joaquin County. There were no reports of snagging in LaGrange.

*Jason Guignard, Phil
McKay, Ryan Detrick*

H. WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

REPORTER

1. D6 tags will have a premium tag status this year.

During the first quarter of this year (January - March) 86 citations were issued within Stanislaus County which is a 35% reduction from the same period last year. This could be from the drought and animal numbers.
2. We have a new judge overseeing the cases and are getting good results from infractions.
3. In regards to the Rim Fire, they are still working up the results of the 4 year study as far as animal migration and results should be in soon.
4. During the last ten months of river clean-ups along the Tuolumne River, we heard that they removed 50 tons of trash. (1 – 1 ½ mile stretch)

*Ryan Detrick, Phil
McKay*

I. WOOD DUCK REPORT

ACTIONS & REPORTER

There is discussion about turning the wood ducks over to California Waterfowl Association and if it does happen it will be a slow process. There is no program or students from the University of Stanislaus at this time. They do not have any group available to go out and check it. There is one group near the Fruit Yard on Dry Creek that is still available.

*Ed Channing, Ed
Ayers*

J. OLD BUSINESS

ACTIONS & REPORTER

The scout group that wanted to do some guzzler work out at Del Puerto Canyon has not advised if they still are interested in this project.

Ed Ayers

K. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

ACTIONS & REPORTER

1. Kid's Fishing day is May 2, 2015
2. Ken Meidl to check with Don Vanwey to see if he is still interested in being an Alternate.

Ed Ayers, Ken Meidl

3. The Museum is now open to the public. Students have been in most days which is what it was designed for. There is a new manager. The floor is 90% done.
4. It was mentioned that if committee members are not able to make a meeting to please call and tell why you are not able to make it. Some members missed 4-5 meetings over the last year. There is also a conference phone set up for each meeting and details are listed on the meeting agenda.
5. A Certification of Appreciation was approved for Tim Galas for years of service.

*Bartley, Atherstone,
unanimous approval*

L. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Fish and Wildlife Committee will be held on:

*Bartley, Atherstone,
unanimous approval*

Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.
Conference Room, 2nd Floor
3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto

Prepared By: Cathy Winchester, Fish and Wildlife Secretary 209-525-6770

Agendas can also be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/er/parks/fish-wildlife-committee.shtm> subject to staff's ability to post prior to the meeting. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the main office of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA 95358.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

June 10, 2015

Stanislaus County Department of Parks and Recreation
C/O Mae Song
Fish and Wildlife Committee
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
Modesto, CA 95358



To Whom It May Concern:

This past Spring semester, the Biological Sciences Department at California State University, Stanislaus offered a course Field Study: Wood Duck (ZOOL 4650) in which our students monitored and reported on activity in wood duck boxes placed by the Fish and Wildlife Committee. The students gained valuable experience from this activity. They also incurred mileage costs. I am writing to respectfully request reimbursement money for their mileage costs from the Fish and Wildlife Fund. There was only one group and one driver this year. His request form is submitted with this letter.

The total mileage incurred this semester was 160 miles (8 trips x 20 miles round trip). If your reimbursement rate is \$0.56/mile, this request would be for a total of \$89.60.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Kohlhaas".

Ann Kohlhaas, Ph.D.
Department of Biological Sciences

Fund Request Application

Stanislaus County Fish and Wildlife



STANISLAUS COUNTY
FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, SUITE C, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95358

Applicant Name Ann Kohlhaas
Agency CSU Stanislaus
Mailing Address One University Circle
City, State, Zip Turlock, CA 95382
Phone 209-667-3695 E-mail _____

Requesting Fund Amount \$ 89.60 Funds needed by Reimbursement
Project Performance Period February - May 2015
Event Name (if applicable) CSU Student Wood Duck Program
Purpose Provide weekly monitoring of county-established wood duck nesting boxes.

Fish and Wildlife Code(s) Met (CFG Code Section 13100-13104) _____

Public Benefit 1) Conservation information on wood duck nesting success and other use of the nesting boxes. 2) Training for the students.

Detail Items to be Purchased (include cost per item, and/or attach quote(s). Additional sheets may be attached.)
N/A. Requesting mileage reimbursement for student participants.

Vendor to be purchased from N/A

Will you accept partial funding? ☒ YES ☐ NO

This application may be fax to (209) 525-6773 or mailed to:

Stanislaus County Fish & Wildlife Committee
c/o Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation
Attn: Parks Administration
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
Modesto, CA 95358

I have read and understand the Fund Request Procedures and agree to utilize the funds I am approved for to purchase items listed in this packet for said purposes and in accordance to California Fish and Wildlife Codes and Regulations. I understand I will follow-up with the Committee on the outcome of this fund request by attendance at a Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting within one year.

