



## California Department of Fish & Wildlife

# Upland Game Bird Account Project Proposal

(Tab or arrow key through form to fill it out)

Project Title: Gray Lodge Field 40 Enhancement

This project proposal must clearly identify benefits to upland game birds, upland game bird hunting opportunities, or public hunting outreach (Fish and Game Code Section 3684c).

CDFG or Non-Governmental Organization project contact:

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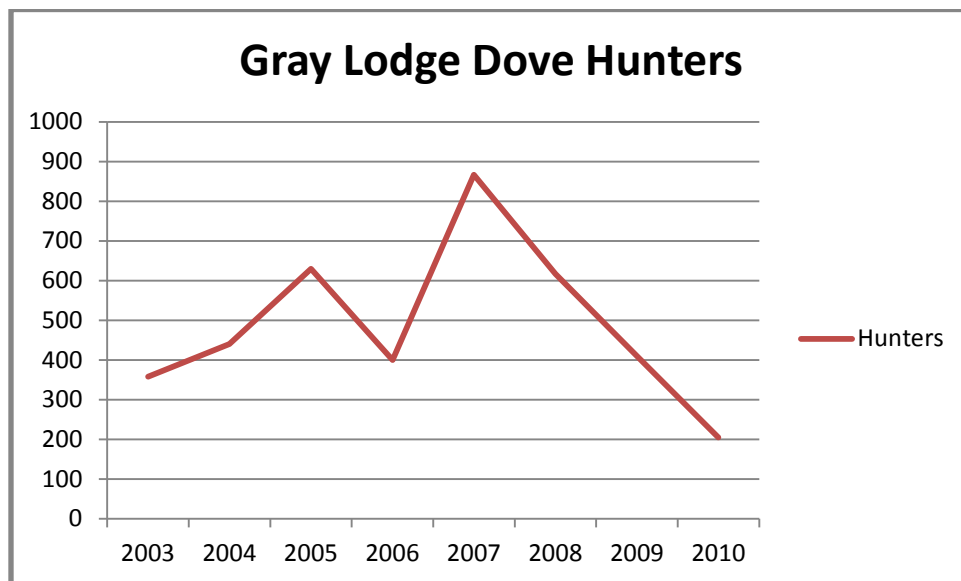
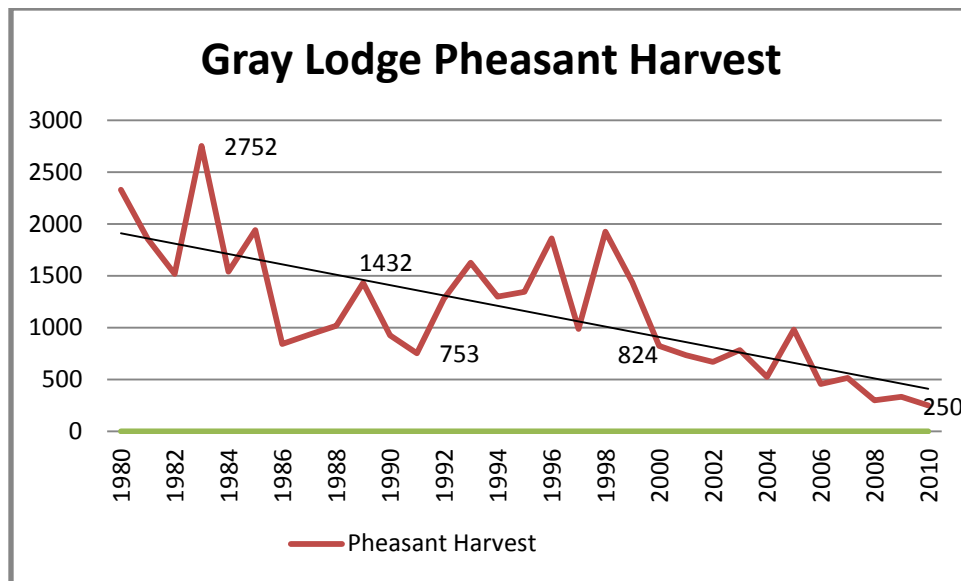
Project start and completion dates by State Fiscal Year (July 1 – June 30): 02/1/14 to 3/31/15

California Department of Fish and Game Region and location of proposed project: 2

**Objectives:** *State how this proposed project will maintain or enhance existing upland game bird resources.*

*Example: an additional Special Hunt, increased upland habitat acreage, opening of public land areas for upland game bird hunting opportunities, access to private lands, or resource assessments that will ensure resource perpetuation.*

This project will improve roughly 50 acres of upland nesting and foraging habitat for pheasants, turkeys, doves, quail, and other wildlife in fields that currently provide relatively poor quality habitat and hunting opportunity. Pheasant harvest at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area has plummeted from a high of 2,752 birds in 1983 to a mere 250 birds in 2010, which is far below the long term average of 1,160 birds. From 2003 to 2010, Dove hunter numbers have ranged from about 200 to nearly 900 hunters, but have recently fallen well below the long term average of 490 hunters. In 2010, only 205 people hunted doves. We hope to reverse these extremely negative trends by improving habitat conditions throughout the wildlife area.



