

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 555, Title 14 CCR, is amended to read:

### **§ 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. hunting. 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.

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 general methods 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. Public license tags shall equate to the sum of the general methods elk license tags under Section 364 and the Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) elk license tags under Section 364.1 for the corresponding hunt and for the same designation issued annually.

(b) Application Process. ~~Application forms~~ Applications, designated on a form issued by the department, are available from the department's headquarters and regional ~~offices.~~ offices:

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

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

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, 3883 Ruffin Rd., San Diego 92123 (858) 467-4201

Region 6, 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste. C-220, Ontario 91764 (909) 484-0167

#### (1) Eligibility Requirements.

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. The applicant for a cooperative elk hunting area permit shall be an owner of said land and they ~~Applicants~~ shall designate one individual eligible to receive one elk license tag by the date indicated under subsection (35) 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 Game regional offices are located as follows:~~

~~Northern California and North Coast Region, 601 Locust Street, Redding 96001 (530) 225-2300~~

~~Sacramento Valley and Central Sierra Region, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova 95670 (916) 358-2900~~

~~Central Coast Region, 7329 Silverado Trail, Box 47, Yountville 94599 (707) 944-5500~~

~~San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Region, 1234 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno 93710 (559) 243-4005~~

~~South Coast Region, 4949 View Crest Avenue, San Diego 92123 (858) 467-4201~~

~~Eastern Sierra and Inland Deserts Region, 4775 Bird Farm Road, Chino Hills 91709 (909) 597-9823~~

(2) Application Materials.

The following application materials must be submitted to the department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area by the first business day following July 1.

(A) Completed application form pursuant to subsection (b)(3)

(B) Applicable fees for resident or non-resident elk tags, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 332, subdivision (c) and adjusted annually pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 713.

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

(D) Proof of property size (property map)

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

(A) Applicant: applicant's name, title (if applicable), mailing address, business name (if applicable), driver's license number, telephone number, applicant signature, and acknowledgement of compliance with provisions.

(B) Property: location of qualifying lands (county, section, township, and range), and name of elk zone where qualifying land is located.

(C) First through third preference tag: bull, antlerless, or either-sex, and hunt code.

(4) Review and Approval

~~(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 shall review the cooperative elk hunting application, verify the content thereof, and certify that the lands consist of important elk habitat prior to the issuance of a cooperative elk hunting permit and elk tag. 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.

(5) Designated Recipients. 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(~~bc~~)(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.

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

Reference: Sections 67, 713 and 1575, Fish and Game Code.

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 555.1, Title 14 CCR, is added as follows:

### **§ 555.1. Conflict Zone Cooperative Elk Hunting Areas.**

- (a) Definition and Scope. A conflict zone 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 subsections 364(a)(1)(A), 364(a)(2)(A), 364(b)(2)(A), and 364(c)(1)(A), in which landowners experience chronic, elevated levels of human-elk conflict, as determined by the department. The conflict zone cooperative elk hunting area shall be contiguous parcels of at least 60 acres in size.
- (b) Within the conflict zones open to public elk hunting, the number of conflict zone cooperative elk hunting license general methods antlerless tags issued shall be up to 100 percent of the number of public license general methods antlerless tags issued annually for the corresponding public hunt (i.e., a 1 to 1 public license antlerless tag to landowner antlerless tag ratio). The corresponding public hunt is comprised of the annual sum of general methods license tags issued across sections 364 and 364.1. Within a conflict zone cooperative elk hunting area, the remaining tag designations (i.e., spike bull, bull, or either-sex) shall be issued consistent with subsection 555(a). Any elk zones described in Section 364 excluded from this subsection shall conform to all criteria described in Section 555.
- (c) An elk license tag issued pursuant to the provisions of this subsection is valid commensurate with the first day of the general methods elk season in which the conflict zone cooperative elk hunting area occurs, as described under Section 364, through November 30 annually. All provisions described under Section 555, including 555(b) shall apply to this subsection.

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

Reference: Sections 67 and 1575, Fish and Game Code.



**2024 APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE ELK HUNTING AREA TAG**

DFW 1449 (Rev. 10/23)

**FEE\*: RESIDENT—\$528.75 | RESIDENT JUNIOR TAG — \$24.21 | NONRESIDENT—\$1,619.75**

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

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

If the number of accepted applications for a hunting area exceeds the 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 the same 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 area where your property is located: 1) proof of ownership (such as copy of deed); and 2) Proof of property size (plat map from county assessor). 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)

LOCATION OF QUALIFYING LANDS (COUNTY, SECTION, TOWNSHIP AND RANGE)

**USE INFORMATION AND HUNT CODES FROM THE CALIFORNIA BIG GAME HUNTING DIGEST TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING**

**NAME OF ELK HUNT ZONE WHERE QUALIFYING LAND IS LOCATED:**

**1<sup>ST</sup> PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):**

BULL      ANTLERLESS      EITHER-SEX      HUNT CODE \_\_\_\_\_

**2<sup>ND</sup> PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):**

BULL      ANTLERLESS      EITHER-SEX      HUNT CODE \_\_\_\_\_

**3<sup>RD</sup> PREFERENCE TAG (CIRCLE ONE):**

BULL      ANTLERLESS      EITHER-SEX      HUNT CODE \_\_\_\_\_

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 critical elk habitat within an elk tag quota hunting zone requiring a drawing, 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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**X**

With accordance to California Civil Code §1633.5(b), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwriting signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

**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 a public elk hunting area.

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 and 555.1, 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. 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.

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 general methods 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. Public license tags shall equate to the sum of the general methods elk license tags under section 364 and the Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) elk license tags under section 364.1 for the corresponding hunt and for the same designation issued annually.

(b) Application Process.

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Region 6, 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Ste. C-220, Ontario 91764 (909) 484-0167

(1) Eligibility Requirements.

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. The applicant for a cooperative elk hunting area permit shall be an owner of said land and they shall designate one individual eligible to receive one elk license tag by the date indicated under subsection (6) 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.

(2) Application Materials.

The following application materials must be submitted to the department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area by the first business day following July 1.

(A) Completed application form pursuant to subsection (b)(3)

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(B) Property: location of qualifying lands (county, section, township, and range), and name of elk zone where qualifying land is located.

(C) First through third preference tag: bull, antlerless, or either-sex, and hunt code

(5) Review and Approval

Only those applications that are filled out completely will be accepted. The department shall review the cooperative elk hunting application, verify the content thereof, and certify that the lands consist of important elk habitat prior to the issuance of a cooperative elk hunting permit and elk tag.

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 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. Successful applicants will be notified by the department as soon as possible after the application deadline.

(6) Designated Recipients. 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(c)(1) 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.

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- (c) An elk license tag issued pursuant to the provisions of this subsection is valid commensurate with the first day of the general methods elk season in which the conflict zone cooperative elk hunting area occurs, as described under Section 364, through November 30 annually. All provisions described under Section 555, including 555(b) shall apply to this subsection.

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