

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 554, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

### **§ 554. Cooperative Deer Hunting Areas.**

To encourage the protection and enhancement of critical deer habitat, to provide added protection to landowners from depredations of trespassers and to provide greater access for the public to hunt on privately owned or controlled lands, the department may establish cooperative hunting areas and issue permits for the take of deer as specified subject to the following conditions:

(a) Definition and Scope. A cooperative deer hunting area is an area of private land located within critical deer habitat as determined by the department in deer quota zones (see Section 360) which require public drawings. The cooperative hunting area shall encompass not less than a total of 5,000 acres, except that such area may consist of neighboring lands not less than 640 acres in size under the control of one or more owners.

(b) Application Process.

~~Application forms~~ Applications designated on a form issued by the department are available from the Department's website at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Deer>, ~~headquarters~~ headquarters, and regional offices; ~~The applicant for a cooperative deer hunting area permit shall be an owner of said land. The completed application form and a completed one deer tag application for the appropriate deer zone shall be submitted to one of the following offices of the Department of Fish and Game~~

Region 1, 601 Locust Street, Redding 96001 (530) 225-2300

Region 2, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova 95670 (916) 358-2900

~~Region 3, 7329 Silverado Trail, Box 47, Yountville 94599 (707) 944-5500~~ Region 3, 2825 Cordelia Rd., Suite 100, Fairfield 94594 (707) 428-2002

Region 4, 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno 93710 (559) 243-4005

~~Region 5, 4949 View Ridge Avenue, San Diego 92123 (858) 467-4201~~ Region 5, 3883 Ruffin Rd., San Diego 92123 (858) 467-4201

~~Region 6, 4775 Bird Farm Road, Chino Hills 91709 (909) 597-9823~~ Region 6, 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste. C-220, Ontario 91764 (909) 484-0167

~~The completed applications must be received prior to the first Friday in August. No individual may submit more than one cooperative deer hunting area application per deer season nor may there be more than two cooperative deer hunting area applicants for a given parcel of land.~~

(1) Definitions.

(A) 'Immediate family' is defined as 'the spouse of such person, any child or stepchild of such person or of the spouse of such person, any spouse of any such child or stepchild, any grandchild or step-grandchild of such person or of the spouse of such person, any spouse of

such grandchild or step-grandchild, any sibling of such person sharing ownership in the property, and any spouse of any such sibling.’ Immediate family need not live in the household or reside on the property to qualify.

(2) Eligibility Requirements.

(A) A person (as defined by Fish and Game Code Section 67) owning at least 640 acres within a cooperative deer hunting area shall be eligible to apply for a cooperative deer hunting area permit. Applicants shall designate up to two individuals eligible to receive deer tags by the date below, except for applicants in zones X3a, X5a, and X5b; applicants may apply for one deer tag in those zones. Such individuals shall be at least 12 years of age, possess a valid California hunting license, and be either the landowner or immediate family of the landowner. Individuals shall not be eligible for a cooperative deer hunting tag if they hold a deer tag in the same license year for a premium or restricted hunt as defined in 708.1 of these regulations.

(B) No individual may submit more than one cooperative deer hunting area application per deer season nor may there be more than two cooperative deer hunting area applicants for a given parcel of land.

(3) Application Materials.

The following application materials must be submitted to the department’s regional office nearest the proposed cooperative deer hunting area and must be received prior to the first Friday in August.

(A) Completed application form pursuant to subsection (b)(4)

(B) Applicable fees for first deer tag resident, second deer tag resident, or non-resident, or previous year’s Unsuccessful Deer Tag Letter per applicant, pursuant to subsection 702(c) of these regulations.

(C) Proof of property ownership (copy of deed)

(D) Proof of property size (property map)

(4) Application Form. Application forms are available pursuant to subsection (b).

(A) For both First and Second Applicant:

Applicant’s name, relationship to owner, mailing address, home phone number, day phone number, driver’s license number, GO ID number, printed name, applicant signature, and acknowledgement of compliance with provisions.