Signature: *A. K. Kohlhaas* Date: June 10, 2015

OFFICE USE ONLY:

APPROVED FOR \$ _____ DATE: _____

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS BLUE CLAIM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLAIMANT: BOARD RESOLUTION #91-1449 STATES THAT "THE AUDITOR SHOULD NOT PAY COUNTY FUNDS UNLESS THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE HAS A SIGNED AGREEMENT OR DOCUMENT AUTHORIZING SUCH ACTION AND A BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION OR RECORD SHOWING THE MATTER WAS APPROVED BY THE ENTIRE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. * DEPARTMENTS MUST CERTIFY/APPROVE ALL CLAIMS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING TO COUNTY AUDITOR FOR PAYMENT. ALL CLAIMS MUST BE ITEMIZED WITH DATE OF SERVICE RENDERED, QUANTITIES, UNIT PRICE AND DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES FURNISHED OR DELIVERED.

ORACLE ACCOUNT CODING STRIP (Shaded areas for Accounts Payable ONLY)

| | | |
|------------|-------------|----------------------|
| BATCH NAME | PREPARED BY | DEPARTMENT |
| AUDITED BY | DATE | PARKS AND RECREATION |
| DATE: | PHONE | |

DATE: 5/18/15 INVOICE#: _____
 TOTAL: \$ 89.60 TERMS: _____ PAY ALONE Y

| LINE | PO# | AMOUNT | FUND | ORG | ACCT. | G/L PROJ. | LOCATION | MISC | OTHER | DESCRIPTION |
|------|-----|----------|------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|------|-------|-----------------------|
| 1 | P/F | \$ 89.60 | 1727 | 35451 | | | CSU wood duck | | | mileage reimbursement |
| 2 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | P/F | | | | | | | | | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>I hereby certify this claim to be a correct and legal County charge; that I have reviewed the contract (which has been approved in accordance with the provisions of the Govt. Code, Stanislaus County Code, and IRS Revenue Ruling 87-41) concerning these services (if applicable) and that the services identified on this claim comply with the terms of the contract; that an appropriation for this expenditure was approved during the budget process or by a specific Board Resolution which is on file in my office. I also certify the funds needed to pay this are available in my department budget. Government Code Section #24054 establishes personal liability for illegal allowances of claims.</p> | <p>The undersigned approves this claim for any of the following reasons: 1) Department Head of authorized management representative must approve any transaction exceeding \$75,000. 2) Auditor's Office administrative staff must also approve any transaction exceeding \$75,000. 3) The Auditor Controller or his administrative staff must approve expense reimbursement claims for Dept. Heads. 4) The CEO or the Board of Supervisors must approve expense reimbursement claims for the Auditor Controller. 5) Any claim questioned by the Auditor Controller regarding legal property will be sent to the County Counsel's office for review and approval prior to being paid.</p> | <p>The undersigned, under penalty of perjury, states that the above claim and the items, amounts and statements as set out are true and correct. That no part has been previously paid; and that the amount claimed is justly due and is presented within one year since the last item accrued.</p> |
| AUTHORIZED DEPARTMENT SIGNATURE / DATE | AUTHORIZED DEPARTMENT SIGNATURE / DATE | CLAIMANT / DATE |
| | | <i>[Signature]</i> 05/18/15 |

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|------------|
| REPORTABLE: Y or N | BOX#: | SITE NAME: |
| | | |

TOTAL

Destination Code #

Lodging

-LUNCH

-DINNER

Other:

Parking

Registration

Telephone

Taxi

Destination Code #

Mileage – see chart

Lodaino

*Meal-BREAKFAST

-LUNCH

-DINNER

Other:

Parking

Reaistration

Telenphone

Tovi

10

1101

* Enter actual cost up to maximum allowed.

ATTACH A COPY OF THE TRAVEL REQUEST FORM.

[illegible]

Fund Request Application

Stanislaus County Fish and Wildlife



STANISLAUS COUNTY
FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, SUITE C, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95358

Applicant Name Stanislaus County
Agency Department of Parks and Recreation
Mailing Address 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
City, State, Zip Modesto, CA
Phone 209-525-6783 E-mail cgomez@parksrec.org

Requesting Fund Amount \$ 8,500.00 Funds needed by As Soon As Possible

Project Performance Period One year from the time I receive the funds.

Event Name (if applicable) NONE

Purpose Purchase fish for both Woodward and Modesto Reservoir.

The purchase would include Large Mouth Bass, Blue Gill,

Red Ear Sunfish, Crappie and Channel Cat Fish.

Fish and Wildlife Code(s) Met (CFG Code Section 13100-13104) 13103(d)

Public Benefit There are a total of 550,000 customers who would benefit from the

restocking of both reservoirs. Last time The County asked for funds was in 2013.

Detail Items to be Purchased (include cost per item, and/or attach quote(s). Additional sheets may be attached.)

