**EASY GUIDE TO USING THE BINDER**

1. Download and open the binder document using your Adobe Acrobat program/app.

2. If a bookmark panel does not automatically appear on either the top or left side of the screen, click/tap on the “bookmark symbol” located near the top left-hand corner.

![Bookmark Panel](image1.png)

3. To make adjustments to the view, use the Page Display option in the View tab. You should see something like:

![Page Display](image2.png)

4. We suggest leaving open the bookmark panel to help you move efficiently among the staff summaries and numerous supporting documents in the binder. It’s helpful to think of these bookmarks as a table of contents that allows you to go to specific points in the binder without having to scroll through hundreds of pages.

5. You can resize the two panels by placing your cursor in the dark, vertical line located between the panels and using a long click /tap to move in either direction.

6. You may also adjust the sizing of the documents by adjusting the sizing preferences located on the Page Display icons found in the top toolbar or in the View tab.

7. Upon locating a staff summary for an agenda item, notice that you can obtain more information by clicking/tapping on any item underlined in blue.

8. Return to the staff summary by simply clicking/tapping on the item in the bookmark panel.

9. Do not hesitate to contact staff if you have any questions or would like assistance.
OVERVIEW OF FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
COMMITTEE MEETING

• Our goal today is informed discussion to guide future decision making, and, we need your cooperation to ensure a lively and comprehensive dialogue.

• We are operating under Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, but the Committee is not a decision making body and only makes recommendations to the full Commission for possible action.

• These proceedings may be recorded and posted to our website for reference and archival purposes.

• Items may be heard in any order pursuant to the determination of the Committee Co-Chairs.

• In the unlikely event of an emergency, please locate the nearest emergency exits.

• Restrooms are located _________________________.

• As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be redirected to the full Commission and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, titled “Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change” (Section 662, Title 14, CCR). However, at the Committee’s discretion, the Committee may request that staff follow up on items of potential interest to the Committee and possible recommendation to the Commission.

• Committee meetings operate informally and provide opportunity for everyone to provide comment on agenda items. If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please follow these guidelines:
  1. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Committee.
  2. Provide your name, affiliation (if any), and the number of people you represent.
  3. Time is limited; please keep your comments precise to give others time to speak.
  4. If several speakers have the same concerns, please appoint a group spokesperson.
  5. If you would like to present handouts or written materials to the Committee, please provide five copies to the designated staff member just prior to speaking.
  6. If speaking during public comment, the subject matter you present should not be related to any item on the current agenda (public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the Committee members discuss that item).

• Warning! Laser pointers may only be used by a speaker doing a presentation.
INTRODUCTIONS FOR FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONERS
Anthony C. Williams  Co-Chair (Huntington Beach)
Russell E. Burns  Co-Chair (Napa)

COMMISSION STAFF
Valerie Termini  Executive Director
Erin Chappell  Wildlife Advisor
Rick Pimentel  Analyst

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Stafford Lehr  Deputy Director, Wildlife and Fisheries Division
Patrick Foy  Captain, Law Enforcement Division
Chris Stoots  Lieutenant, Law Enforcement Division
Kevin Shaffer  Chief, Fisheries Branch
Kari Lewis  Acting Chief, Wildlife Branch

I would also like to acknowledge special guests who are present:
(i.e., key DFW staff, elected officials, tribal chairpersons, other special guests)
WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Committee Co-Chairs: Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Burns

Meeting Agenda
September 13, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

California Tower – Highgrove Room 200
3737 Main Street, Riverside

This meeting may be audio-recorded

NOTE: Please see important meeting procedures and deadline information at the end of the agenda. All agenda items are informational and/or discussion only. The Committee develops recommendations to the Commission but does not have authority to make policy or regulatory decisions on behalf of the Commission.

Call to order

1. Approve agenda and order of items

2. Public forum for items not on the agenda
The Committee may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this item, except to consider whether to recommend that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting. [Sections 11125, 11125.7(a), Government Code]

3. Identify and discuss initial recommendations for 2018-19 upland game bird regulations

4. Discuss and approve recommendations for 2018-19 regulations:
   (A) Mammal hunting
   (B) Waterfowl hunting
   (C) Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing
   (D) Klamath River sport fishing

5. Discuss and possible recommendation for phase 2 falconry regulation change options and potential timing

6. Discuss and possible recommendation for wild pig management proposal
7. Predator Policy Workgroup
   (A) Predator Policy Workgroup member presentations on draft terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals
   (B) Discuss and possible recommendation for terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals

8. Delta Fisheries Forum
   (A) Staff report on Delta Fisheries Forum
   (B) Discuss and possible recommendation for next steps

9. Future agenda items
   (A) Review work plan agenda topics and timeline
   (B) Potential new agenda topics for FGC consideration

Adjourn
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

Note: As meeting dates and locations can change, please visit www.fgc.ca.gov for the most current list of meeting dates and locations.

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OTHER MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- September 10-13, 2017, Snowbird, UT

Pacific Fishery Management Council
- September 12-18, 2017 Boise, ID
- November 14-20, 2017 Costa Mesa, CA
- March 8-14, 2018, Rohnert Park, CA
- April 4-11, 2018, Portland, OR

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- January 3-8, 2018, San Diego, CA

Wildlife Conservation Board
- November 30, 2017 Sacramento
Welcome to a meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission’s Wildlife Resources Committee. The Committee is chaired by up to two Commissioners; these assignments are made by the Commission.

The goal of the Committee is to allow greater time to investigate issues before the Commission than would otherwise be possible. Committee meetings are less formal in nature and provide for additional access to the Commission. The Committee follows the noticing requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. It is important to note that the Committee chairs cannot take action independent of the full Commission; instead, the chairs make recommendations to the full Commission at regularly scheduled meetings.

The Commission’s goal is the preservation of our heritage and conservation of our natural resources through informed decision making; Committee meetings are vital in developing recommendations to help the Commission achieve that goal. In that spirit, we provide the following information to be as effective and efficient toward that end. Welcome, and please let us know if you have any questions.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other Commission activities are invited to contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator at (916) 651-1214. Requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received at least 10 working days prior to the meeting to ensure the request can be accommodated.

SUBMITTING WRITTEN MATERIALS
The public is encouraged to attend Committee meetings and engage in the discussion about items on the agenda; the public is also welcome to comment on agenda items in writing. You may submit your written comments by one of the following methods (only one is necessary): Email to fgc@fgc.ca.gov; deliver to California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814; or hand-deliver to a Committee meeting.

COMMENT DEADLINES:
The Written Comment Deadline for this meeting is 5:00 p.m. on August 31, 2017. Written comments received at the Commission office by this deadline will be made available to Commissioners prior to the meeting.

The Late Comment Deadline for this meeting is Noon on September 8, 2017. Comments received by this deadline will be marked “late” and made available to Commissioners at the meeting.

After these deadlines, written comments may be delivered in person to the meeting – please bring five (5) copies of written comments to the meeting.

The Committee will not consider comments regarding proposed changes to regulations that have been noticed by the Commission. If you wish to provide comment on a noticed item, please provide your comments during Commission business meetings, via email, or deliver to the Commission office.
NOTE: Materials provided to the Committee may be made available to the general public.

REGULATION CHANGE PETITIONS
As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be redirected to the full Commission and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, titled “Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change” (Section 662, Title 14, CCR). However, at the Committee’s discretion, the Committee may request that staff follow up on items of potential interest to the Committee and possible recommendation to the Commission.

SPEAKING AT THE MEETING
Committee meetings operate informally and provide opportunity for everyone to comment on agenda items. If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please follow these guidelines:

1. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Committee co-chair(s).
2. Once recognized, please begin by giving your name and affiliation (if any) and the number of people you represent.
3. Time is limited; please keep your comments concise so that everyone has an opportunity to speak.
4. If there are several speakers with the same concerns, please try to appoint a spokesperson and avoid repetitive comments.
5. If you would like to present handouts or written materials to the Committee, please provide five copies to the designated staff member just prior to speaking.
6. If speaking during public forum, the subject matter you present should not be related to any item on the current agenda (public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the Committee members discuss that item). As a general rule, public forum is an opportunity to bring matters to the attention of the Committee, but you may also do so via email or standard mail. At the discretion of the Committee, staff may be requested to follow up on the subject you raise.

VISUAL PRESENTATIONS/MATERIALS
All electronic presentations must be submitted by the Late Comment Deadline and approved by the Commission executive director before the meeting.

1. Electronic presentations must be provided by email or delivered to the Commission on a USB flash drive by the deadline.
2. All electronic formats must be Windows PC compatible.
3. It is recommended that a print copy of any electronic presentation be submitted in case of technical difficulties.
4. A data projector, laptop and presentation mouse will be available.

LASER POINTERS may only be used by a speaker during a presentation.
2. PUBLIC FORUM

Today’s Item Information ☒ Direction ☐
Receive public comments for items not on the agenda.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)

Background

The Committee generally receives two types of correspondence or comment under public forum: Requests for the Committee to consider new topics, and informational items. As a general rule, requests for regulatory change need to be redirected to FGC and submitted on the required petition form, FGC 1, titled “Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change” (Section 662, Title 14, CCR). However, at the discretion of the Committee, staff may be requested to follow up on items of potential interest to the Committee and possible recommendation to FGC.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

FGC staff: If the committee wants to recommend any new future agenda items based on issues raised and within FGC’s authority, staff recommends holding for discussion under today’s Agenda Item 9, Future Agenda Items.

Exhibits (N/A)

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)
3. 2018-19 UPLAND GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Today’s Item Information ☒ Direction ☐
Identify and discuss initial recommendations for 2018-19 upland game bird hunting regulations.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions
- Today’s discussion Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside
- Next WRC meeting Jan 11, 2018; WRC, Santa Rosa or Sacramento
- FGC notice hearing Feb 7-8, 2018; Sacramento

Background
This item is to provide the public an opportunity to identify and discuss potential items to include in the upcoming rulemaking for upland game bird hunting regulations for the 2018-19 season. One regulatory petition received by FGC, Petition #2016-010, was referred to DFW for further consideration in this rulemaking (Exhibit 1). Petition #2016-010 proposes sage grouse permit holders be awarded a preference point similar to big game drawings to improve a hunter’s chances of being drawn in future years.

Today, DFW staff will present any proposed regulation changes for 2018-19 beyond any anticipated changes to season and bag limits and items previously referred to this rulemaking package.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation (N/A)

Exhibits
1. Petition #2016-010, received Jun 8, 2016

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)
4. ANNUAL REGULATIONS FOR 2018-19 SEASONS

Today’s Item Information ☐ Direction ☒
Discuss and approve recommendations for 2018-19 regulations for:

(A) Mammal hunting
(B) Waterfowl hunting
(C) Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing
(D) Klamath River sport fishing

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Today's discussion and recommendations Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside
- FGC notice hearing Dec 6-7, 2017; San Diego

Background
This item is to provide the public an opportunity to discuss proposed changes for regulations for the 2018-19 seasons.

(A) Mammal hunting: Annual proposed changes to the hunting regulations for various big game mammals, including deer, Nelson bighorn sheep, antelope, and elk, are combined for concurrent action under a single rulemaking package.

(B) Waterfowl hunting: FGC annually adopts waterfowl hunting regulations to conform State regulations with federal regulations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service adopts federal regulations each October based, in part, on recommendations from the four Flyway Councils.

(C) Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing: FGC annually adopts Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing regulations for the American, Feather, and Sacramento rivers to conform State regulations with federal regulations. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopts federal recommendations each April based, in part, on recommendations from the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC).

(D) FGC annually adopts Klamath River Basin salmon sport fishing regulations to conform State regulations with federal fishing regulations. NMFS adopts federal recommendations each April based, in part, on recommendations from PFMC.

Today, DFW staff will summarize any proposed regulation changes beyond the anticipated changes to season and bag limits for the 2018-19 seasons.

This meeting is the last opportunity for WRC to make recommendations to FGC regarding potential changes to consider in these rulemakings, before the notice hearing in Dec 2017.

Significant Public Comments
A request that the timing of elk hunting in Del Norte County be reconsidered, particularly for hunting on Alexandre Dairy Ranch in September due to bald eagles nesting on the property.
Recommendation

**FGC staff:** Prior to developing a recommendation, consider recommendations provided by DFW during the meeting and public comments.

Exhibits

A1. Email from Eileen Cooper regarding elk hunting, received Aug 31, 2017

Committee Direction/Recommendation

WRC recommends that the Commission authorize publication of a notice of its intent to amend regulations for mammal hunting, waterfowl hunting, Central Valley Chinook salmon sport fishing, and Klamath River sport fishing for the 2018-19 seasons, consistent with changes discussed during today’s meeting.
5. **FALCONRY REGULATIONS, PHASE 2**

**Today’s Item Information**

Discuss and possible recommendation for phase 2 falconry regulations options and potential timing.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Phase 1 falconry regulations adopted  
  Dec 7-8, 2016; San Diego
- Previous WRC Phase 2 discussion  
  Jan 18, 2017; WRC, Redding
- Previous WRC Phase 2 discussion  
  May 24, 2017; WRC, Sacramento
- Today’s discussion and possible recommendation  
  Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside

**Background**

In Jun 2016, DFW presented proposed changes to falconry regulations to bring them more in line with the current practice of falconry in California and to conform to federal guidelines. Based on public testimony at that meeting, FGC requested five additional changes be added for consideration in the rulemaking (which was adopted in Dec 2016), and provided direction that any additional amendments to the falconry regulations be discussed by WRC for possible inclusion in a separate rulemaking (referred to as Phase 2); in Aug 2016 FGC also referred consideration of Petition #2016-014 (Exhibit 1) to WRC as part of Phase 2.

