



December 16, 2016

Public Notice of Intent to Amend a Permit for Mountain Lion Research in California

Legislation passed in 2012 requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) to notify the public at least 30 days prior to the issuance of a Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) to qualified researchers desiring to conduct research on mountain lions.

The legislation is described in Section [4810 of the Fish and Game Code](#).

A summary of the proposed research is below. Copies of the DRAFT permit are available upon request to the Department. Please contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch- MOUNTAIN LION SCP at 1812 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.

Prospective Scientific Collecting Permit Amendment Issued to:

USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services – Entity

Rebecca Mihalco – Principal Investigator
Dennis Orthmeyer – Principal Investigator

Project Title:

Mountain Lion DNA Biopsy Dart Project

Executive Summary:

The mountain lion program within California Department of Fish and Wildlife has initiated a state-wide mountain lion project which, among other objectives, seeks to understand state-wide mountain lion population genetics and non-invasive methods for estimating mountain lion abundance. The mountain lion program coordinator for the Department has developed and begun to implement a contract with a geneticist to aid in analyzing genetic samples from mountain lions across California. However, to better meet objectives of the state-wide mountain lion project, the Department requires: 1) additional mountain lion genetic samples from poorly-sampled regions across the state; as well as 2) genetic samples from focal areas for genetic population estimation techniques. The United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services (USDA-WS) agency will directly support the Department's efforts in gathering genetic samples from mountain lions across California for these dual purposes.