Please see additional sheets

Vendor to be purchased from Golden State Bait, Inc

Will you accept partial funding? ☒ YES ☐ NO

This application may be fax to (209) 525-6773 or mailed to:

Stanislaus County Fish & Wildlife Committee
c/o Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation
Attn: Parks Administration
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
Modesto, CA 95358

I have read and understand the Fund Request Procedures and agree to utilize the funds I am approved for to purchase items listed in this packet for said purposes and in accordance to California Fish and Wildlife Codes and Regulations. I understand I will follow-up with the Committee on the outcome of this fund request by attendance at a Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting within one year.

Signature: Cathy A. Gomez Date: June 16, 2015

OFFICE USE ONLY:

APPROVED FOR \$ _____ DATE: _____

**Stanislaus County
Department of Parks and Recreation**

**PROPOSAL
RESTOCKING WOODWARD AND MODESTO RESERVOIR**

July 1, 2015

Brief Description: Woodward has approximately 375,000 visitors per year. Modesto Reservoir has approximately 175,000 per year. There are a total of 550,000 customers who would benefit from the restocking of both reservoirs.

Scope of Work: This proposal is requesting funding to restock the Woodward Reservoir and Modesto Reservoir with large mouth bass, blue gill, crappie and channel catfish.

WOODWARD RESERVOIR

| Type of Fish | Quantity | Approximate Cost | Total Cost |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| Large Mouth Bass | 200 lbs – Adult Black Bass is 1 lb plus | \$9.00 per pound (Last year's cost \$7.25lb) | \$1,800.00 |
| Blue Gill | 200 | \$ 2.50 a piece- 4" (last year cost - \$4.25 each (4" – 5")) | \$500.00 |
| Red Ear Sunfish | 200 | \$3.00 apiece 3 inch (Last year's cost - \$1.50 each (2")) | \$600.00 Not available in larger sizes |
| Crappie | 200 | Medium 3.5 to 4.5 – \$2.50 a piece | \$500.00 Put in around November/December |
| Channel Cat Fish | 200 lbs. | \$4.25 per pound (2.0 to 3 lbs.) (Same) | \$850.00 |
| Stocking Fee | | \$00.00 | No Delivery Fee Charge |
| | | TOTAL | \$4,250.00 |

MODESTO RESERVOIR

| Type of Fish | Quantity | Cost | Total Cost |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Large Mouth Bass | 200 lbs– Adult Black Bass | \$9.00 per pound (Last year's cost \$7.25lb) | \$1,800.00 |
| Blue Gill | 200 | \$ 2.50 a piece- 4" (last year cost - \$4.25 each (4" – 5")) | \$500.00 |
| Red Ear Sunfish | 200 | \$3.00 apiece 3 inch (Last year's cost - \$1.50 each (2")) | \$600.00 Not available in larger sizes |

| | | | |
|------------------|----------|--|--|
| Crappie | 200 | Medium 3.5 to 4.5 – \$2.50 a piece | \$500.00 Put in around November/December |
| Channel Cat Fish | 200 lbs. | \$4.25 per pound (2.0 to 3 lbs.) (Same) | \$850.00 |
| Stocking Fee | | \$00.00 | No Delivery Fee Charge |
| | | TOTAL | \$4,250.00 |

Total Cost for Modesto and Woodward Reservoirs

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Woodward | | \$4,250.00 |
| Modesto | | \$4,250.00 |
| | DELIVERY (For both areas) | \$0.00 |
| | TOTAL | \$8,500.00 |

Estimates from:

Golden State Bait Inc.

Brad Taylor or Stephanie 209-384-3474

No permit is required for restocking the reservoir.

My last ask was on the January 2013 Fish and Wildlife meeting for \$7,300.

Department of Fish and Wildlife plant trout every winter.

Our plant seasons are from Oct thru March – Woodward Reservoir & Modesto Reservoir
They plant approximately 5,000 pounds of fish total at each reservoir.

Commissioners
Jack Baylis, President
Los Angeles
Jim Kellogg, Vice President
Discovery Bay
Richard Rogers, Member
Santa Barbara
Michael Sutton, Member
Monterey
Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
McKinleyville

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-4899

Fish and Game Commission



Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870

www.fgc.ca.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2015 APR 28 A 10:24

April 24, 2015

This is to provide you with a copy of the notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Amending Section 502 Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to Waterfowl Regulations for the 2015-2016 season, which are published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on April 24, 2015.

Please note the dates of the public hearings related to this matter and associated deadlines for receipt of written comments.

Additional information and all associated documents may be found on the Fish and Game Commission website at www.fgc.ca.gov.

Ms. Melanie Weaver, Wildlife Branch, phone (916) 445-3717, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,


Jon D. Snellstrom
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Attachment

TITLE 14. Fish and Game Commission Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 200 and 355 of the Fish and Game Code and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 200, 355, and 356 of said Code, proposes to amend Section 502, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to Waterfowl regulations.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Current regulations in Section 502, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), provide definitions, hunting zone descriptions, season opening and closing dates, and establish daily bag and possession limits for waterfowl. Item 1 provides notice that other framework regulations regarding duck season lengths and bag limits may change in 2015 when current biological information becomes available. Item 2 requires Flyway Council and Service approval to establish the season length for brant, pursuant to the process described below.