Discussions about possible amendments to falconry regulations were held at the Jan 2016 and May 2016 WRC meetings. Today, WRC will continue the discussion based on the options for potential regulation changes discussed previously and additional stakeholder input, for a possible recommendation to FGC on options to include and potential timing for a future rulemaking package.

**Significant Public Comments (N/A)**

**Recommendation**

*FGC staff:* Prior to developing a recommendation, consider input provided by DFW and public comments made during the meeting.

**Exhibits**

1. Petition #2016-14, received Jul 5, 2016

**Committee Direction/Recommendation**

WRC recommends that the Commission authorize DFW and Commission staff to prepare a rulemaking package to amend falconry regulations for the following items _____________ for consideration by the Commission in [year] for potential authorization to publish notice.
6. WILD PIG MANAGEMENT

Today’s Item Information ☐ Direction ☒
Discuss and possible recommendation for wild pig management proposal.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions
- Previous WRC discussion May 18, 2016; WRC, West Sacramento
- Previous WRC discussion Sep 21, 2016; WRC, Woodland
- Previous WRC discussion Jan 18, 2017; WRC, Redding
- Previous WRC discussion May 24, 2017; WRC, Sacramento
- Today’s discussion and possible recommendation Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside

Background
Wild pigs are, on the one hand, a popular game animal and, on the other, a destructive animal causing significant damage to public and private lands, adversely affects California ecosystems statewide, and causes injury to livestock. In 2015, Assembly Member Bigelow introduced Assembly Bill 290 to try and resolve some of the above mentioned issues around wild pigs. In Jan 2016, Commission President Sklar, FGC staff, and DFW staff attended a meeting with Assembly Member Bigelow to discuss the issues raised by the proposed legislation.

In Feb 2016, FGC directed WRC to discuss possible changes with a range of stakeholders and other relevant state and federal agencies regarding wild pig regulations and to identify suggestions for potential legislation to share with Assembly Member Bigelow. WRC held discussions on wild pig management at its May 2016, Sep 2016, Jan 2017, and May 2017 meetings. At the May 2017 meeting, staff presented a draft proposal with two options and received additional stakeholder input. Following the discussion, WRC directed staff to work with stakeholders on the remaining concerns and issues raised at the meeting, with a focus on Option 2 as the preferred option.

Today, staff will present an overview of the revised proposal (Exhibit 1) for WRC discussion.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation
FGC staff: Based on input received at today’s meeting, provide direction on whether the staff proposal is ready for consideration by FGC for potential submittal to Assembly Member Bigelow, or if additional revisions are needed.

Exhibits
1. Staff Proposal on Wild Pig Management Options, dated August 2017
Committee Direction/Recommendation

WRC recommends that the Commission forward the proposal on wild pig management options to Assembly Member Bigelow for consideration.
7. PREDATOR POLICY WORKGROUP

Today’s Item Information ☐ Direction ☒

(A) Predator Policy Workgroup (PPWG) member presentations on draft terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals
(B) Discuss and possible recommendation for terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Previous PPWG meeting Feb 21, 2017; PPWG, Sacramento
- Previous PPWG meeting Mar 20, 2017; PPWG, Sacramento
- Previous WRC discussion May 24, 2017; WRC, Sacramento
- Previous PPWG meeting Jul 13, 2017; PPWG, Sacramento
- Today’s discussion and possible direction Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside

Background

Management of terrestrial predators, such as coyotes, was identified as a focal area at the first WRC meeting in Jun 2013. In Dec 2015, FGC appointed 10 stakeholders, forming the PPWG, to provide recommendations to WRC and FGC on policy and regulatory options for managing predators in California.

In Sep 2016, PPWG developed a draft predator policy, which PPWG revised in Nov 2016 based on reviewer comments. FGC staff presented the revised draft policy to WRC at its Jan 2017 meeting for review and discussion. In response to a letter submitted by a subset of PPWG members and comments made by PPWG members at the Jan 2017 WRC meeting, WRC Co-chair Williams provided guidance on the draft policy for PPWG consideration. PPWG made revisions to the draft policy at both of its Feb and Mar 2017 meetings, but was not able to reach consensus on the draft policy.

At the May 2017 WRC meeting, FGC staff provided an update on PPWG activities and presented a revised work plan timeline, based on input from FGC at its Apr 2017 meeting. Given the limited time to complete an evaluation of the regulations due to the revised timeline, FGC staff proposed that PPWG focus on providing recommendations on possible next steps for addressing potential regulation changes for FGC consideration; WRC supported the proposed approach. In addition, the WRC co-chairs requested feedback from PPWG at the Sep 2017 WRC meeting on where there is consensus on the policy and to outline the differing perspectives where there is not consensus.

In Jul 2017, PPWG met to develop final recommendations on the draft terrestrial predator policy and proposals for regulation change. Following the meeting, PPWG members drafted a report to document the final recommendations and additional considerations for WRC and FGC; however, PPWG members were unable to finalize the report in time for this meeting.

(A) PPWG members were scheduled to present the draft terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals developed during this process, highlighting the differing perspectives
where there is not PPWG consensus. However, PPWG members have requested that WRC delay discussion until the Jan 2018 WRC meeting to give PPWG additional time to finalize its report.

(B) WRC was scheduled to discuss the PPWG draft terrestrial predator policy and regulatory proposals for a possible recommendation to FGC, but PPWG members have requested that WRC delay discussion and possible recommendation until the Jan 2018 WRC meeting.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

FGC staff: Postpone this agenda item until the Jan 2018 WRC meeting to allow PPWG additional time to finalize its report and provide the PPWG reviewers and the public adequate time to comment on the report.

Exhibits (N/A)

Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)
8. DELTA FISHERIES FORUM

Today’s Item
☐ Information □ Direction ☒
(A) Staff report on the May 2017 Delta Fisheries Forum
(B) Discuss and possible recommendation for next steps

Summary of Previous/Future Actions
- Delta Fisheries Forum May 24, 2017; WRC, Sacramento
- Today’s discussion and possible recommendation Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside

Background
In Jun 2016, the Commission received a petition from the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta and others requesting regulation changes to increase the bag limit and reduce the minimum size limit for striped bass and black bass in the Delta. The expressed intent of the petition was to reduce predation by non-native bass on fish that are native to the Delta and are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal or California endangered species acts, including winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley steelhead, and Delta smelt. While the petition was formally withdrawn prior to FGC action, FGC requested that WRC schedule a discussion to explore the issue more comprehensively. WRC directed staff to hold a half-day forum focused on the State’s vision for managing fisheries in the Delta for the benefit of native fish species and sport fisheries, the implementation of the State’s vision, and soliciting stakeholder input on potential actions FGC could consider related to this topic.

Held on May 24, 2017 in Sacramento, the forum was publicized and open to the public. The forum included a state agency panel discussion, an overview of FGC’s policies and regulations for sport fisheries in the Delta, and a full group discussion. The full group discussion included two presentations by representatives for the original petition, consistent with direction provided by FGC in Aug 2016.

(A) Today, FGC staff will provide an overview of the Delta Fisheries Forum, highlighting key outcomes and staff recommendations for next steps from the staff report (Exhibit 1).

(B) Today, WRC will discuss the Delta Fisheries Forum and solicit stakeholder input on a possible recommendation to FGC for next steps.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation
FGC staff: Based on input received at the meeting and public comment, identify options for next steps.

Exhibits
1. Staff Report on the Delta Fisheries Forum, dated August 2017
Committee Direction/Recommendation

WRC recommends that the Commission adopt the recommendations as presented in the staff report.

OR

WRC recommends that the Commission adopt the recommendation as presented in the staff report with the following change(s) ______________.
9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Today’s Item Information ☐ Direction ☒

Review upcoming agenda items scheduled for the next and future WRC meetings, hear requests from DFW and interested stakeholders for future agenda items, and identify new items for consideration.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Today's discussion Sep 13, 2017; WRC, Riverside
- FGC approves WRC recommendations Oct 11-12, 2017; Atascadero
- Next WRC meeting Jan 11, 2018; WRC, Santa Rosa or Sacramento

Background

Committee topics are referred by FGC and scheduled as appropriate. FGC-referred topics and the draft schedule are shown in Exhibit 1. WRC agendas currently include several complex and time-intensive topics. The committee has placed emphasis on issues of imminent regulatory importance, and thus consideration of new topics will require planning relative to existing committee workload.

WRC Work Plan and Draft Timeline

Agenda topics identified for the Jan 2018 WRC meeting include:

1. Agency updates
2. Annual regulations
   - Upland game bird
   - Sport fish
3. Russian River sport fishing regulations
4. Lead ban implementation
5. Predator Policy Workgroup (if approved under Agenda Item #7)

Discuss and Recommend New WRC Topics

Staff proposes expanding the Russian River sporting fishing regulation agenda topic to coastal streams low-flow regulations to include an update and discussion of the DFW coastal streams workshop recommended by WRC and scheduled for this fall.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

FGC staff: Review draft WRC work plan (Exhibit 1) and current rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 2), consider updates to scheduling of recommended projects, consider whether any potential new topics should be added to or replace existing topics, and decide whether to request FGC refer any new topics for Committee evaluation.
Exhibits

1. WRC 2017-18 work plan, updated Aug 2017
2. *Perpetual Timetable for California Fish and Game Commission Anticipated Regulatory Actions*, updated Aug 18, 2017

Committee Direction/Recommendation

WRC recommends that the Commission approve changing the Russian River sport fishing agenda topic to coastal streams low-flow regulations.
To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission's authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

SECTION I: Required Information.

Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages

1. **Person or organization requesting the change (Required)**
   Name of primary contact person: J.D. Mostoufi

2. **Rulemaking Authority (Required)** - Reference to the statutory or constitutional authority of the Commission to take the action requested: Fish and Game code sections 200, 202, 203, 355

3. **Overview (Required)** - Summarize the proposed changes to regulations: I propose that hunters who apply for a sage grouse permit and are unsuccessful in the drawing be awarded a preference point similar to the CDFW Big Game Drawing, so that unsuccessful hunters will receive preference in future years over hunters who have recently drawn a sage grouse permits.

4. **Rationale (Required)** - Describe the problem and the reason for the proposed change:
   Currently, sage grouse permits are given away in a random fashion. If approximately 350 hunters put in for 30 sage grouse permits in the North Mono Zone, the odds of drawing a permit would be 1 in 11.67. If the CDFW switched over to a draw system similar to the big game drawing system, then hunters who have been unsuccessful in the sage grouse permit draw over the years would build up preference points which would help the unsuccessful hunter have a better chance at drawing a permit in future years. This system would be fair and equitable to all and it would not be difficult to accomplish, as hunters in California are already using this system to be awarded big game tags. Additionally, hunters are already using the Online Licensing system to apply for sage grouse permits; the change would only be to give unsuccessful applicants a better chance in the future to draw a permit. If approximately 350 hunters applied every year for sage grouse permits, then within 10-11 years, most if not all the applicants would have a chance to draw a sage grouse permit.
SECTION II: Optional Information

5. Date of Petition: June 6, 2016

6. Category of Proposed Change
   □ Sport Fishing
   □ Commercial Fishing
   ☑ Hunting
   □ Other, please specify: Click here to enter text.

7. The proposal is to: (To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs)
   ☑ Amend Title 14 Section(s): Amend Title 14, FGC section 300
   □ Add New Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.
   □ Repeal Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.

8. If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition Click here to enter text.
   Or ☑ Not applicable.

9. Effective date: If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation.
   If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: I recommend that the desired changes be implemented immediately, as there is a meeting of the FGC on June 22, 23 2016 and the next drawing period for sage grouse hunts in California would be in August 2016. The drawing could be accomplished without problem this year, as the preference points would not come into play in the drawing until August 2017, which would allow one year to make changes to track and implement a preference point system for sage grouse permits.

10. Supporting documentation: Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents: Click here to enter text.

11. Economic or Fiscal Impacts: Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing: I do not foresee any economic impacts caused by the proposed change as it has no bearing on the number of permits that are issued or areas were sage grouse hunting is allowed.

12. Forms: If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:
   Click here to enter text.

SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only

Date received: Click here to enter text.