**Benefits:** *Describe benefits to upland game bird species, upland game bird public hunting opportunities, or public outreach and education relating to upland game bird hunting.*

Fields 40 at Gray Lodge currently provides relatively poor quality nesting and foraging habitat for pheasants, doves, turkeys, quail and other wildlife. The vegetative complex is dominated by annual plants that provide little structure or food value during critical nesting and over wintering periods. Existing irrigation capabilities do not exist. This project will develop and implement a comprehensive habitat enhancement plan for roughly 50 acres. A topographic and existing conditions survey will be completed to gather information necessary to properly grade the field and construct an irrigation system that will provide managers full control over independently managed units. The field will be divided into thirds using the diversified upland habitat unit (DUHU) concept that is currently being implemented throughout the wildlife area. A perennial grass mix will be planted over roughly 1/3 of the acreage, while the remaining 2/3 of the acreage will be planted to food plots. The field will be designed so that crop types can be rotated on an annual or semi-annual basis. Areas planted to perennial grass will remain productive for 3-5 years before it's necessary to set back succession. Expected benefits are

improved nesting, foraging, and over wintering habitat, which should result in higher pheasant, turkey, dove, and quail populations and ultimately more hunter opportunity.

**Schedule of project tasks:** *A brief project summary is required annually for multi year projects and a final project report by August 1<sup>st</sup> following the fiscal year of project completion. Please summarize your projected tasks by date:*

The following schedule is weather dependent and may vary from the dates and ranges listed below. In general, we propose to prep the fields as early as we can in the spring to avoid the nesting season and control weed germination. Food plot planting should be done in the spring. Nesting cover will be installed in the fall. Herbicide and mowing applications will be done as necessary in the fall and spring depending on timing of rain events and weed germination.

Tasks	Start Date	Finish Date
Topographic and Existing Conditions Survey	8/1/13	8/30/13
Comprehensive Habitat Enhancement Plan & Grading	9/1/13	10/15/13
Irrigation System	9/1/13	10/15/13
Field Disking and Seed Bed Prep	10/15/13	10/30/13
Fall Upland Cover Planting	11/1/13	11/30/13
Food Plot Planting	3/1/14	4/31/14
Spring Mowing and/or Herbicide Application	2/1/14	3/31/14

The following pages include tables that you may use to fill in your budget breakdown. Please feel free to generate your own tables, but all information must be included. Additional information such as area maps should also be included.

SEE ATTACHED BUDGET TABLE

List any CDFG personnel participation by name and classification:

Name: Andy Atkinson	Classification: <u>Senior Wildlife Biologist</u>
Name:	Classification: <u>enter classification here</u>
Name:	Classification: <u>enter classification here</u>

Upland Game Bird Proposal FY2013-2014

Project Title:		Location		Field#s		Acres	
Gray Lodge Field 40		Gray Lodge		40		50	
Budget Line Item #	Work/Item Description	Count	Units		Cost/Unit		
<b><u>PERSONAL SERVICES:</u></b>							
1	Director	4	hours	@	\$48.00		\$192.00
2	Senior Biologist	12	hours	@	\$31.00		\$372.00
3	Associate Biologist	48	hours	@	\$25.00		\$1,200.00
4	Biologist II	30	hours	@	\$20.00		\$600.00
6	Benefits Salaried Staff			@	33%		\$780.12
7	Technician	24	hours	@	\$14.00		\$336.00
8	Benefits Temporary Staff			@	16%		\$53.76
	<b><u>Personal Services Subtotal</u></b>						<b><u>\$3,533.88</u></b>
<b><u>OPERATING EXPENSES:</u></b>							
<b>MATERIALS</b>							
9	Nesting Cover Seed Mix	250	pounds	@	\$5.00		\$1,250.00
10	Food Plot Grain/Forage Seed Mix	1,667	pounds	@	\$1.00		\$1,666.67
11	24" Pipe	240	feet	@	\$25.00		\$6,000.00
12	Concrete Riser	7	unit	@	\$400.00		\$2,800.00
13	Herbicide Application	50	acres	@	\$24.00		\$1,200.00
14	Fertilizer	10,000	pounds	@	\$0.35		\$3,500.00
	<b><u>Materials Subtotal</u></b>						<b><u>\$16,416.67</u></b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>							
16	Seed Bed Preparation (multiple passes with disk)	50	acres	@	\$100.00		\$5,000.00
17	Swale, Ditch, and Levee Construction	4,500	cubic yards	@	\$2.00		\$9,000.00
18	Field Planting	50	acres	@	\$20.00		\$1,000.00
19	Water Control Structure Installation	28	hours	@	\$125.00		\$3,500.00
20	Mowing (2 times)	100	acres	@	\$25.00		\$2,500.00
	<b><u>Construction Subtotal</u></b>						<b><u>\$21,000.00</u></b>
<b>Travel</b>							
21	Mileage	840	miles	@	\$0.565		\$474.60
22	Meals & Lodging						\$0.00
	<b><u>Travel Subtotal</u></b>						<b><u>\$474.60</u></b>
<b>OVERHEAD</b>							
23	Overhead (6%)						\$2,485.51
24	CWA Paid Overhead (8%)						\$3,314.01
	<b><u>Overhead Subtotal</u></b>						<b><u>\$5,799.52</u></b>
	<b><u>Total Personal and Operating Expenses</u></b>						<b><u>\$47,224.67</u></b>
<b>Partnership Contribution:</b>							
22	CWA Contribution						(\$3,314.01)
<b><u>UPLAND GAME BIRD FUNDING REQUEST</u></b>							<b><u>\$43,910.66</u></b>