The Service will consider recommendations from the Flyway Council at their meeting in late July 2015. At this time, the California Waterfowl Breeding Population Survey has not been conducted and the Service has not established federal regulation "frameworks" which will occur in August after the analysis of current waterfowl population survey, other data, input from the Flyway Councils and the public.

The Department's proposals are as follows:

1. Provide a range of waterfowl hunting season lengths (which may be split into two segments) between 38 and 107 days (including 2 youth waterfowl hunt days) for all hunting methods. A range of daily bag limits is also given for ducks in all zones. In addition, an increase in the bag limit for geese in the Colorado River Zone is proposed to match waterfowl regulations in neighboring Arizona. Federal regulations require that California's hunting regulations conform to those of Arizona in the Colorado River Zone and with Oregon in the North Coast Special Management Area. See the table below for season and bag limit ranges.
2. Provide a range of brant season lengths in the Northern Brant and Balance of State Brant special management areas to allow for a possible increase in season length.

Minor editorial changes are also proposed to clarify and simplify the regulations and to comply with existing federal frameworks.

Benefits of the regulations

The benefits of the proposed regulations are concurrence with federal law and the sustainable management of the State's waterfowl resources. Positive impacts to jobs

and/or businesses that provide services to waterfowl hunters will be realized with the continued adoption of waterfowl hunting seasons in 2015-16.

Non-monetary benefits to the public

The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to the protection of public health and safety, worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.

Evaluation of incompatibility with existing regulations

The Commission has reviewed its regulations in Title 14, CCR, and conducted a search of other regulations on this topic and has concluded that the proposed amendments to Section 502 are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations. No other State agency has the authority to promulgate waterfowl hunting regulations.

| Summary of Proposed Waterfowl Hunting Regulations | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| AREA | SPECIES | SEASONS | DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS |
| Statewide | Coots & Moorhens | Concurrent w/duck season | 25/day. 75 in possession |
| Northeastern Zone <i>Season may be split for Ducks, Pintail, Canvasback, Scaup, and Dark and White Geese</i> | Ducks | Between 38 & 105 days | 4-7/day, which may include: 3-7 mallards no more than 1-2 females, 0-3 pintail, 0-3 canvasback, 0-3 redheads, 0-7 scaup. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| | Pintail Canvasback Scaup | Between 38 & 105 days | |
| | Geese | 105 days | 25/day, which may include: 15 white geese, 10 dark geese no more than 2 Large Canada geese. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone <i>Season may be split for Ducks, Pintail, Canvasback and Scaup.</i> | Ducks | Between 38 & 105 days | 4-7/day, which may include: 3-7 mallards no more than 1-2 females, 0-3 pintail, 0-3 canvasback, 0-3 redheads, 0-7 scaup. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| | Pintail Canvasback Scaup | Between 0 & 105 days | |
| | Geese | 100 days | 25/ day, which may include: 15 white geese, 10 dark geese. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Southern California Zone <i>Season may be split for Ducks, Pintail, Canvasback and Scaup.</i> | Ducks | Between 38 & 100 days | 4-7/day, which may include: 3-7 mallards no more than 1-2 hen mallards, 0-3 pintail, 0-3 canvasback, 0-3 redheads, 0-7 scaup. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| | Pintail Canvasback Scaup | Between 0 & 100 days | |
| | Geese | 100 days | 18/day, which may include: 15 white geese, 3 dark geese. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Colorado River Zone <i>Season may be split for Ducks, Pintail, Canvasback and Scaup.</i> | Ducks | Between 38 & 101 days | 4-7/day, which may include: 3-7 mallards no more than 1-2 females or Mexican-like ducks, 0-3 pintail, 0-3 canvasback, 0-3 redheads, 0-7 scaup. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| | Pintail Canvasback Scaup | Between 0 & 101 days | |
| | Geese | 101 days | 14/day, up to 10 white geese, up to 4 dark geese. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Balance of State Zone <i>Season may be split for Ducks, Pintail, Canvasback, Scaup</i> | Ducks | Between 38 & 100 days | 4-7/day, which may include: 3-7 mallards no more than 1-2 females, 0-3 pintail, 0-3 canvasback, 0-3 redheads, 0-7 scaup. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| | Pintail Canvasback Scaup | Between 0 & 100 days | |