(B) Deer hunting zone in which qualifying lands are located.

(5) Review and Approval.

The department shall review the cooperative deer hunting application, verify the content thereof, and certify that the lands consist of critical deer habitat prior to the issuance of a cooperative deer hunting area permit and deer tag. Only those applications that are filled out

completely will be accepted. ~~Incomplete applications will be returned within 15 days of receipt by the department.~~ There shall be no fee for a cooperative hunting area permit.

(c) A deer tag issued pursuant to the provisions of this section is valid only during the open deer season for the deer zone specified ~~on the tag~~ in subsections 360(a) and 360(b) and may only be used on the lands specified in the landowner's application.

(d) All provisions of the Fish and Game Code relating to the take of birds and mammals shall be a condition of all permits and tags issued pursuant to this section.

(e) Any permit or tag issued pursuant to Section 554 may be cancelled 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.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section ~~4572~~ 1575, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections ~~4570-4572~~ 713 and 1575, Fish and Game Code.



DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
**2024 APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE DEER HUNTING AREA PERMIT**

DFW 1409 (Rev. 10/23)

**FEES\* Resident fee of \$38.88 (first deer tag), \$48.41 (second deer tag), or a Nonresident fee of \$345.00 per applicant  
 Nonreporting fee of \$20.60**

**\*If applicable, the previous year's non-reporting fee must be included, or application will be rejected**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Submit the following items to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) regional office in the area where your property is located (see list on the back of this application): 1) application form; 2) submit the fee (above) per applicant for applicable Deer Tag by check or money order or each applicant's Unsuccessful Deer Tag Letter; 3) proof of ownership (i.e., copy of deed); and, 4) proof of property size (property map). **Individuals shall not be eligible for a cooperative deer hunting tag if they hold a deer tag in the same license year for a premium or restricted hunt as defined in Section 708.1, nor may there be more than two (2) applicants for a given parcel of land. See Title 14 regulations on reverse side.**

**Unused deer tags will not be accepted as an exchange for a Cooperative deer tag.**

**COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE FIRST FRIDAY IN AUGUST**

**FIRST APPLICANT (MUST BE LANDOWNER OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY)**

<b>NAME</b>	RELATIONSHIP TO OWNER
MAILING ADDRESS (STREET, RURAL ROUTE, CITY, COUNTY STATE, ZIP)	
HOME PHONE NUMBER	DAY PHONE NUMBER (if different)
DMV/STATE ID NUMBER	GO ID NUMBER (FROM ALDS ISSUED LICENSE)

**SECOND APPLICANT (MUST BE LANDOWNER OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY)**

<b>NAME</b>	RELATIONSHIP TO LANDOWNER
MAILING ADDRESS (STREET, RURAL ROUTE, CITY, COUNTY STATE, ZIP)	
HOME PHONE NUMBER	DAY PHONE NUMBER (if different)
DMV/STATE ID NUMBER	GO ID NUMBER (FROM ALDS ISSUED LICENSE)

**DEER HUNTING ZONE IN WHICH QUALIFYING LANDS ARE LOCATED:**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 554, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, as the owner(s)/fee title holder(s) of not less than 640 acres of critical deer habitat within a deer quota hunting zone requiring a drawing, I (we) hereby make application for a cooperative deer hunting area permit. I (we) hereby certify that this is the only application that I (we) 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 554, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, and agree to abide by those provisions.

PRINTED NAME AND SIGNATURE(S) OF LANDOWNERS(S) <b>X</b>	DATE
PRINTED NAME AND SIGNATURE <b>X</b>	DATE

**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE APPROVAL**

The CDFW shall review the Application for Cooperative Deer Hunting Area Permit, verify the content thereof, and certify that the lands consist of critical deer habitat prior to the issuance of a Cooperative Deer Hunting Area Permit and deer tag.

REGIONAL MANAGER'S SIGNATURE	REGION	DATE
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## SECTION 554, TITLE 14, California Code of Regulations

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1575, Fish and Game Code.  
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