



California Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

2026 APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE ELK HUNTING AREA TAG

FEE*: RESIDENT — \$581.50 NONRESIDENT — \$1,783.00

* FEE REQUIRED ONLY IF APPLICANT IS DRAWN. FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY AFTER AUGUST 1st

COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY AFTER JULY 1st

If the number of accepted applications for a Cooperative Elk Hunting Area Tag exceeds the number of tags available, the Department will determine successful applicants and a list of alternates by conducting a random drawing from the pool of qualified applicants as soon as possible after the application deadline. Qualified applicants will consist of applicants that were not issued a Cooperative Hunting Area Tag in the previous year. Please contact your CDFW regional office for more information.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this application and mail with the following items to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department regional office for the elk hunt zone where your property is located: 1) proof of ownership (such as copy of deed); and 2) proof of property size (map of property). See regulations on the back of this form.

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

DMV STATE ID NUMBER

APPLICANT'S FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME	TITLE (If any)
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MAILING ADDRESS

CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE
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BUSINESS NAME/TITLE (If any)

EMAIL

USE HUNT ZONES FROM THE 2021 CALIFORNIA BIG GAME HUNTING DIGEST TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

ELK HUNT ZONE WHERE QUALIFYING LAND IS LOCATED:

1 ST PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):	BULL	ANTLERLESS	EITHER-SEX
2 ND PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):	BULL	ANTLERLESS	EITHER-SEX
3 RD PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):	BULL	ANTLERLESS	EITHER-SEX

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 555, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, as the owner(s)/fee title holder(s) of not less than 640 acres of land within an elk hunt zone, I hereby make application for a Cooperative Elk Hunting Area Permit. I hereby certify that this is the only application that I have filed for the current year and that the information provided above is true and correct. I have read and understand the provisions of Section 555, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, and agree to abide by those provisions.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	DATE
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DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE APPROVAL

The CDFW has verified the contents of this application and confirmed that lands specified above are located within the boundaries of an elk hunt zone.

REGIONAL MANAGER'S SIGNATURE	REGION	DATE
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ELK TAG INVENTORY NUMBER	ISSUED BY	DATE
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NAME OF DESIGNATED TAG HOLDER	GO ID NUMBER (From ALDS Issued License)
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SECTION 555, TITLE 14, California Code of Regulations

§Section 555. Cooperative Elk Hunting Areas

To encourage protection and enhancement of elk habitat and provide eligible landowners an opportunity for limited elk hunting on their lands, the Department may establish cooperative elk hunting areas and issue license tags to allow the take of elk as specified in Section 364, and subject to the following conditions:

- (a) **Definition and Scope.** A cooperative elk hunting area is an area of private land located within the boundary of an area open to public elk hunting (as identified in Section 364). Minimum size of a cooperative elk hunting area shall be 5,000 acres, except that contiguous parcels of at least 640 acres in size may be combined to comprise a cooperative elk hunting area. Within an area open to public elk hunting, the number of cooperative elk hunting license tags issued shall not exceed 20 percent of the number of public license tags for the corresponding public hunt and shall be of the same designation (i.e., antlerless, spike bull, bull or either-sex) as the public license tags.
- (b) **Application Process.** Application forms are available from the Department's headquarters and regional offices. A person (as defined by Fish and Game Code Section 67) owning at least 640 acres within a cooperative elk hunting area shall be eligible to apply for a cooperative elk hunting area permit. Applicants shall designate one individual eligible to receive one elk license tag by the date indicated under subsection (3) below. Such individuals shall be at least 12 years of age and possess a valid California hunting license. A person may annually submit a cooperative elk hunting area application where they own sufficient habitat as described in subsection (a) above, for each public hunt area in which their property occurs.

(1) Applications shall be submitted to the Department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area. Department of Fish and Wildlife regional offices are located as follows:

Northern Region, 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001 (530) 225-2300
North Central Region, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 (916) 358-2900
Bay Delta Region, 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100, Fairfield, CA 94534 (707) 428-2002
Central Region, 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710 (559) 243-4005
South Coast Region, 3883 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 467-4201
Inland Deserts Region, 3602 Inland Empire Boulevard, Suite C-220, Ontario, CA 91764 (909) 484-0167

(2) Completed applications must be received by the first business day following July 1. Only those applications that are filled out completely will be accepted. The Department will evaluate applications to determine if the specified parcels are of sufficient size within the boundary of a public elk hunt area, and contain important elk habitat. Rejected applications and those that are incomplete will be returned within 15 days of receipt by the Department. If the number of accepted applications exceeds the license tags available, the Department will determine successful applicants and a list of alternates by conducting a random drawing from the pool of qualified applicants as soon as possible after the application deadline. For any license year that the demand for cooperative elk hunting license tags within an area open to public hunting (as identified in Section 364) exceeds the number of tags available, tags will be first issued to applicants that did not receive a tag the previous year. If the quota is not filled, tags will be issued to the remaining applicants by random drawing.

(3) Successful applicants will be notified by the Department as soon as possible after the application deadline. Applicants shall submit the name, address, and valid California hunting license number of designated elk license tag recipients and payment of elk license tag fees by check, money order, or credit card authorization in the amount specified by subsection 702(b)(1)(L)(M), to the Department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area, by the first business day following August 1.

- (c) An elk license tag issued pursuant to the provisions of this section is valid only during the general elk season in which the cooperative elk hunting area occurs and shall only be used on land specified in the landowner's application. License tags are not transferable.
- (d) All provisions of the Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR, relating to the take of birds and mammals shall be conditions of all license tags issued pursuant to this section.
- (e) Any permit issued pursuant to Section 555 may be canceled or suspended at any time by the Commission for cause after notice and opportunity to be heard, or without a hearing upon conviction of a violation of this regulation by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Authority Cited: Section 1575, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 67 and 1575, Fish and Game Code.