| Summary of Proposed Waterfowl Hunting Regulations | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|--|
| AREA | SPECIES | SEASONS | DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS |
| and Dark and White Geese. | Geese | Early Season: 5 days (CAGO only) Regular Season: 100 days Late Season: 5 days (Whitefronts and white geese) | 25/day, which may include: 15 white geese, 10 dark geese. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| North Coast Season may be split | All Canada Geese | 105 days except for Large Canada geese which cannot exceed 100 days or extend beyond the last Sunday in January. | 10/day, only 1 may be a Large Canada goose. Possession limit triple the daily bag. Large Canada geese are closed during the Late Season. |
| Humboldt Bay South Spit (West Side) | All species | Closed during brant season | |
| Sacramento Valley | White-fronted geese | Open concurrently with general goose season through Dec 21 | 3/day. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Morro Bay | All species | Open in designated areas only | Waterfowl season opens concurrently with brant season. |
| Martis Creek Lake | All species | Closed until Nov 16 | |
| Northern Brant | Black Brant | Between 30 and 45 days | 2/day. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Balance of State Brant | Black Brant | Between 30 and 45 days | 2/day. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| Imperial County Season may be split | White Geese | 102 days | 15/day. Possession limit triple the daily bag. |
| YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS | SPECIES | SEASON | DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS |
| Northeastern Zone | Same as regular season | The Saturday fourteen days before the opening of waterfowl season extending for 2 days. | Same as regular season |
| Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone | | The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days. | |
| Southern California Zone | | The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days. | |
| Colorado River Zone | | The Saturday following the closing for waterfowl season extending for 2 days. | |
| Balance of State Zone | | The Saturday following the closing of waterfowl season extending for 2 days. | |
| FALCONRY OF DUCKS | SPECIES | SEASON | DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMITS |
| Northeastern Zone | Same as regular season | Between 38 and 105 days | 3/ day, possession limit 9 |
| Balance of State Zone | | Between 38 and 107 days | |
| Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone | | Between 38 and 107 days | |
| Southern California Zone | | Between 38 and 107 days | |
| Colorado River Zone | Ducks only | Between 38 and 107 days | |

Benefits of the Proposed Regulations

Adoption of sustainable waterfowl hunting seasons, bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of upland game to ensure their continued existence.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. Hunting provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California's environment by the future stewards of the State's resources. The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment by the sustainable management of California's waterfowl resources. The Commission does not anticipate any impacts to worker safety because the proposed amendments will not affect working conditions.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the Mountainside Conference Center, in Mammoth Lakes, California, on Thursday, June 11, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the River Lodge Conference Center, in Fortuna California, on Thursday, August 5, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. It is requested, but not required, that written comments be submitted on or before July 23, 2015, at the address given below, or by e-mail to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Written comments mailed or e-mailed to the Commission office, must be received before 12:00 noon on July 31, 2015. All comments must be received no later than August 5, 2015, at the hearing in Fortuna, California. If you would like copies of any modifications to this proposal, please include your name and mailing address.

The regulations as proposed in strikeout-underline format, as well as an initial statement of reasons, including environmental considerations and all information upon which the proposal is based (rulemaking file), are on file and available for public review from the agency representative, Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, phone (916) 653-4899. Please direct requests for the above mentioned documents and inquiries concerning the regulatory process to Sonke Mastrup or Jon Snellstrom at the preceding address or phone number. **Melanie Weaver, Department of Fish and Wildlife, phone 916-445-3717, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.** Copies of the Initial Statement of Reasons, including the regulatory language, may be obtained from the address above. Notice of the proposed action shall be posted on the Fish and Game Commission website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov>.

Availability of Modified Text

If the regulations adopted by the Commission differ from but are sufficiently related to the action proposed, they will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption. Circumstances beyond the control of the Commission (e.g., timing of Federal regulation adoption, timing of resource data collection, timelines do not allow, etc.) or changes made to be responsive to public recommendation and comments during the regulatory process may preclude full compliance with the 15-day comment period and the Commission will exercise its powers under Section 202 of the Fish and Game Code. Regulations adopted pursuant to this section are not subject to the time periods for adoption, amendment or repeal of regulations prescribed in Sections 11343.4, 11346.4 and 11346.8 of the Government Code. Any person interested may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency representative named herein.

If the regulatory proposal is adopted, the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the address above when it has been received from the agency program staff.

Impact of Regulatory Action/Results of the Economic Impact Analysis

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The proposed regulations are intended to provide additional recreational opportunity to the public. The response is expected to be minor in nature.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The Commission does not anticipate any impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new business, the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California. The proposed waterfowl regulations will set the 2015-16 waterfowl hunting season dates and bag limits within the federal frameworks. Positive impacts to jobs and/or businesses that provide services to waterfowl hunters will be realized with the proposed regulations for the waterfowl hunting season in 2015-16. This is based on a 2011 US Fish and

Wildlife national survey of fishing, hunting, and wildlife associated recreation for California. The report estimated that migratory bird hunters contributed about \$169,115,000 to businesses in California during the 2011 migratory bird hunting season. The impacted businesses are generally small businesses employing few individuals and, like all small businesses, are subject to failure for a variety of causes. Additionally, the long-term intent of the proposed regulations is to sustainably manage waterfowl populations, and consequently, the long-term viability of these same small businesses.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. Hunting provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California's environment by the future stewards of the State's resources. The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment by the sustainable management of California's waterfowl resources. The Commission does not anticipate any impacts to worker safety because the proposed amendments will not affect working conditions.