FGC staff action:
   ☑ Accept - complete
   □ Reject - incomplete
PETITION TO THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION FOR REGULATION CHANGE
FGC 1 (NEW 10/23/14) Page 3 of 3

☐ Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: June 14, 2016

Meeting date for FGC consideration: June 22-23, 2016

FGC action:

☐ Denied by FGC
☐ Denied - same as petition

Tracking Number

☐ Granted for consideration of regulation change
attached are comments. please confirm that you have received.
Aug, 31, 2017

Eileen Cooper

ATT: Fish and Game Commission-Resources Committee Meeting, erin.chappell@fgc.ca.gov

Regarding: Elk hunt 2017/2018

The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife continues to increase Elk Hunting to the most upper figure allowable under current EIR limitations for Elk Management. It is questionable whether they have exceeded this limit, in that the goals of maintaining a healthy herd for the Smith River area has likely been exceeded. We still do not have the necessary population data to permit significantly greater kill. The total hunt figures for Del Norte may appear reasonable. However, most of the hunting is targeting the Smith River herds. This shift is purposefully targeting the Smith River area because it is a farming region, and the agency proposes a significant reduction in the Smith River herd, rather than provide true corridors with electric fencing for owners who have conflicts. The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife does not see the value of maintaining a healthy sized herd in Smith River. They view maintaining this herd as “micro-management.” It is questionable if the property owners will be happy with the results, as their properties will continue to be affected by the remaining herds, although they get limited monetary compensation.

The timing of the hunts should be reconsidered. Logically if you want to promote calving, and maximize the productivity and vitality of a small herd, females should only be taken very early in the rutting season, allowing ample time for mating of the remaining females. Also to promote calving, males with large antlers should only be taken after the rutting season, or at least very late in the rut, to allow ample time for mating, thus increasing the genetic diversity of these very small herds. However, Fish and Wildlife recommends the exact opposite. They cater to the desire of hunters bagging beautiful racks that have not been worn out from rutting; so the bulls with racks are taken early, precisely the opposite of what is needed to protect the genetic diversity of these very small herds. And no attention is taken to ensure that pregnant females are conserved. Hunting females during the late rut is counter productive.

Again, as pointed out during last year’s hunt comments, bald eagles continue to nest on the north Alexandre Dairy fields and timing of the hunt should avoid Sept., when young eagles still utilize the nest during fledging. Alexandre Dairy Ranch is an important birdwatching corridor, and lies directly adjacent to State Park Lands and Tolowa Slough/Lagoon wetland complex. This is an important Pacific Flyway migration corridor. Hunting should be delayed after September on the Alexandre Dairy Ranch.

Thank you, Eileen Cooper,
To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission’s authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

SECTION I: Required Information.

Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages

1. Person or organization requesting the change (Required)
   Name of primary contact person: Douglas R Alton

2. Rulemaking Authority (Required) - Reference to the statutory or constitutional authority of the Commission to take the action requested: Fish and Game Code Section 200

3. Overview (Required) - Summarize the proposed changes to regulations: Add Falconers and raptor breeders to the list of legal recipients for non-releasable birds from rehab facilities.

4. Rationale (Required) - Describe the problem and the reason for the proposed change: presently not allowed to the detriment of the birds and the falconers, breeders.

SECTION II: Optional Information

5. Date of Petition: June 28, 2016

6. Category of Proposed Change
   ☐ Sport Fishing
   ☐ Commercial Fishing
   ☐ Hunting
   ☒ Other, please specify: Falconry / Rehab.
PETITION TO THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION FOR REGULATION CHANGE
FGC 1 (NEW 10/23/14) Page 2 of 2

7. The proposal is to: (To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs)
   - Amend Title 14 Section(s): 679. (f) (4) Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation
   - Add New Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.
   - Repeal Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.

8. If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition: Click here to enter text.
   Or ✗ Not applicable.

9. Effective date: If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation.
   If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: Within reason

10. Supporting documentation: Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents: Click here to enter text.

11. Economic or Fiscal Impacts: Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing: None

12. Forms: If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:
   Click here to enter text.

SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only

Date received: July 5, 2016

FGC staff action:
   ✗ Accept - complete
   □ Reject - incomplete
   □ Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: July 6, 2016

Meeting date for FGC consideration: August 24-25, 2016

FGC action:
   □ Denied by FGC
   □ Denied - same as petition

Tracking Number

□ Granted for consideration of regulation change

2016 JUL 35 PHH-23
Background

In California, wild pigs are managed to reduce impacts from depredation (Fish and Game Code, Section 4181 and California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 401) and as game mammals (Fish and Game Code, sections 3950 and 4650-4657, and Title 14, sections 350 and 368). Depredation take involves permits and reporting requirements. Hunting as game requires a license, tags, reporting, and fees. Wild pigs are on one hand a valued game animal and, on the other, a destructive, non-native animal that causes significant damage to public and private lands, adversely affects California ecosystems statewide, and causes injury to livestock. Its popularity as a game species generates about $1.2 million a year in revenue for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) from the sale of wild pig tags alone, while reported damage to agriculture is estimated at $2 million per year in California and nationwide at around $2.5 billion per year. Ecological impacts include soil compaction, damage to native plant communities, reduced water quality from increased turbidity and bacterial contamination, competition with other game species—particularly deer and wild turkeys—for food and space, and predation on ground-nesting bird eggs, amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals.

In 2015, Assembly Member Bigelow introduced Assembly Bill 290 (AB 290), in an effort to resolve some of the issues around wild pigs. The California Fish and Game Commission’s (Commission) Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) discussed elements of AB 290 at its September 2015 meeting; the discussion focused on how to protect revenues coming into DFW, maintain hunting opportunities, streamline depredation, and minimize waste of game meat. WRC recommended that the Commission support legislative efforts to increase efficiency in addressing depredation by wild pigs; the Commission approved that recommendation in October 2015.

In January 2016, Commission President Sklar, Commission staff, and DFW staff attended a meeting with Assembly Member Bigelow to discuss some of the issues raised by the proposed legislation, where it was suggested that the Commission work with interested stakeholders through WRC to craft a potential solution. In February 2016, the Commission directed WRC to discuss possible changes in pig regulations and to provide suggestions for potential legislation to share with Assembly Member Bigelow.

The purpose of this document is to provide a stakeholder-vetted proposal that offers potential statutory and regulatory changes to achieve the goal of reducing wild pig populations to benefit native species and their habitats, as well as to protect public and private property, while maintaining hunting opportunities. This document contains information on existing statutes and regulations, summarizes concerns raised by stakeholders, and outlines options for potential statutory and regulatory changes that take into account stakeholder concerns.
Stakeholder Discussions on Proposed Options

WRC held discussions with stakeholders on wild pig management at its May 2016 and September 2016 meetings. At the September 2016 WRC meeting, Commission staff presented three possible approaches with the goal of reducing wild pig populations to benefit native species and their habitats and to protect private and public property while maintaining hunting opportunities:

1. maintain the game status designation with modifications to the depredation and tag provisions;
2. change the status designation to non-game and add provisions for tags, methods of take, and depredation; and
3. create a new designation with provisions for hunting, depredation, and importation, transportation, and release.

Based on input from the stakeholders and discussion at the September meeting, the second and third approaches were identified as more effective for meeting the stated goal; WRC directed staff to develop a more detailed proposal for these two approaches to present to WRC in January 2017 for further evaluation and discussion. In January 2017, staff presented additional information and an overview of two options for potential changes to statutes and regulations to address stakeholder concerns. Option 1 builds off the original proposal in AB 290, while Option 2 establishes a new status designation to address stakeholder concerns regarding the nongame status designation used in Option 1. Key statutes and regulations that generally apply to game mammals or specifically to wild pigs that may require revision under the two proposed options are identified at the end of this proposal.

- Option 1 would change the designation of wild pigs from a game mammal to a nongame mammal, which would result in changes to how wild pigs are regulated for both recreational take and take for depredation purposes. In general, game mammals are more stringently regulated than nongame mammals for which take is permitted.

- Option 2 would create a new, separate designation for wild pigs. As defined in Fish and Game Code, game mammals include species such as deer, elk, wild pigs, jackrabbits, and tree squirrels, which are primarily hunted for food. Nongame mammal is defined as a mammal that occurs naturally in California that is not a game mammal, fully protected mammal, or fur-bearing mammal; nongame mammals are generally hunted or trapped more for non-consumptive purposes. Wild pigs are hunted primarily for their meat and, therefore, do not fit as well into the nongame mammal designation as they might in a new designation. In addition, a new designation could more clearly acknowledge and define the different management objectives for wild pigs compared to other game and nongame mammals in California. While not proposed here, this new designation could also be used for other non-native game species such as fallow deer, aoudad, and mouflion, which are currently designated as nongame mammals.

After further discussion and stakeholder input, WRC directed staff to provide a more detailed proposal on potential statutory and regulatory changes at its May 2017 meeting. At the May 2017 WRC meeting, Commission staff presented a draft proposal and received additional stakeholder input; WRC directed staff to work with stakeholders on the concerns raised at the meeting, with a focus on Option 2 as the preferred option. Commission staff met with
stakeholders following the May 2017 WRC meeting to solicit additional input on possible options to address concerns about the use of dogs, use of snares, and disposal. Staff also solicited input from stakeholders on the status designation. Some stakeholders’ concerns about the change in the status designation were specifically that maintaining the game designation with modification to the depredation provisions should have been included as an option in the original proposal; in response to those concerns, an evaluation of that option is provided in Appendix F.

Management Concerns Associated with a Change in Designation

Some stakeholders raised concerns during development of AB 290 and at WRC meetings regarding how a change in designation from game mammal to nongame mammal could impact wild pig management in four areas: (1) importation and transportation; (2) methods, hours, and access for recreational take; (3) depredation; and (4) revenue. There are a number of potential statutory and regulatory changes to address the concerns, which could be integrated into either option.

(1) Importation and Transportation

Wild pigs are a valued game animal and, as such, there are concerns about wild pigs being imported and released or being moved from one area to another in order to establish a local population for hunting purposes.

Currently, wild pigs are regulated as restricted species and designated as “detrimental animals” under Section 2118 of the Fish and Game Code and Section 671(c)(2)(Q) of Title 14 because they are considered undesirable and pose a threat to native wildlife, agriculture, or public health or safety. As a restricted species, importing, transporting and possessing live wild pigs is only authorized under a permit issued by DFW. However, under the current definition (Fish and Game Code Section 4650), only “free-roaming” pigs are considered wild; therefore, any pig contained in a cage, pen, fence, or truck is no longer considered wild. This loophole enables people to import, transport, and release wild pigs under the guise of domestic swine, which limits effective enforcement of the current law and regulations.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) regulates the importation of domestic swine and requires an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit and a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for swine imported into the state, except for swine being moved directly to a state- or federally-approved slaughter facility. All swine are also required to have official identification. Approved identification methods vary by importation purpose. Breeding and show swine or feeder swine must have ear tags, ear notches, or tattoos (ear or inner flank). Slaughter swine must have ear tags, tattoos, or U.S. Department of Agriculture back tags. Companion and pet swine may have electronic implants or microchips. There are concerns about domestically-raised European or Russian wild boars, imported under domestic swine permits, being intentionally released or used for hunting purposes. Once in California, tracking these swine to ensure compliance with the importation permit can be challenging since ear tags are easily removed and damaged ears are common for pigs, making ear notches difficult to identify. One option to improve tracking and enforcement is to require official radio-frequency identification
(RFID) ear tags be used. RFID ear tags are already considered “official identification”, removal of the tags is illegal under current federal and State regulations, are easily visible, and if placed properly deep in the ear, should have good retention.

Domestic swine are usually marked using ear tags, ear notches, paint, or tattoo. However, permanent identification marks are only required for swine being imported into California, not swine raised within California, making it difficult to distinguish domestic swine from wild or feral pigs in cases where a domestic swine has escaped or been intentionally released into the wild. In addition, there are a small number of swine producers in California engaged in producing domestic swine that have been bred with and may contain varying amounts of European wild boar genes; these swine may exhibit the same phenotypic characteristics as wild pigs, making it difficult to distinguish them for the enforcement of both CDFA and DFW regulations.

Proposed Solution

To improve enforcement of existing regulations related to importing, transporting, and possessing wild pigs and to reduce the transportation and release of wild pigs into new areas or supplementing existing populations, the following is proposed:

- Modify the existing definition of wild pig, in Section 4650 of the Fish and Game Code, using phenotypic characteristics to differentiate wild pigs from domestic swine. Within the definition, create a subsection that gives CDFA the authority to adopt regulations, for domestic swine that meet the definition of a wild pig based on the phenotypical characteristics, to determine approved identification marks. A proposed definition is provided in Appendix B.
- Create new CDFA regulations to identify what types of marks shall be used by producers of domestic swine that meet the phenotypical definition of a wild pig to facilitate differentiation. The marks may include specific types of ear tags, ear notching—consistent with the Universal Ear Notching System—or tattoos. In addition, add a provision requiring official RFID ear tags at change of ownership for any domestic swine that meets the phenotypical definition of a wild pig.
- Modify Food and Agriculture Code to give CDFA authority to adopt regulations related to the importation of domestic swine that meet the phenotypical definition of a wild pig. In addition, modify existing CDFA regulations governing importation permits to require that domestically-raised swine, including European or Russian wild boars, have official RFID ear tags, a negative pseudorabies and brucellosis test, and a statement on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection form signed by an accredited veterinarian that the pig has been domestically raised for at least four months.

