



February 16, 2022

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

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

The legislation is described in Section [4810 of the Fish and Game Code](#), and [Title 14, Section 650\(e\)\(3\)\(C\) of the California Code of Regulations](#).

A summary of the proposed research is below. Copies of the DRAFT permit are available upon request to CDFW. Please contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch- MOUNTAIN LION SCP at 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

Prospective Scientific Collecting Permit Renewal Issued to:

USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (Entity)

Dennis Orthmeyer – Principal Investigator

Executive Summary:

Mountain Lion Biopsy Dart Project

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