(c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

None.

(e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies:

None.

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts:

None.

(g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code:

None.

(h) Effect on Housing Costs:

None.

Effect on Small Business

It has been determined that the adoption of these regulations may affect small business. The Commission has drafted the regulations in Plain English pursuant to Government Code Sections 11342.580 and 11346.2(a)(1).

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Commission, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Dated:

Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director

Commissioners
Michael Sutton, President
Monterey
Jack Baylis, Vice President
Los Angeles
Jim Kellogg, Member
Discovery Bay
Richard Rogers, Member
Santa Barbara
Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
McKinleyville

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Fish and Game Commission



Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-4899
(916) 653-5040 Fax
www.fgc.ca.gov

April 22, 2015

TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES:

This is to provide you with a copy of the notice of proposed regulatory action relative to amending Sections 300 and 310.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to the prohibition on the use of lead projectiles and ammunition using lead projectiles for the take of wildlife with firearms, which will be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on April 24, 2015.

Please note the dates of the public hearings related to this matter and associated deadlines for receipt of written comments. Additional information and all associated documents may be found on the Fish and Game Commission website at www.fgc.ca.gov.

Scott Gardner, Department of Fish and Wildlife, phone 916-445-5545, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Caren Woodson
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Attachment

TITLE 14. Fish and Game Commission Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 200, 202, 203, and 355 of the Fish and Game Code and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 2015, 220, 355, and 356 of said Code, proposes to amend Sections 300 and 310.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to Upland Game Birds.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Current regulations in Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), provide general hunting seasons for taking resident and migratory upland game birds under Section 300. Current regulations in Title 14, CCR, under Section 310.5 establishes shooting times for all upland game birds. The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is recommending two regulation changes under these sections as follows:

1. Adjust annual number of sage grouse hunting permits by zone.

Current regulations under subsection 300(a)(1)(D)4. provide a number of permits for the general sage grouse season in each of four zones. At this time the Department has proposed a range of permits specific for all four hunt zones. The final permit numbers will be proposed in June after spring lek counts are completed and annual population data are analyzed. Permit ranges for sage grouse hunting in 2015 are recommended as follows:

- a. East Lassen: [0-50] (two-bird) permits
- b. Central Lassen: [0-50] (two-bird) permits
- c. North Mono: [0-100] (one-bird) permits
- d. South Mono: [0-100] (one-bird) permits

2. Increase shooting time provided for spring turkey hunters under Section 310.5 by one hour; shooting time would end at 5:00 pm instead of at 4:00 pm as provided under current regulation.

Benefits of the Proposed Regulations

Adoption of sustainable upland game seasons, bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations of upland game to ensure their continued existence.

The Fish and Game Commission, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Sections 200, 202, and 203, has the sole authority to regulate upland game bird hunting in California. Commission staff has searched the California Code of Regulations and has found the proposed changes pertaining to hunting of resident game birds are consistent with Sections 550-553, 630, 703 and 4501 of Title 14. Therefore the Commission has

determined that the proposed amendments are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations. No other State agency has the authority to adopt upland game bird hunting regulations in California.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the Mountainside Conference Center, in Mammoth Lakes, California, on Thursday, June 11, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the River Lodge Conference Center, in Fortuna California, on Thursday, August 5, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. It is requested, but not required, that written comments be submitted on or before July 23, 2015, at the address given below, or by e-mail to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Written comments mailed or e-mailed to the Commission office, must be received before 12:00 noon on July 31, 2015. All comments must be received no later than August 5, 2015, at the hearing in Fortuna, California. If you would like copies of any modifications to this proposal, please include your name and mailing address.

The regulations as proposed in strikeout-underline format, as well as an initial statement of reasons, including environmental considerations and all information upon which the proposal is based (rulemaking file), are on file and available for public review from the agency representative, Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, phone (916) 653-4899. Please direct requests for the above mentioned documents and inquiries concerning the regulatory process to Sonke Mastrup or Caren Woodson at the preceding address or phone number. **Scott Gardner, Department of Fish and Wildlife, phone 916-445-5545, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.** Copies of the Initial Statement of Reasons, including the regulatory language, may be obtained from the address above. Notice of the proposed action shall be posted on the Fish and Game Commission website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov>.

Availability of Modified Text

If the regulations adopted by the Commission differ from but are sufficiently related to the action proposed, they will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption. Circumstances beyond the control of the Commission (e.g., timing of Federal regulation adoption, timing of resource data collection, timelines do not allow, etc.) or changes made to be responsive to public recommendation and comments during the regulatory process may preclude full compliance with the 15-day comment period, and the Commission will exercise its powers under Section 202 of the Fish and Game Code. Regulations adopted pursuant to this section are not subject to the time periods for adoption, amendment or repeal of regulations prescribed in Sections

11343.4, 11346.4 and 11346.8 of the Government Code. Any person interested may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency representative named herein.