(2) Recreational Take and Access

The proposed change in wild pig designation from a game mammal to a nongame mammal in AB 290 raised concerns about the use of lead ammunition, methods of take, night hunting, the use of dogs, and limited access to private lands.
Use of lead ammunition for the take of wildlife is being phased out pursuant to Section 3004.5 of the Fish and Game Code and Section 250.1 of Title 14. Under current regulations, non-lead ammunition is required for the take of big game with a rifle or pistol and when taking coyotes within the California condor range. Non-lead ammunition is also required for the take of all wildlife in any wildlife area or ecological reserve and when using a shotgun to take nongame mammals or any wildlife for depredation purposes. Under current regulations, non-lead ammunition will be required for the take of all wildlife starting July 1, 2019; however, Section 3004.5 provides for earlier implementation, if practicable. Some stakeholders expressed interest in incorporating early implementation of the non-lead requirements for the take of wild pigs under AB 290. At this time, enacting legislation and adopting regulations associated with this proposal would likely require an effective date of July 1, 2019, making early implementation impracticable.

Methods of take for game mammals is more restrictive than methods of take permitted for nongame mammals, raising concerns about inappropriate or ineffective methods being allowed for the take of wild pigs with a change in designation. The concerns can be addressed in regulation by limiting the methods of take to those allowed for game mammals, as is currently done for nongame mammals such as sambar and fallow deer.

Stakeholder comments were divided on whether to allow night hunting and whether to loosen or tighten regulations for the use of dogs. While night hunting can be effective, especially during the warmer summer months, there are concerns about safety, enforcement, and the accidental take of non-target species. Dogs can be an effective tool for hunters in pursuing wild pigs; however, the use of dogs also raises concerns about the health and safety of the dogs, fair chase, and possible impacts to non-target wildlife. Under current regulations, up to three dogs per hunter may be used for the take of wild pigs except, no more than one dog per hunter where general deer season is open and no dogs may be used within the dog control zones, as specified. During the stakeholder vetting process, a change from three dogs per hunter to three dogs per hunt group was proposed. However, concerns about how to define a “hunt group” and the enforceability of such a regulation may make implementation infeasible. Broad stakeholder agreement regarding night hunting and use of dogs provisions is unlikely. Integrating the current regulations into this proposal would maintain the status quo and, at such time as changes are deemed warranted, the regulations could be revised by the Commission.

Section 4188 of the Fish and Game Code requires that DFW notify a landowner or tenant applying for a depredation permit about options for allowing access to licensed hunters to take wild pigs that are damaging property or threatening damage. Under AB 290, a depredation permit would no longer be required, raising concerns over a loss of incentive to provide hunters access to properties, especially given liability concerns by some landowners. DFW’s Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) program is designed to improve public access to private or landlocked public land via compensation and liability protection for providing access to or through their land for recreational use and enjoyment of wildlife. Increasing participation through the SHARE program may provide additional hunting opportunities, addressing concerns about the loss of that incentive, as well as providing new opportunities for youth hunters.
**Proposed Solution**

- Establish an effective date of July 1, 2019 for the statutes and accompanying regulations; this maintains the current requirement for use of non-lead ammunition for the take of wild pigs in the California condor range for the period between adoption of the new legislation and the full implementation of the ban on lead ammunition for the take of wildlife.

- Maintain the current hours for take from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset; include an exemption for take at night for depredation purposes by the property owner, tenant, employee or designated agent (see Item 3, Depredation).

- Maintain the current methods of take under sections 353 and 465.5 of Title 14.

- Maintain the current regulations for the use of dogs for hunting under Section 265(c)(2)) of Title 14.

- Improve hunter access by increasing private property owner participation in the SHARE program and look for opportunities to increase the number of hunts on public land, where feasible.

**Depredation**

The proposed change in wild pig designation from a game mammal to a nongame mammal in AB 290 raised concerns about changes in depredation requirements, including permits, reporting, methods of take, use of lead ammunition, and disposal. Fish and Game Code sections 4181, 4181.1, 4181.2, and 4188 govern the take of wild pigs pursuant to a depredation permit issued by DFW. Section 401, Title 14, CCR, outlines the process for applying for and the terms and conditions of a depredation permit, including permit period, use of dogs, methods of take, use of Government employees and designated agents, reporting requirements, utilization of the carcass, and tagging requirements for the take of wild pigs causing or threatening to cause damage. While there was support from agricultural stakeholders to remove the permit requirement for wild pigs, other stakeholders were concerned that removing the requirement, without adequate provisions, would result in: (1) the wanton waste of useable meat; (2) use of methods not currently authorized; (3) ecological impacts from use of lead ammunition; and (4) health impacts, to both humans and wildlife, if large numbers of carcasses were left in the field to rot. Integrating some of the current depredation permit requirements into the regulations could address these concerns while at the same time removing the permit requirement.

**Proposed Solution**

- Create a subsection for methods of take pursuant to sections 353 and 465.5 of Title 14. Add a provision to allow take at night by private landowners, their tenants, paid employees, or designated agents for animals causing damage or that pose an immediate threat to livestock (see draft regulatory text provided in Appendices C and E). Include the use of artificial lights to assist in taking pigs at night but, if using spotlights at night, require the property owner to notify DFW of night operations. Add a provision limiting the use of snares to designated agents.
providing services under a valid trapping license and to federal, state, or local wildlife control officers while acting in their official capacity. Add a provision that requires designated agents to have a hunting license and validation or a trapping license. Add a provision defining paid employees.

- Create a subsection related to the use of dogs that allows for the use of dogs when pursuing/taking depredating pigs but require the dog handler to have a hunting license and validation, with an exemption for local, state, or federal employees acting in their official capacity.

- Create a subsection to require utilization of the carcass, consistent with the current requirements under Section 401 of Title 14, to minimize issues associated with disposal of carcasses and reduce waste of meat.

- Create a subsection requiring a property owner, tenant, or paid employee to tag any animal prior to transporting it off the property; DFW would need to create the tag for this purpose.

- Eliminate all requirements for depredation permits and reporting take.

(4) **Revenue**

Recreational take of a wild pig requires a wild pig tag pursuant to Section 4652 of the Fish and Game Code. Fish and Game Code Section 4656 requires that the revenues received be deposited into the Big Game Management Account (BGMA), while the expenditure of those funds is addressed in Fish and Game Code Section 3953. AB 290 proposed changing the individual wild pig tag to a one-year validation, which would allow unlimited take of wild pigs as a way to incentivize the take of more wild pigs. While there was support for replacing the tag with the validation, support was mixed for a provision that would continue directing revenues to BGMA. Some stakeholders proposed redirecting the fund to a separate account and stipulating that those funds be spent on projects to restore habitat damaged by pigs, research, or alternative population control methods.

All revenue from the sale of antelope, deer, elk, wild pig, bear, and sheep tags are deposited into BGMA, which receives approximately $1.2 million per year from the sale of wild pig tags. BGMA funds can be used by DFW to acquire land, complete projects, and implement programs to benefit these species, expand hunting opportunities, conduct related outreach, and administer and enforce the programs. DFW may also award grants to fund projects that benefit big game populations and the habitat upon which they depend. Annually, DFW distributes approximately $1 million in grant funding for projects, including habitat restoration, research, and monitoring improvements. Redirecting funds from the sale of wild pig validations could impact DFW programs that benefit native game species and reduce funds available for the grant program.

There is uncertainty about whether the one-year validation would generate the same level of revenue as wild pig tags. If revenues significantly decline, there would not be adequate revenue to fund a separate, distinct program targeted at mitigating wild pig damage. Even if revenues where maintained or increased slightly with the switch, it is unclear whether there would be adequate revenue to support a dedicated wild pig
program. However, if revenues continue to be directed to BGMA, a change in funding level would be buffered to some extent and the revenue could still be directed, through either program activities or grant funding, to support habitat restoration, research, and targeted control programs. Other funding sources could also be explored to address and mitigate the impacts wild pigs have on public and private lands.

There are also concerns about how the new base fee for the one-year validation may affect overall revenue. The proposal under AB 290 used the $15 base fee in Fish and Game Code Section 4654, while the current fee for a wild pig tag with the annual adjustments is $22. Concerns were raised that a decrease in the fee along with a decrease in purchases associated with individuals who purchase multiple wild pig tags each year would result in a significant decrease in revenue. However, the switch to the validation and a lower base price than the current $22 may incentivize more hunters to purchase the validation, offsetting the loss associated with the purchase of multiple tags. In response to the concerns, an analysis of the proportion of individuals purchasing multiple tags in the last five to ten years with an assessment of the fiscal impacts associated with the change to a single validation could be conducted to help inform a decision on the new base fee.

Proposed Solution

- Modify language in Fish and Game Code Section 4654 and Section 708.13, Title 14, CCR to switch from individual tags to a one-year validation; this also requires an adjustment to the existing fees and tagging requirements. Add a provision authorizing DFW to adjust the base fee, if necessary, to maintain revenues within 10 percent of the long-term average.
- Maintain the current age requirement to obtain a validation at the minimum age of 12.
- Continue directing funds to BGMA and pursue additional funding opportunities, such as state- or federally-funded grants, for research, local eradication efforts, habitat restoration, or other efforts to minimize damage caused by wild pigs.

Other Considerations

There are several game mammal regulations in Title 14 which may need to be modified if there is a desire to expand those regulations to still include wild pigs under a new status designation: sections 251.3 (feeding), 251.8 (tribal take), 257.5 (baiting), 260.2 (Lake Oroville Recreation Area), and 551 (Wildlife Areas). Under the non-game regulations, Section 475 of Title 14 contains provisions related to baiting that, while different from those in Section 257.5, are similar enough that modifying 257.5 may not be necessary under Option 1.

Changes under the Proposed Options

Option 1: Change Designation from Game Mammal to Nongame Mammal

A number of statutory and regulatory changes would be required under this option to integrate the solutions proposed to address identified management concerns. Appendix D contains specific proposed changes to statutory and regulatory text, which are generally described here.
Changes to Fish and Game Code Statutes under Option 1

- Establish an effective date of July 1, 2019
- Remove wild pig from Section 3950 (definition of game mammal)
- Modify Section 3953(c) (BGMA, use of funds) to remove wild pig from the list of species for implementing beneficial programs
- Remove all references to wild pig in sections 4181 and 4181.1 (required permits and reporting for depredation)
- Repeal Section 4181.2 (damage definition)
- Remove all reference to wild pig in Section 4188 (permits for licensed hunters)
- Modify Section 4304 to add wild pig to game mammals and game birds (waste of game carcass prohibited)
- Modify definition of wild pig in Section 4650 (see Appendix B)
- Modify Section 4651 (management plan) to simplify requirements to those identified in (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3) and (b)(4)
- Modify Section 4654(a) and (b) to adjust for the new base fee for the validation, modify language regarding the number of tags, and update license year from 2004 to 2019
- Modify Section 4657 to remove all language related to affixing tags to pigs and the reporting requirement and modify the possession requirement to include language pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commission

Changes to Title 14 Regulations under Option 1

- Modify sections 251.3, 251.8, 257.5, and 260.2 to include wild pig
- Remove references to wild pig from sections 350, 352, and 401
- Repeal Section 368
- Add wild pig to sections 472, 474, and 475 (see example in Appendix C)
- Add new section(s) specifically for wild pig for licensing/tag requirements, hunting provisions, and depredation provision (see example in Appendix C)
- Repeal section 708.13 and integrate tag requirements into new subsection specifically for wild pig licensing/tag requirements (see example in Appendix C)

Option 2: Change Designation from Game to New Designation

A number of statutory and regulatory changes would be required under this option to integrate the solutions proposed to address identified management concerns. Appendix D contains specific proposed changes to statutory and regulatory text, which are generally described here.

Changes to Fish and Game Statutes under Option 2

Statutory changes proposed under Option 1 would also be necessary under this option. In addition:
• Modify Section 3003.1(c) to add wild pig (body-gripping traps)
• Modify Section 3005.5 to add wild pig (capture or possess wildlife)
• Add a new section to provide for take of wild pigs damaging property, similar to Section 4152 for nongame mammals (See example in Appendix D)

Changes to Title 14 Regulations under Option 2
• Modify sections 251.3, 251.8, 257.5, and 260.2 to include wild pig
• Remove references to wild pig from sections 350, 352, 353, and 401
• Repeal Section 368
• Create a chapter in subdivision 2 specifically for wild pig regulations
• Within the new chapter, add sections to establish bag and season, methods of take, hours for take, licensing and validation, and depredation provisions proposed under Option 1 (See example in Appendix E)
• Repeal section 708.13 and integrate tag requirements into new subsection specifically for wild pig licensing/tag requirements (see example in Appendix E)

Stakeholder Support for the Proposed Options
Based on input received during this process, Option 2 garnered the strongest support from the broadest range of stakeholders. Stakeholders representing hunting, animal welfare, and environmental interests expressed support for creating a new designation that acknowledges wild pig's value as a game mammal while, on the other hand, recognizing the different management objectives for wild pigs compared to other game and nongame mammals. However, there is opposition from some within the hunting community to any change in the status designation and many representatives from the hunting community expressed opposition to Option 1 due to the nongame status designation.

Statutes and Regulations Relevant to Wild Pig
Key statutes and regulations that generally apply to game mammals or specifically to wild pigs that may require revision under the proposed options are identified here; a more detailed description of these code and regulation sections is provided in Appendix A.

Fish and Game Code Statutes
• Section 2005 – use of artificial lights; infrared lights; night vision equipment
• Section 3000 – prohibits take of mammals at night
• Section 3004.5 – prohibits use of lead projectiles and ammunition for take of wildlife
• Section 3950 – enumerates game mammals
• Section 4181 – requires DFW permit to take elk, bear, beaver, wild pig, or gray squirrels damaging or destroying, or threatening to damage or destroy, land or property
• Section 4181.1 – allows for immediate take of bear or wild pig inflicting injury to livestock or damage to property
• Section 4181.2 – defines damage and requires DFW develop guidelines for determining damage by wild pigs
• Section 4188 – option for allowing licensed hunters to take wild pigs, wild turkeys, or
deer damaging or threatening to damage property (references Section 4181)
• Section 4304 – prohibits waste of game mammals due to carelessness or neglect
• Section 4650 – defines wild pig
• Section 4651 – requires DFW develop a plan for wild pig management
• Section 4652 – requires hunters to have a wild pig tag
• Section 4653 – allows DFW to design the wild pig tag and determine the procedures for
issuing and using tags
• Section 4654 – sets age requirement for procuring wild pig tags and establishes wild pig
tag fees
• Section 4655 – establishes time period when the wild pig tag is valid
• Section 4656 – directs revenue from wild pig tags to the Big Game Management
Account
• Section 4657 – establishes possession, information, affixing, and reporting
requirements for wild pig tags

Title 14 Regulations
• Section 250.1 – phases in the prohibition on the use of lead projectiles and ammunition
for take of wildlife
• Section 251.3 – prohibits knowingly feeding big game mammals
• Section 251.8 – permits tribal members to transport game mammals off tribal lands with
a tribe-issued permit
• Section 257.5 – prohibits the use of bait to take game mammals
• Section 260.2 – permits hunting of game species on Lake Oroville Recreational Area
with some restrictions
• Section 265 – regulates the use of dogs for the pursuit/take of mammals for depredation
and hunting
• Section 352 – establishes the hours for hunting big game mammals
• Section 353 – authorizes methods of take for big game mammals
• Section 368 – establishes season, bag, and possession limits for wild pigs
• Section 401 – regulates the issuance of depredation permits for game mammals and
bobcats
• Section 465.5 – regulates the use of traps for game mammals, nongame mammals, and
furbearing mammals
• Section 551 – permits hunting of wild pigs on DFW wildlife areas with some restrictions
• Section 671 – requires permit to import, transport, or possess live restricted animals,
including wild pigs
• Section 671.3 – establishes facility standards for live restricted species, including wild
pigs
• Section 708.13 – establishes requirements for procuring wild pig tags, time period when
tags are valid, and tagging requirements
Appendix A. Descriptions of Relevant Wild Pig Statutes and Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish and Game Code Statutes</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section</strong></td>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Lights and Sniperscopes - exemptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000</td>
<td>Take Game During Hours of Darkness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3004.5</td>
<td>Nonlead Centerfire Ammunition Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3950</td>
<td>Definitions of Game Mammals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4181</td>
<td>Kill elk, bear, beaver, wild pig, or gray squirrels damaging property; permit required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4181.1</td>
<td>Take bear or wild pig in act of injuring livestock, reporting requirements, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4181.2</td>
<td>Damage by wild pigs defined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4188</td>
<td>Permits for licensed hunter to take wild pigs or deer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix A. Descriptions of Relevant Wild Pig Statutes and Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4651</td>
<td>Management plan</td>
<td>Requires DFW prepare a plan for the management of wild pigs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4652</td>
<td>License to take</td>
<td>Unlawful to take a pig, except as provided in Section 4181, without a tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4653</td>
<td>License design, information, and procedures for issuance</td>
<td>DFW may determine the design and type of information included on the wild pig tag and prescribe the procedures for the issuance and use of the tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4654</td>
<td>Tag procurement by licensed hunter; age limit and fee</td>
<td>Sets 12 as the minimum age for procuring a wild pig tag and establishes the fees for residents and nonresident wild pig tags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4655</td>
<td>License tags only valid during current hunting season</td>
<td>Tags are only valid during the portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs make by taken or possessed in any area of the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4656</td>
<td>Revenues and expenditures</td>
<td>Directs revenue from the tags to the Big Game Management Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4657</td>
<td>Tags; possession, affixing, and other requirements</td>
<td>Requires tag holder to keep the tag in their possession while hunting; make date of kill on the tag; attach tag to carcass before transporting; and report take to DFW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix A. Descriptions of Relevant Wild Pig Statutes and Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title 14, California Code of Regulations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section</strong></td>
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<td>250.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>251.3</td>
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<td>251.8</td>
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<td>257.5</td>
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<td>260.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>265</td>
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<tr>
<td>352</td>
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<tr>
<td>353</td>
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<tr>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Title 14, California Code of Regulations (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>Issuance of permit to take animals causing damage</td>
<td>Establishes application requirements, permit period, permit conditions, authorized methods of take, government employees and designated agents, reporting requirements, tagging requirements, and utilization of carcasses for DFW issued permits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>465.5</td>
<td>Use of traps</td>
<td>Establishes the types of traps and restrictions on use of traps for the take of furbearing mammals, game mammals, and nongame mammals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551</td>
<td>Additional visitor use regulations for DFW wildlife areas</td>
<td>Permits hunting of wild pigs on specific wildlife areas; special drawings; use of dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>671</td>
<td>Import, transport, or possession of live restricted animals</td>
<td>(c)(2)(Q) Order Artiodactyla - requires DFW issued permit for importation, transportation, or possession of 'swine' except domestic swine (Sus scrofa domestica)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>671.3</td>
<td>Minimum facility and caging standards for wild animals housed at permanent facilities</td>
<td>Establishes space and fence height requirements for holding a 'wild pig' under a DFW issued permit pursuant to Section 671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>708.13</td>
<td>Wild Pig License Tags</td>
<td>Allows licensed hunter (12 or older) to purchase pig tag; defines period for which tag valid; and tagging requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B. Sample Fish and Game Code Text for Wild Pigs Definition

The following is an example of how the definition of wild pigs could be modified to more clearly differentiate wild pigs from domestic swine. Strikethrough denotes potential deleted text, and italics denotes potential new text.

**Fish and Game Code**

**Division 4. Birds and Mammals**

**Part 3. Mammals**

**Chapter 7. Wild Pigs**

**4650.** Wild pigs, as used in this chapter, means free-roaming pigs not distinguished by branding, ear marking, or other permanent identification methods. *Wild Pigs.*

(a) Wild pigs, as used in this chapter, means any pig having two or more phenotypical characteristics as specified in subsection (c) of these regulations with no brand, tattoo, or other permanent mark or visible tags pursuant to regulations adopted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture; or free-roaming pigs having no visible tags, markings, or characteristics indicating that such swine is from a domestic herd.

(b) Wild pigs include feral pigs and European wild boars

(c) Phenotypic characteristics of wild pigs:

1. Coat: long, dark, coarse bristles and guard hairs; the undercoat, when present, is lighter in color than the overlaying coat; individual hairs have bristle tips that are lighter in color than the rest of the hair shaft.

2. Dark “Point” Coloration: distal portion of the snout, ears, legs, and tail are dark brown to black in coloration.

3. Skeletal appearance: skull is large, measuring up to one-third the total body length; short massive trunk with underdeveloped hindquarters.

4. Head: small, deep set eyes and elongated snout.

5. Tail: tails are held straight or slightly curved but contain muscular structure to curl the tail.

6. Teeth: males have well-developed canine teeth; upper canines are relatively short and grow sideways early in life and gradually curl upwards with age; lower canines are sharper and longer with exposed parts measuring up to 10 to 12 cm (3.9 to 4.7 inches) in length.
Appendix C. Sample Regulation Text for Wild Pigs under a Nongame Designation

The following is an example of how wild pigs could be integrated into the current nongame mammal regulations. Potential new regulation language, offered only as an example, is denoted by italicized text. For purposes of brevity only the relevant subsections are provided.

472. General provisions.
Except as otherwise provided in Sections 478, 485, and 4XX, and subsections (a) through (d) below, nongame birds and mammals may not be taken.

474. Hours for Taking.
Nongame mammals may be taken at any time except as provided in this section.
(e) Wild pig may be taken only from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except as provided for in Section 4XX(c).

475. Methods of Take for Nongame Birds and Nongame Mammals.
Nongame birds and nongame mammals may be taken in any manner except as follows:
(c) Fallow deer, sambar deer, axis deer, sika deer, aoudad, mouflon, tahr, feral goats, and wild pigs may be taken only with the equipment and ammunition specified in Section 353 of these regulations.
(e) No feed, bait or other material capable of attracting a nongame mammal may be placed or used in conjunction with dogs for the purpose of taking any nongame mammals. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an individual operating in accordance with the provisions of Section 465.5 from using a dog to follow a trap drag and taking the nongame mammal caught in that trap. The take of wild pig shall be in accordance with Section 257.5 of these regulations.

4XX. Wild Pig.
(a) It shall be unlawful to pursue, take, or possess any wild pig without first procuring a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation. This section shall not apply to wild pigs taken pursuant to Section 4152 of the Fish and Game Code and subsection (c) of this section.
(b) Hunting: The pursuit, take, or possession of a wild pig under the authority of a hunting license and a wild pig hunting validation shall be in accordance with sections 472, 473, 474, 475, and 4XX.1 of these regulations. Wild pigs may be taken statewide under the authority of a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation at any time of year and in any number.
(c) Depredation: A person who is a property owner, tenant, or paid employee may take wild pigs that are damaging or destroying or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property without a hunting license and hunting tag/validation under the following conditions.
(1) Methods of Take.
(A) Wild pigs may be taken by any method in accordance with sections 465.5 and 475(c) of these regulations. Except only designated agents providing services under a valid trapping license or by an employee of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities, including but not limited to animal control, animal
control damage, irrigation, flood, or natural resource reclamation, while acting in their official capacity may use snares.

(B) Use of dogs shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 265 of these regulations.

(C) Artificial lights may be used to assist in taking wild pigs. If using spotlights at night, the property owner shall notify DFW to inform them of night operations and location.

(2) Government Employees and Designated Agents.

(A) A landowner may authorize an employee of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity to take depredating wild pigs on the property.

(B) A landowner may designate other persons, including any dog handler who will be utilized in any pursuit, as their agent to take depredating wild pigs on the property. The designated agent must have a trapping license or hunting license and wild pig hunting validation.

(3) Tagging Animals. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property by the property owner, tenant, or paid employee. Tags shall clearly show the property owner’s name, address, date and location the animal was taken and shall include the signature of the person taking the animal.

(4) Utilization of the Carcass. Animals taken shall be utilized by the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent except the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high air temperature, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass.

4XX.1 Wild Pig Hunting Validation.

(a) Any licensed hunter, 12 years of age or older taking wild pigs, including feral pigs and European wild boars (genus Sus), must have a current state wild pig hunting validation in possession.

(b) Wild pig hunting validations, as specified in Section 4654 of the Fish and Game Code, may be procured through the department’s Automatic License Data System terminals at any department license agent or department license sales office.

(c) Wild pig hunting validations are valid only during that portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs may be legally harvested as provided in subsection 4XX(b).
Appendix D. Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

Note: Strikethrough denotes deleted text and italicized and underlined denotes new text.

### Fish and Game Code Statutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3003.1</td>
<td>(c) It is unlawful for any person, including an employee of the federal, state, county, or municipal government, to use or authorize the use of any steel-jawed leghold trap, padded or otherwise, to capture any game mammal, wild pig, fur-bearing mammal, nongame mammal, protected mammal, or any dog or cat. Note: only necessary under Option 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3950</td>
<td>(a) Game mammals are: deer (genus Odocoileus), elk (genus Cervus), prong-horned antelope (genus Antilocapra), wild pigs, including feral pigs and European wild boars (genus Sus), black and brown or cinnamon bears (genus Uarctos), mountain lions (genus Felis), jackrabbits and varying hares (genus Lepus), cottontails, brush rabbits, pigmy rabbits (genus Sylvilagus), and tree squirrels (genus Sciurus and Tamiasciurus).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3953</td>
<td>(c) Funds deposited in the Big Game Management Account shall be available for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature to the department. These funds shall be expended solely for the purposes set forth in this section and Sections 3951 and 3952, and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 450) of Division 1, Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 4650), and Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 4900), including acquiring land, completing projects, and implementing programs to benefit antelope, elk, deer, wild pigs, bear, and sheep, and expanding public hunting opportunities and related public outreach. Any land acquired with funds from the Big Game Management Account shall be acquired in fee title or protected with a conservation easement and, to the extent possible, be open or provide access to the public for antelope, elk, deer, wild pig, bear, or sheep hunting. The department may also use funds from the Big Game Management Account to pay for administrative and enforcement costs of the programs and activities described in this section. The amount allocated from the account for administrative costs shall be limited to the reasonable costs associated with administration of the programs and activities described in this section.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish and Game Code Statutes (continued)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 4181 | (a) Except as provided in Section 4181.1, any owner or tenant of land or property that is being damaged or destroyed or is in danger of being damaged or destroyed by elk, bear, beaver, wild pig, wild turkeys, or gray squirrels, may apply to the department for a permit to kill the animals...
(c) With respect to wild pigs, the department shall provide an applicant for a depredation permit to take wild pigs or a person who reports taking wild pigs pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 4181.1 with written information that sets forth available options for wild pig control, including, but not limited to, depredation permits, allowing periodic access to licensed hunters, and holding special hunts authorized pursuant to Section 4188. The department may maintain and make available to these persons lists of licensed hunters interested in wild pig hunting and lists of nonprofit organizations that are available to take possession of depredating wild pig carcasses. |
| 4181.1(b) | (b) Notwithstanding Section 4652, any wild pig that is encountered while in the act of inflicting injury to, molesting, pursuing, worrying, or killing livestock or damaging or destroying, or threatening to immediately damage or destroy, land or other property, including, but not limited to, rare, threatened, or endangered native plants, wildlife, or aquatic species, may be taken immediately by the owner of the livestock, land, or property or the owner’s agent or employee, or by an agent or employee of any federal, state, county, or city entity when acting in his or her official capacity. The person taking the wild pig shall report the taking no later than the next working day to the department and shall make the carcass available to the department. Unless otherwise directed by the department and notwithstanding Section 4657, the person taking a wild pig pursuant to this subdivision, or to whom the carcass of a wild pig taken pursuant to this subdivision is transferred pursuant to subdivision (c), may possess the carcass of the wild pig. The person in possession of the carcass shall make use of the carcass, which may include an arrangement for the transfer of the carcass to another person or entity, such as a nonprofit organization, without compensation. The person who arranges this transfer shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 4304. A violation of this subdivision is punishable pursuant to Section 12000. It is the intent of the Legislature that nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to authorize a person to take wild pigs pursuant to this subdivision in violation of a state statute or regulation or a local zoning or other ordinance that is adopted pursuant to other provisions of law and that restricts the discharge of firearms. |
Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4181.1(c)</td>
<td>(c) The department shall make a record of each report made pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) and may have an employee of the department investigate the taking or cause the taking to be investigated. The person taking a wild pig shall provide information as deemed necessary by the department. Upon completion of the investigation, the investigator may, upon a finding that the requirements of this section have been met with respect to the particular bear or wild pig taken under subdivision (a) or (b), issue a written statement to the person confirming that the requirements of this section have been met. The person who took the wild pig may transfer the carcass to another person without compensation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4182</td>
<td>Repeal entire section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4188</td>
<td>(a) If a landowner or tenant applies for a permit under Section 4181 for wild pigs or wild turkeys, or under Section 4181.5 for deer, the department shall notify the landowner or tenant about available options for allowing access by licensed hunters, including, but not limited to, access authorized pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 1570) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 to control wild pigs, wild turkeys, and deer. (b) The commission, in lieu of a permit as described in subdivision (a), and with the consent of, or upon the request of, the landowner or tenant, under appropriate regulations, may authorize the issuance of permits to persons holding valid hunting licenses to take wild pigs, wild turkeys, or deer in sufficient numbers to stop the damage or threatened damage. Before issuing permits to licensed hunters, the department shall investigate and determine the number of permits necessary, the territory involved, the dates of the proposed hunt, the manner of issuing the permits, and the fee for the permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4304</td>
<td>No person shall at any time capture or destroy any deer and detach or remove from the carcass only the head, hide, antlers, or horns; nor shall any person at any time leave through carelessness or neglect any game mammal or game bird or wild pig, which is in his possession, or any portion of the flesh thereof usually eaten by humans, to go needlessly to waste. The provisions of this section shall not apply to game mammals or wild pigs taken under the authority of Sections 4152 and 4183 of this code.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4650</td>
<td><strong>Replace text with revised definition proposed in Appendix B</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish and Game Code Statutes (continued)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4651</strong></td>
<td>(a) The department shall prepare a plan for the management of wild pigs. Under the plan, the status and trend of wild pig populations shall be determined and management units shall be designated within the state. The plan may establish pig management zones to address regional needs and opportunities. In preparing the plan, the department shall consider available, existing information and literature relative to wild pigs. (b) The plan may include all of the following: (1) The distribution and abundance of wild pigs, as described in Section 3950. (2) A survey of range conditions. (3) Recommendations for investigations and utilization of wild pigs. (4) Encouraging mitigation of depredation by sport hunting pursuant to this chapter. (5) Live trapping and relocation of wild pigs to areas suitable and accessible to mitigation of depredation, with the consent of the landowner and after prior consultation with adjacent landowners who, in the department’s opinion may be impacted, pursuant to this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4652</strong></td>
<td>It is unlawful to take any wild pig, except as provided in Section 4181-4152, without first procuring a tag authorizing the taking of that wild pig in accordance with this chapter. Note: change to Section 4152 under Option 1; change to new Section under Option 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4654</strong></td>
<td>(a) Any resident of this state, 12 years of age or older, who possesses a valid hunting license, may procure the number of a wild pig tags corresponding to the number of wild pigs that may legally be taken by one person during the license year upon payment of a base fee of fifteen dollars ($15), for each wild pig tag. (b) Any nonresident, 12 years of age or older, who possesses a valid California nonresident hunting license, may procure the number of a wild pig tags corresponding to the number of wild pigs that may legally be taken by one person during the license year upon payment of a base fee of fifty dollars ($50), for each wild pig tag. (c) The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the 2004-2018 license year, and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant to Section 713.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4655</strong></td>
<td>Tags are only valid during the portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs make by taken or possessed in any area of the state</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

### Fish and Game Code Statutes (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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</table>
| 4657    | The holder of a wild pig tag shall keep the tag in his or her possession while hunting wild pig. **The commission may adopt such regulations as it deems necessary to govern the transportation of the carcass and any harvest reporting.** Before the taking of any wild pig, the holder of a wild pig tag, except for wild pig tags issued through the Automated License Data System, shall legibly write or otherwise affix his or her hunting license number to the wild pig tag. Upon the killing of any wild pig, the date of the kill shall be clearly marked by the holder of the tag on both parts of the tag. Before transporting the pig, a tag shall be attached to the carcass by the holder of the tag. The holder of the wild pig tag shall immediately, upon harvesting a pig, notify the department in a manner specified by the commission.

New section<br><br>**Proposed text under Option 2** (see Section 4652 above): *(a) Any wild pig found to be injuring, molesting, pursuing, worrying, or killing livestock or damaging or destroying, or threatening to damage or destroy land or other property, including, but not limited to, rare, threatened, or endangered native plants, wildlife, or aquatic species, may be taken at any time or in any manner in accordance with this code and regulations adopted pursuant to this code by the owner or tenant of the premises or employees and agents in immediate possession of written permission from the owner or tenant thereof. They may also be taken by officers or employees of the Department of Food and Agriculture or by federal, county, or city officers or employees when acting in their official capacities pursuant to the Food and Agricultural Code pertaining to pests, or pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 6021) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of the Food and Agricultural Code.** Persons taking wild pig in accordance to this section are exempt from Section 3007, except when providing trapping services for a fee. *(b) Traps used pursuant to this section shall be inspected and all animals in the traps shall be removed at least once daily. The inspection and removal shall be done by the person who sets the trap or the owner of the land where the trap is set or an agent of either.*
## Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

### Title 14, California Code of Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>251.3</td>
<td>No person shall knowingly feed big game mammals, as defined in Section 350 of these regulations, or wild pigs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251.8</td>
<td>(a) Pursuant to the provisions of sections 3080 and 3081(b) of the Fish and Game Code, game birds, game mammals, and wild pigs taken by California Indians on reservations under those circumstances wherein the taking of such animals is excepted from the application of the California Fish and Game Code in accordance with the provisions of section 12300 of the Fish and Game Code may be transported off the reservation and possessed within the state subject to the following conditions: (1) A permit, in such form as shall be prescribed by the Department of Fish and Game, to transport the carcass of a game bird or mammal, or wild pig, or parts thereof off a particular California Indian reservations shall first be obtained from tribal members designated by the tribal council of the reservation. Copies of the permit shall be maintained and distributed by the designated tribal members in accordance with instructions issued by the Department of Fish and Game. (b) The carcass of each game bird or mammal, or wild pig, or parts thereof shall be suitably stamped and/or tagged in such manner as shall be designated by the Department of Fish and Game prior to the transportation off the reservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>257.5</td>
<td>Except as otherwise provided in these regulations or in the Fish and Game Code, resident game birds and mammals, and wild pigs, may not be taken within 400 yards of any baited area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>260.2</td>
<td>Game species and wild pigs may be taken on the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area only as follows: (c) Game species and wild pigs may be taken only during their respective open seasons or portions thereof falling within the period September 15 through January 31; and as provided in (a) above; and as otherwise provided by state Parks and Recreation are regulations (see area regulations).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350</td>
<td>&quot;Big game&quot; means the following: deer (genus Odocoileus), elk (genus Cervus), pronghorn antelope (genus Antilocarpa), wild pig (feral pigs, European wild pigs and their hybrids (genus Sus), black bear (genus Ursus), and Nelson bighorn sheep (subspecies Ovis canadensis nelsoni) in the areas described in subsection 4902(b) of the Fish and Game Code.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>352</td>
<td>Hunting and shooting hours for big game, including but not limited to deer, antelope, elk, and bear, and wild pig, shall be from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D: Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under Options 1 and 2

Title 14, California Code of Regulations (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>368</td>
<td>Repeal entire section; move wild pig season and bag and possession limit to Chapter 6 Nongame Animals. See example in Appendix C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 401 | (a) Application. A person who is a property owner or tenant may apply to the department for a permit to take elk, bear, bobcat, beaver, wild pigs, deer, wild turkeys, or gray squirrels that are damaging or destroying, or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property...
(b)(1) Permits issued pursuant to this section for beaver, wild pigs, or gray squirrels shall be valid for a period not to exceed one year.
(g)(1) Holders of permits authorizing take of wild pigs shall provide a report listing the date and sex of each wild pig taken. A report shall be submitted whether or not any animals were taken. The reporting period shall be by calendar month. Their permittee or designated agent shall complete and submit the report to the department on or before the 15th day of the following month. Reports shall be submitted to the address provided by the department.
(h) Tagging Animals. All animals taken pursuant to a permit, except wild pigs, shall be immediately tagged with tags provided by the department. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property designated in the permit. Tags for animals except wild pigs shall be completed at the time the animal is taken. Tags for wild pigs shall be completed before the wild pigs are removed from the property...
(i) Utilization of Carcass. Animals taken pursuant to this permit must be disposed of as required by the permit. No animals except wild pigs may be utilized by the permittee or designated agent. The permittee or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high temperatures, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass. A person who makes every reasonable attempt to utilize the carcass of any wild pig as required in this subsection shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 4304 of the Fish and Game Code. |

Additional Revisions Specific to Option 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>472</td>
<td>General Provisions. Add wild pig; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>474</td>
<td>Hours for Taking. Add wild pig; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>475</td>
<td>Methods of Take for Nongame Birds and Nongame Mammals. Add wild pig; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>***</td>
<td>New section with provisions, including depredation, specific to wild pig; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Title 14, California Code of Regulations (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Revisions Specific to Option 1 (continued)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*** New section for wild pig validation; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>708.13 Repeal entire section and move wild pig tag requirements to new section above; see example in Appendix C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Revisions Specific to Option 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*** New section to define species in new designation; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** New section for general provisions; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** New section for hours for taking; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** New section for methods of take; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New section for depredation provisions; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** New section for wild pig validation; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>708.13 Repeal entire section and move to new section above; see example in Appendix E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E. Sample Regulation Text for Wild Pigs under a New Designation

The following is an example of how wild pig regulations could be developed under a new status designation. Chapter and Section numbers are for illustrative purposes only and are provided as an example of where the regulations could be placed within Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. The potential new language, offered only as an example, is denoted by italicized text.

Chapter 3.5. Exotic Game

375. Exotic Game Defined.
“Exotic game” means wild pig, including feral pig, European wild pig, and their hybrids (genus Sus).

376. General Provisions.
(a) It shall be unlawful to pursue, take, or possess any wild pig without first procuring a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation. This section shall not apply to wild pigs taken pursuant to Section 46XX of the Fish and Game Code and Section 379 of these regulations.
(b) Wild pigs may be taken statewide under the authority of a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation at any time of year and in any number. There is no daily bag or possession limit.

377. Hours for Taking.
Wild pig may be taken only from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, except as provided for in Section 379 of these regulations.

378. Methods of Take.
Wild pigs may be taken in any manner except as follows:
(a) Poison may not be used.
(b) Wild pig may be taken only with the equipment and ammunition specified in Section 353 of these regulations.
(c) Traps may be used to take wild pigs only in accordance with the provisions of Section 465.5 of these regulations and Section 3003.1 of the Fish and Game Code.
(d) The take or attempted take of wild pigs shall be in accordance with the use of nonlead projectiles and ammunition pursuant to Section 250.1 of these regulations.
(e) The take of wild pig shall be in accordance with Section 257.5 of these regulations.

379. Wild Pig Depredation.
A person who is a property owner, tenant, or paid employee, as defined in subsection (f) of this section, may take wild pigs that are damaging or destroying or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property without a hunting license and hunting tag/validation under the following conditions.
(a) Methods of Take.

(1) Wild pig may be taken by any method in accordance with Section 378 of these regulations.

(2) Any person utilizing dogs in the pursuit or take of wild pigs pursuant to this section must have a valid hunting license and wild pig validation. This does not apply to employees of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity.

(3) Any person utilizing snares pursuant to this section must have a valid trapping license. This does not apply to employees of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity.

(b) Hours for Take.

(1) Wild pigs causing damage or threatening to cause damage may be taken at any time except that they may not be taken from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise in the area described in Section 474(a) of these regulations.

(2) On privately-owned property, not included in Section 474(a) of these regulations, wild pigs may be taken from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise only by the landowner, tenant, paid employee, or a designated agent.

(3) Artificial lights may be used to assist in the taking wild pigs. If using spotlights at night, the property owner shall notify DFW of night operations and location at least 72 hours in advance.

(c) Government Employees and Designated Agents.

(1) A landowner or tenant may authorize an employee of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity to take depredating wild pigs on the property.

(2) A landowner or tenant may designate other persons, including any dog handler who will be utilized in any pursuit, as their agent to take depredating wild pigs on the property. The designated agent must have written authorization from the landowner or tenant, and a trapping license or a hunting license and wild pig hunting validation. Written authorization shall include the landowner or tenant’s name, phone number, and the address for the property where take is authorized.

(d) Tagging Animals. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property by the property owner, tenant, or paid employee. Tags shall clearly show the property owner’s name, address, date and location the animal was taken and shall include the signature of the person taking the animal.

(e) Utilization of the Carcass. Animals taken shall be utilized by the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent except the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high air temperature, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass.

(f) Definition of Paid Employee. Definition under development and not available at this time.
380. Wild Pig Hunting Validation.
(a) Any licensed hunter, 12 years of age or older taking wild pigs, including feral pigs and European wild boars (genus Sus), must have a current state wild pig hunting validation in possession.
(b) Wild pig hunting validations, as specified in Section 4654 of the Fish and Game Code, may be procured through the department’s Automatic License Data System terminals at any department license agent or department license sales office.
(c) Wild pig hunting validations are valid only during that portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs may be legally harvested, as provided in Section 376 of these regulations.
Appendix F. Proposed Changes to Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR Sections Related to Wild Pigs under an Option Maintaining the Current Game Status

The following is an example of how wild pig code and regulation sections could be modified to integrate the proposed changes while maintaining the current big game status. Section numbers denoted by an asterisk are for illustrative purposes only and are provided as an example of where the new regulation section could be placed within Title 14, CCR. Note: Strikethrough denotes deleted text and italicized and underlined denotes new text.

### Fish and Game Code Statutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revision</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3953</td>
<td>(c) Funds deposited in the Big Game Management Account shall be available for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature to the department. These funds shall be expended solely for the purposes set forth in this section and Sections 3951 and 3952, and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 450) of Division 1, Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 4650), and Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 4900), including acquiring land, completing projects, and implementing programs to benefit antelope, elk, deer, wild pigs, bear, and sheep, and expanding public hunting opportunities and related public outreach. Any land acquired with funds from the Big Game Management Account shall be acquired in fee title or protected with a conservation easement and, to the extent possible, be open or provide access to the public for antelope, elk, deer, wild pig, bear, or sheep hunting. The department may also use funds from the Big Game Management Account to pay for administrative and enforcement costs of the programs and activities described in this section. The amount allocated from the account for administrative costs shall be limited to the reasonable costs associated with administration of the programs and activities described in this section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4181</td>
<td>(a) Except as provided in Section 4181.1, any owner or tenant of land or property that is being damaged or destroyed or is in danger of being damaged or destroyed by elk, bear, beaver, wild pigs, wild turkeys, or gray squirrels, may apply to the department for a permit to kill the animals... (c) With respect to wild pigs, the department shall provide an applicant for a depredation permit to take wild pigs or a person who reports taking wild pigs pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 4181.1 with written information that sets forth available options for wild pig control, including, but not limited to, depredation permits, allowing periodic access to licensed hunters, and holding special hunts authorized pursuant to Section 4188. The department may maintain and make available to these persons lists of licensed hunters interested in wild pig hunting and lists of nonprofit organizations that are available to take possession of depredating wild pig carcasses.</td>
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Staff Proposal on Wild Pig Management Options; August 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revision</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4181.1(b)</td>
<td>(b) Notwithstanding Section 4652, any wild pig that is encountered while in the act of inflicting injury to, molesting, pursuing, worrying, or killing livestock or damaging or destroying, or threatening to immediately damage or destroy, land or other property, including, but not limited to, rare, threatened, or endangered native plants, wildlife, or aquatic species, may be taken immediately by the owner of the livestock, land, or property or the owner’s agent or employee, or by an agent or employee of any federal, state, county, or city entity when acting in his or her official capacity. The person taking the wild pig shall report the taking no later than the next working day to the department and shall make the carcass available to the department. Unless otherwise directed by the department and notwithstanding Section 4657, the person taking a wild pig pursuant to this subdivision, or to whom the carcass of a wild pig taken pursuant to this subdivision is transferred pursuant to subdivision (c), may possess the carcass of the wild pig. The person in possession of the carcass shall make use of the carcass, which may include an arrangement for the transfer of the carcass to another person or entity, such as a nonprofit organization, without compensation. The person who arranges this transfer shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 4304. A violation of this subdivision is punishable pursuant to Section 12000. It is the intent of the Legislature that nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to authorize a person to take wild pigs pursuant to this subdivision in violation of a state statute or regulation or a local zoning or other ordinance that is adopted pursuant to other provisions of law and that restricts the discharge of firearms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4181.1(c)</td>
<td>(c) The department shall make a record of each report made pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) and may have an employee of the department investigate the taking or cause the taking to be investigated. The person taking a wild pig shall provide information as deemed necessary by the department. Upon completion of the investigation, the investigator may, upon a finding that the requirements of this section have been met with respect to the particular bear or wild pig taken under subdivision (a) or (b), issue a written statement to the person confirming that the requirements of this section have been met. The person who took the wild pig may transfer the carcass to another person without compensation.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Fish and Game Code Statutes (continued)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revision</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4181.2</td>
<td>For the purposes of this article relating to damage caused by wild pigs, &quot;damage&quot; means loss or harm resulting from injury to person or property. The department shall develop statewide guidelines to aid in determining the damage caused by wild pigs. The guidelines shall consider various uses of the land impacted by pigs. (a) Any wild pig found to be injuring, molesting, pursuing, worrying, or killing livestock, or damaging or destroying, or threatening to damage or destroy land or other property, including, but not limited to, rare, threatened, or endangered native plants, wildlife, or aquatic species, may be taken at any time or in any manner in accordance with this code and regulations adopted pursuant to this code, by the owner or tenant of the premises or employees and agents in immediate possession of written permission from the owner or tenant thereof. They may also be taken by officers or employees of the Department of Food and Agriculture or by federal, county, or city officials when acting in their official capacities pursuant to the Food and Agricultural Code pertaining to pests, or pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 6021) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of the Food and Agricultural Code. Persons taking wild pig in accordance to this section are exempt from Section 3007, except when providing trapping services for a fee. (b) Traps used pursuant to this section shall be inspected and all animals in the traps shall be removed at least once daily. The inspection and removal shall be done by the person who sets the trap or the owner of the land where the trap is set or an agent of either.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4188</td>
<td>(a) If a landowner or tenant applies for a permit under Section 4181 for wild pigs or wild turkeys, or under Section 4181.5 for deer, the department shall notify the landowner or tenant about available options for allowing access by licensed hunters, including, but not limited to, access authorized pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 1570) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 to control wild pigs, wild turkeys, and deer. (b) The commission, in lieu of a permit as described in subdivision (a), and with the consent of, or upon the request of, the landowner or tenant, under appropriate regulations, may authorize the issuance of permits to persons holding valid hunting licenses to take wild pigs, wild turkeys, or deer in sufficient numbers to stop the damage or threatened damage. Before issuing permits to licensed hunters, the department shall investigate and determine the number of permits necessary, the territory involved, the dates of the proposed hunt, the manner of issuing the permits, and the fee for the permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4650</td>
<td>Replace text with revised definition proposed in Appendix B</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Fish and Game Code Statutes (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Proposed Revision</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4651</td>
<td>(a) The department shall prepare a plan for the management of wild pigs. Under the plan, the status and trend of wild pig-populations shall be determined and management units shall be designated within the state. The plan may establish pig-management zones to address regional needs and opportunities. In preparing the plan, the department shall consider available, existing information and literature relative to wild pigs. (b) The plan may include all of the following: (1) The distribution and abundance of wild pigs, as described in Section 3950. (2) A survey of range conditions. (3) Recommendations for investigations and utilization of wild pigs. (4) Encouraging mitigation of depredation by sport hunting pursuant to this chapter. (5) Live trapping and relocation of wild pigs to areas suitable and accessible to mitigation of depredation, with the consent of the landowner and after prior consultation with adjacent landowners who, in the department’s opinion may be impacted, pursuant to this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4652</td>
<td>It is unlawful to take any wild pig, except as provided in Section 4181-4181.2, without first procuring a tag authorizing the taking of that wild pig in accordance with this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4654</td>
<td>(a) Any resident of this state, 12 years of age or older, who possesses a valid hunting license, may procure the number of wild pig tags corresponding to the number of wild pigs that may legally be taken by one person during the license year upon payment of a base fee of fifteen dollars ($15), for each wild pig tag. (b) Any nonresident, 12 years of age or older, who possesses a valid California nonresident hunting license, may procure the number of wild pig tags corresponding to the number of wild pigs that may legally be taken by one person during the license year upon payment of a base fee of fifty dollars ($50), for each wild pig tag. (c) The base fees specified in this section are applicable to the 2004-2018 license year, and shall be adjusted annually thereafter pursuant to Section 713.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4655</td>
<td>Tags are only valid during the portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs make by taken or possessed in any area of the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Proposed Revision</td>
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</table>
| 4657    | The holder of a wild pig tag shall keep the tag in his or her possession while hunting wild pig. *The commission may adopt such regulations as it deems necessary to govern the transportation of the carcass and any harvest reporting.* Before the taking of any wild pig, the holder of a wild pig tag, except for wild pig tags issued through the Automated License Data System, shall legibly write or otherwise affix his or her hunting license number to the wild pig tag. Upon the killing of any wild pig, the date of the kill shall be clearly marked by the holder of the tag on both parts of the tag. Before transporting the pig, a tag shall be attached to the carcass by the holder of the tag. The holder of the wild pig tag shall immediately, upon harvesting a pig, notify the department in a manner specified by the commission.
### Title 14, California Code of Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>352</td>
<td>Hunting and shooting hours for big game, including but not limited to deer, antelope, elk, and bear, and wild pig shall be taken from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Wild pig shall be taken from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset except as provided for in subsection 4XX(b) of these regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>(a) Application. A person who is a property owner or tenant may apply to the department for a permit to take elk, bear, bobcat, beaver, wild pigs, deer, wild turkeys, or gray squirrels that are damaging or destroying, or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property... (b)(1) Permits issued pursuant to this section for beaver, wild pigs, or gray squirrels shall be valid for a period not to exceed one year. (g)(1) Holders of permits authorizing take of wild pigs shall provide a report listing the date and sex of each wild pig taken. A report shall be submitted whether or not any animals were taken. The reporting period shall be by calendar month. Their permittee or designated agent shall complete and submit the report to the department on or before the 15th day of the following month. Reports shall be submitted to the address provided by the department. (h) Tagging Animals. All animals taken pursuant to a permit, except wild pigs, shall be immediately tagged with tags provided by the department. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property designated in the permit. Tags for animals except wild pigs shall be completed at the time the animal is taken. Tags for wild pigs shall be completed before the wild pigs are removed from the property... (i) Utilization of Carcass. Animals taken pursuant to this permit must be disposed of as required by the permit. No animals, except wild pigs, may be utilized by the permittee or designated agent. The permittee or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high temperatures, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass. A person who makes every reasonable attempt to utilize the carcass of any wild pig as required in this subsection shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 4304 of the Fish and Game Code.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403*</td>
<td>Take of Wild Pig Causing Damage. A person who is a property owner, tenant, or paid employee, as defined in subsection (f) of this section, may take wild pigs that are damaging or destroying or immediately threatening to damage or destroy, land or property without a hunting license and hunting tag/validation under the following conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Proposed Revisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>403(a)</td>
<td>Method of Take. (1) Wild pig may be taken by any method in accordance with Section 353 and 465.5 of these regulations. (2) Any person utilizing dogs in the pursuit or take of wild pigs pursuant to this section must have a valid hunting license and wild pig validation. This does not apply to employees of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity. (3) Any person utilizing snares pursuant to this section must have a valid trapping license. This does not apply to employees of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity. (4) No poison may be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403(b)</td>
<td>Hours for taking. (1) Wild pigs causing damage or threatening to cause damage may be taken at any time except that they may not be taken from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise in the area described in Section 474(a) of these regulations. (2) On privately-owned property, not included in Section 474(a) of these regulations, wild pigs may be taken from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise only by the landowner, tenant, paid employee, or a designated agent. (3) Artificial lights may be used to assist in the taking wild pigs. If using spotlights at night, the property owner shall notify DFW of night operations and location at least 72 hours in advance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403(c)</td>
<td>Government Employees and Designated Agents. (1) A landowner may authorize an employee of a federal, State, or local government agency or local district with responsibilities including but not limited to animal control, animal damage control, irrigation, flood, or natural resources reclamation, while acting in their official capacity to take depredating wild pigs on the property. (2) A landowner may designate other persons, including any dog handler who will be utilized in any pursuit, as their agent to take depredating wild pigs on the property. The designated agent must have a trapping license or hunting license and wild pig hunting validation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403(d)</td>
<td>Tagging Animals. Wild pigs shall be tagged prior to being transported from the property by the property owner, tenant, or paid employee. Tags shall clearly show the property owner’s name, address, date and location the animal was taken and shall include the signature of the person taking the animal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403(e)</td>
<td>Utilization of the Carcass. Animals taken shall be utilized by the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent except the property owner, tenant, paid employee, or designated agent may leave the carcass of any wild pig where it was taken for reasons of high air temperature, disease, parasites, or conditions which preclude use of the carcass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403(f)</td>
<td>Definition of Paid Employee. Definition under development and not available at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Proposed Revisions</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>404*</td>
<td><em>Wild pig validation.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404(a)</td>
<td>Any licensed hunter, 12 years of age or older taking wild pigs, including feral pigs and European wild boars (<em>genus Sus</em>), must have a current state wild pig hunting validation in possession.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404(b)</td>
<td><em>(a) Wild pig hunting validations, as specified in Section 4654 of the Fish and Game Code, may be procured through the department’s Automatic License Data System terminals at any department license agent or department license sales office.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404(c)</td>
<td><em>Wild pig hunting validations are valid only during that portion of the current hunting license year in which wild pigs may be legally harvested, as provided in Section 368 of these regulations.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At the direction of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) and Commission staff co-hosted a Delta Fisheries Forum to identify potential Commission actions to support and enhance the State’s current fisheries management goals for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta). This report provides an overview of the forum, summarizes key findings, and includes four staff recommendations on potential next steps for Commission consideration.

