

Department of Fish and Game

DIRECTOR'S BULLETIN

No. 2009-01

To: All Department Staff

Date: October 29, 2009

From: Donald Koch, Director

Subject: Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

The impacts of climate change will be significant and far reaching and will require coordinated and targeted efforts to protect California's natural resources. The Department is committed to minimizing these effects through the development of adaptation and mitigation measures, policies, and practices that provide clear benefits to fish and wildlife and recognize the uncertainty associated with future climatic conditions.

Over the last year the Department made climate change a priority and is committed to building upon existing frameworks and programs to incorporate climate change planning, addressing internal policies related to regulatory responsibilities, and communicating openly with our partners and the public. While climate change adaptation planning promises to offer solutions to address climate change impacts that result from past and current emissions, our efforts must occur in parallel with ongoing mitigation efforts.

The Department has a responsibility as a steward of natural resources to reduce its internal carbon footprint and take actions that will help us carry out our mission in a sustainable manner. In pursuing these goals we have a unique opportunity to take a leadership role in demonstrating how actions taken in the work place not only help reach sustainability goals but also contribute to the quality of our work environment and benefit our employees.

With this bulletin I want to draw your attention to the Department's internal efforts to address its carbon footprint. The Department has recently completed a document titled "DFG Going Green: Reducing our Carbon Footprint" that identifies actions the Department can take to create a more climate change friendly way of doing business. These actions will help decrease the Department's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, save the Department valuable resources and funds, and acknowledge the actions we are already taking to be good stewards of the environment. Some of these actions might include but are not limited to, use of electronic signatures to reduce paper consumption, and promoting web based meetings and conferences.

This document reflects the contributions and innovative thinking of many Department staff and is a way to acknowledge our current efforts as well as a direction for the future. I encourage you to review the document located on the Department's climate change web page and look for opportunities where you can make an impact. There are many things we are already doing and others that are fairly easy to implement. A small investment of time and resources now will benefit the quality of life for our constituents, the delivery of ecosystem services, and meaningful conservation of fish and wildlife. By working together and taking actions today we can have a lasting impact and fulfill our responsibility to conserve fish, wildlife and the places they live for future generations to enjoy.