If the regulatory proposal is adopted, the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the address above when it has been received from the agency program staff.

Impact of Regulatory Action/Results of the Economic Impact Analysis

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states, because the regulations propose only minor changes to bag limits and shooting hours.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The Commission does not anticipate any impacts the proposed action would have on the creation or elimination of jobs or businesses in California or on the expansion of businesses in California because the regulations propose only minor changes to bag limits and shooting hours. The Commission does not anticipate benefits to worker safety because the regulations do not address working conditions.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. The proposed regulations are intended to provide continued recreational opportunity to the public. Hunting provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California's environment by the future stewards of the State's resources.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the environment by the sustainable management of California's upland game resources. The fees that hunters pay for licenses and stamps are used for conservation.

- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.
- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.
- (f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

Effect on Small Business

It has been determined that the adoption of these regulations may affect small business. The Commission has drafted the regulations in Plain English pursuant to Government Code Sections 11342.580 and 11346.2(a)(1).

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Commission, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Dated:

Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director

Commissioners
Michael Sutton, President
Monterey
Jack Baylis, Vice President
Los Angeles
Jim Kellogg, Member
Discovery Bay
Richard Rogers, Member
Santa Barbara
Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
McKinleyville

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Fish and Game Commission



Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-4899
(916) 653-5040 Fax
www.fgc.ca.gov

May 27, 2015

TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES:

This is to provide you with a copy of the notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Amending Sections 478, 479, and 702, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to the implementation of the Bobcat Protection Act, which will be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on May 29, 2015.

Please note the dates of the public hearings related to this matter and associated deadlines for receipt of written comments. Additional information and all associated documents may be found on the Fish and Game Commission website at www.fgc.ca.gov.

Dr. Eric Loft, Department of Fish and Wildlife, phone (916) 445-3555, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Caren Woodson
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Attachment

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2015 JUN - 2 A 10:23

**TITLE 14. Fish and Game Commission
Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 200, 202, 203, 215, 220, 331, 332, 713, 1050, 1055.1, 1572, 3003.1, 4150, 4155, 4331, 4336, and 10502 of the Fish and Game Code and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 207, 215, 219, 220, 331, 332, 713, 1050, 1055, 1055.1, 1570, 1571, 1572, 1573, 3950, 3960, 3951, 4150, 4155, 4302, 4330, 4331, 4332, 4333, 4336, 4340, 4341, 4652, 4653, 4654, 4655, 4657, 4750, 4751, 4752, 4753, 4754, 4755, 4902, 10500 and 10502 of said Code, proposes to amend Sections 478, 479, and 702 Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to implementation of the Bobcat Protection Act of 2013.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Amend sections 478, 479, and 702, Title 14, California Code of Regulations.

The statutory mandate to promulgate regulations to place restrictions on bobcat trapping is set forth in Fish and Game Code Section 4155, the Bobcat Protection Act of 2013, which states in subsection (b)(1):

“Through the commission’s next regularly scheduled mammal hunting and trapping rulemaking process occurring after January 1, 2014, the commission shall amend its regulations to prohibit the trapping of bobcats adjacent to the boundaries of each national or state park and national monument or wildlife refuge in which bobcat trapping is prohibited.”

In addition, Fish and Game Code Section 4155(e) directs the Commission to set trapping license fees and associated fees at the levels necessary to fully recover all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the department and the commission associated with the trapping of bobcats in the state, including, but not limited to, enforcement costs. A range of potential fees is presented with the recommended fee combination of \$35 per shipping tag and \$1,137 for the proposed Bobcat Trapping Validation. The proposed regulatory changes will not affect the take of bobcats with a hunting license and bobcat hunting tags under subsection 478.1, or under a depredation permit issued pursuant to Section 401.

PROPOSED REGULATORY CHANGES

Option 1: Partial closure of the state to bobcat trapping and establishing property-specific closure boundaries around protected areas.

- Amend Section 478, Bobcat, by adding descriptions of a statewide “Bobcat Trapping Closure Area” and 18 “Property-Specific Closure Areas” surrounding 23 protected areas and incorporate editorial changes and re-numbering of the text for clarity.

- Amend Section 702, Fees, by adding a new subsection (d)(1) to require (in addition to the trapping license fee set forth in the Fish and Game Code) the payment of a Bobcat Trapping Validation Fee set at \$[0 – 1,325] and subject to annual adjustment.
- Amend Section 479, Bobcat Pelts, by moving the current bobcat pelt shipping tag fee from subsection (c)(5); and Amend Section 702, Fees, adding a new subsection (d)(2), Shipping Tags, and increasing the fee from \$3 to \$[0 - 245] and subject to annual adjustments. Additionally, there are editorial changes and re-numbering of the text for clarity.
- Amend Section 479 by deleting the 'no cost' provision and 'department mark' on pelts not for sale in subsection (a)(1), each pelt will be required to have a Department issued shipping tag; and, by eliminating the listed Method of Take in subsection (c)(4).