Background

In June 2016, the Commission received a petition from the Coalition for a Sustainable Delta and others requesting regulation changes to increase the bag limit and reduce the minimum size limit for striped bass and black bass in the Delta. The expressed intent of the petition was to reduce predation by non-native bass on fish that are native to the Delta and are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal or California endangered species acts, including winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley steelhead, and Delta smelt. While the petition was formally withdrawn prior to Commission action, the Commission requested that the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) schedule a discussion to explore the issue more comprehensively. WRC directed staff to hold a half-day forum focused on the State’s vision for managing fisheries in the Delta for the benefit of native fish species and sport fisheries, the implementation of the State’s vision, and soliciting stakeholder input on potential actions the Commission could consider related to this topic.

Held on May 24, 2017 in Sacramento, the forum was publicized and open to the public. Approximately 50 people attended, including WRC co-chairs Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Burns. The forum was structured to include a state agency panel discussion, an overview of the Commission’s policies and regulations for sport fisheries in the Delta, and a full group discussion. The full group discussion included two presentations by representatives for the original petition, consistent with direction provided by the Commission in August 2016.

Forum Highlights

State Agency Panel

The state agency panel members included:

- Carl Wilcox, Policy Advisor to the Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Cindy Messer, Chief Deputy Director, California Department of Water Resources
- Eric Oppenheimer, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
- Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Executive Officer, Science Program, Delta Stewardship Council

Panel members gave an overview of their agency’s role in implementing the State’s vision for managing the Delta and answered questions from the audience.
Key Findings

Existing Conditions – the Delta has undergone significant changes, especially in terms of habitat for native fish. Changes in habitat, hydrodynamics, and aquatic vegetation has resulted in a new ecosystem that favors and supports non-native centrarchids, such as largemouth bass, over native fish species, including Chinook salmon and Delta smelt.

Planning for the Future – the Delta Stewardship Council’s Delta Plan, California Natural Resources Agency’s California EcoRestore, and the multi-agency Ecosystem Restoration Program’s Conservation Strategy for Restoration are large-scale planning efforts that provide the long-term vision, management goals, and implementation strategies for the Delta. Other State plans, such as the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy, Chinook Salmon Resiliency Strategy, and California Water Action Plan, guide more specific, near-term strategies and actions for management in the Delta.

Management Priorities – there has been a shift in management priorities over the last 30-40 years from managing the Delta for sport fisheries to managing for native species to prioritizing management for threatened and endangered species. During this time, there has also been a growing awareness and understanding of the value of managing the ecosystem as a whole rather than managing for individual species, and a greater emphasis has been placed on addressing stressors more holistically. Restoration objectives have also changed with increased focus on restoring key attributes, such as specific habitat types, habitat diversity, and functional flow regimes, to support native species in the Delta. There is also more emphasis on integrating the adaptive management process into management plans and actions.

Interagency Coordination – a myriad of state and federal agencies have management responsibilities within the Delta, which necessitates a certain level of coordination and collaboration. The Interagency Ecological Program, established in the 1970s, provides a framework for agencies to work together to conduct ecological investigations in the Delta. Two decades later, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program built on that effort, forming a consortium of 25 state and federal agencies working together to improve California’s water supply and the ecological health of San Francisco Bay and the Delta. In 2009, the Delta Reform Act established the Delta Stewardship Council to further advance the State’s goals for a more reliable water supply and a healthy, protected Delta ecosystem through the development of the Delta Plan. The Delta Reform Act also established the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee, made up of the 17 state and federal agencies responsible for implementing the Delta Plan. Key efforts that support continued interagency coordination in the Delta include:

- Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) – focuses on providing and integrating relevant and timely ecological information for managing the Delta ecosystem through collaborative and scientifically-sound monitoring, research, modeling, and data synthesis efforts.
- IEP Pelagic Organism Decline Management Team – formed in 2005, this team is tasked with designing and managing a comprehensive study to evaluate the causes of the decline of pelagic organisms, including stock-recruitment effects, declines in habitat quality, increased mortality rates, and reduced food availability due to invasive species.
• Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee – facilitates work on the Delta Plan through increased coordination and integration between 17 agencies and focuses on the intersection of Delta Plan and California Water Action Plan implementation.

• Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program – formed in 2013 under a court order to inform management actions incorporated into the biological opinions for operating the state and federal water projects and considering alternative management actions. The court order ended in 2015; however, the participating agencies agreed to continue the program in an effort to promote the collaborative development of scientific information to inform management decisions.

Implementing Under Uncertainty – there was broad acknowledgement that there will never be enough science to fully inform all management decisions and that an emphasis is needed on approaching management and policy decisions in flexible and adaptive ways. The importance of evaluating the effectiveness of decisions once they have been implemented was highlighted. Key efforts to improve our scientific understanding in the Delta include:

• Delta Science Plan (also known as One Delta, One Science) – establishes a shared vision for Delta science and a framework to guide, organize, and integrate science in the Delta.

• Science Action Agenda – prioritizes near-term actions to achieve the objectives of the Delta Science Plan and identifies priorities for research, monitoring, data management, and communication.

• The State of Bay-Delta Science reports – a periodically updated summary that synthesizes the current science knowledge of the Delta.

**Full Group Discussion**

This portion of the forum started with two presentations highlighting ideas for potential near-term strategies to reduce scientific uncertainty. The first presentation by Brad Cavallo, president and principle scientist for Cramer Fish Sciences, evaluated non-native predator management opportunities in the Delta with a focus on scientific collecting permits and engaging with the angling public to conduct scientific studies. The second presentation by Doug Demko, president of FishBio, covered key uncertainties and identified data needs related to abundance, distribution, and predation impacts of non-native species, and highlighted opportunities for public-private research partnerships with case studies.

Following the presentations, Commission staff facilitated a discussion with the audience centered on three questions. Stakeholders provided a variety of proposals, which are summarized below. Specific input in response to the three questions included:

**Question 1: What are your long-term goals/visions for fisheries management in the Delta?**

• Holistically manage fisheries in a way that accounts for the unique life history strategies of individual species

• Reduce impacts from water project operations on fish species in the Delta

• Take a holistic approach to addressing stressors
• Take a holistic, collaborative approach to management that accounts for disparities in funding needs
• Manage the estuary and riverine system as a whole

Question 2: What actions can the Commission take in the near-term (5-10 years) to support the State’s vision and management objectives?
• Stress the importance of conducting research
• Be willing to take adaptive actions to test management options
• Implement the existing striped bass policy
• Focus efforts on hatchery operations and predation hotspots
• Clarify the scientific collecting permit process
• Support predation-related pilot projects and research

Question 3: What actions can the Commission take in the long term (10-20 years) to support the State’s vision and management objectives?
• Pursue opportunities to ensure adequate funding to complete the full adaptive management cycle

Additional Stakeholder Input
Throughout the forum stakeholders raised concerns and provided input on a number of topics related to Delta management, including:
• predation, while a stressor for listed species is not a primary stressor and management actions should be focused on addressing the primary stressors;
• management actions to reduce predation impacts should be targeted at known predation hot spots;
• management actions to reduce striped bass and black bass populations may have unintended consequences, such as increases in other prey populations that would result in increased competition for limited food resources;
• recommendations to improve hatchery practices to reduce predation on hatchery salmon;
• main issues affecting listed species in the Delta are flow, habitat, and water quality;
• more information on striped bass abundance, distribution, and reproduction is needed to inform any proposed regulation changes;
• more information on direct and indirect loss of fish due to operations of the federal water pumping facility is needed; and
• concerns about management decisions negatively affecting sport fisheries and, in particular, potential economic impacts.

Staff Recommendations
1. Develop and adopt a Delta Fisheries Management policy – develop a policy that: (1) aligns with the State’s goals for the Delta; (2) supports more holistic management of the Delta; (3) encourages interagency coordination and collaboration; (4) requires
integration of the best available science into decision-making; and (5) clarifies the Commission’s management goals for both listed species and sport fisheries in the Delta.

2. Increase Commission awareness of and participation in interagency coordination efforts in the Delta – improve communication about Delta activities through:
   - Department updates on outcomes from the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee, as appropriate;
   - staff participation in interagency meetings and conferences, as appropriate; and
   - periodic updates from agencies on key initiatives, such as the Science Action Agenda or the State of Bay-Delta Science updates.

3. Explore opportunities for targeted predation-related research – encourage staff engagement in efforts to identify possible research options including:
   - coordinate with the Delta Stewardship Council’s Science Program and Department to identify key research questions and possible mechanisms to fund that research, and
   - a collaborative effort to model the effects of various regulatory scenarios.

4. Continue stakeholder engagement on key uncertainties related to fisheries management in the Delta – as time allows, use WRC as a forum to further explore some of the key uncertainties and identify possible options to address them.
Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) 2017-2018 Draft Work Plan: Scheduled topics and timeline for items referred to WRC  (Updated for Aug 2017 FGC meeting)

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KEY
- X  Discussion scheduled
- R  Recommendation developed and moved to FGC
## California Fish and Game Commission – Perpetual Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions

(Dates shown reflect the date intended for the subject regulatory action.)

Updated: 8/18/17

**REGULATORY CHANGE CATEGORY**

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### 10/10/17

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CHANGE ARE SHOWN IN BLUE**

For FGC Staff Use

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**RULEMAKING SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED**

- [ ] Kelp and Algae Harvest Management
- [ ] Possess Game / Process Into Food
- [ ] GID / AZA / ZDA
- [ ] Night Hunting in Gray Wolf Range
- [ ] Shellfish Aquaculture Best Management Practices
- [ ] TRAPPING FEES
- [ ] SF/FGC
- [ ] Tribal Take in MPAs
- [ ] SF/FGC

**EM = Emergency,** **EE = Emergency Expires,** **E = Anticipated Effective Date** (RED "X" = expedited OAL review), **N = Notice Hearing,** **D = Discussion Hearing,** **A = Adoption Hearing,** **V = Vetting,** **R = Committee Recommendation,** **WRC = Wildlife Resources Committee,** **MRC = Marine Resources Committee,** **TC = Tribal Committee**

**Updated: 8/18/17**

Updated: 8/18/17

Updated: 8/18/17