Option 2: Total prohibition on bobcat trapping in California.

- Amend Section 478 by prohibiting bobcat trapping throughout California.
- Amend Section 479 eliminating pelt tags, fees, and department marks for bobcats taken by trapping.

BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

The benefits of the proposed regulations to the environment, whether of a partial trapping ban as described in Option 1, or a full ban as described in Option 2, will be through the improved protection of bobcat populations and the enhancement of non-consumptive use benefits. Non-consumptive uses anticipated to potentially increase include: the observation of bobcats in the wild and the perceived value of the bobcat population's contribution to ecosystem functioning.

EVALUATION OF INCOMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING REGULATIONS:

Section 20, Article IV, of the State Constitution specifies that the Legislature may delegate to the Fish and Game Commission such powers relating to the protection and propagation of fish and game as the Legislature sees fit. The Legislature has delegated to the Commission the power to regulate the commercial trapping of bobcat. No other State agency has the authority to promulgate such regulations. The Commission has searched the CCR for any regulations regarding bobcat trapping and has found no such regulation; therefore the Commission has concluded that the proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held at the Mountainside Conference

Center, at 1 Minaret Road, in Mammoth Lakes, California, on June 11, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held at the River Lodge Conference Center, at 1800 Riverwalk Drive, in Fortuna, California, on August 5, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. It is requested, but not required, that written comments be submitted on or before July 23, 2015, at the address given below, or by e-mail to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Written comments mailed, or e-mailed to the Commission office, must be received before 12:00 noon on July 31, 2015. All comments must be received no later than August 5, 2015, at the hearing in Fortuna, California. If you would like copies of any modifications to this proposal, please include your name and mailing address.

The regulations as proposed in ~~strikeout~~-underline format, as well as an initial statement of reasons, including environmental considerations and all information upon which the proposal is based (rulemaking file), are on file and available for public review from the agency representative, Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, phone (916) 653-4899. Please direct requests for the above mentioned documents and inquiries concerning the regulatory process to Sonke Mastrup or Caren Woodson at the preceding address or phone number. **Dr. Eric Loft, Department of Fish and Wildlife, phone 916-445-3555, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.** Copies of the Initial Statement of Reasons, including the regulatory language, may be obtained from the address above. Notice of the proposed action shall be posted on the Fish and Game Commission website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov>.

Availability of Modified Text

If the regulations adopted by the Commission differ from but are sufficiently related to the action proposed, they will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption. Any person interested may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency representative named herein.

If the regulatory proposal is adopted, the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the address above when it has been received from the agency program staff.

Impact of Regulatory Action/Results of the Economic Impact Analysis

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The Commission does not anticipate significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, although the proposed fee increases may reduce the ability of California bobcat trapping businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The principle businesses that are expected to be impacted by the proposed regulatory changes are approximately 200 licensed trappers which Department records indicate have historically taken bobcat and paid the current shipping tag fee. Their income is not derived solely from the take of bobcat pelts during the relatively short bobcat trapping season, but also from other animals lawfully taken for profit. Whether the increase in fees or the reduction in opportunity from limitations on trapping areas, as described in Option 1, or a complete ban as described in Option 2, the economic loss to the state as a whole is expected to be very small and would not significantly affect California businesses or their ability to compete with businesses in other states.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The Commission does not anticipate any significant impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs within the State because a partial or full ban would affect only a small number of licensed commercial trappers whose income is not derived solely from bobcat pelts but also from other animals lawfully taken for profit.

The Commission anticipates potential benefits to the health and welfare of California residents through the enhancement of non-consumptive use benefits. Non-consumptive uses that could increase include: the observation of bobcats in the wild and the perceived value of the bobcat population's contribution to ecosystem functioning.

The Commission does not anticipate benefits to worker safety because this regulatory action will not impact health, welfare or worker safety.

The Commission anticipates possible benefits to bobcat populations because the regulations required by statute will place further limitations on the take of bobcats.

- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

If Option 1 is adopted, the Commission anticipates increased costs to the business of commercial trappers because of the additional fees for the Bobcat Trapping Validation and increased fees for shipping tags on pelts. The Commission expects these fees to be entirely absorbable by passing on this cost to the consumers of bobcat pelts. Private persons, not involved in commerce in bobcat products will not be impacted by any cost.

A statewide ban (Option 2) would impact a small number of licensed trappers who will no longer derive any income from the sale of bobcat pelts. However, licensed trappers could continue to derive income from the legal take of other animals.

- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.
- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.
- (f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

Effect on Small Business

It has been determined that the adoption of these regulations may affect small business. The Commission has drafted the regulations in Plain English pursuant to Government Code Sections 11342.580 and 11346.2(a)(1).

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Commission, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director

Dated: