

Staff Summary for April 17-18, 2024

26A. Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC)**Today's Item**Information Action

Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing. Consider approving draft agenda topics and changing the meeting location for the next committee meeting.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Previous committee meeting January 16, 2024; WRC
- **Today consider approving agenda topics** **April 17-18, 2024**
- Next committee meeting May 16, 2024; WRC

Background

WRC works under Commission direction to set and accomplish its work plan.

Committee Work Plan

Topics that have been referred by the Commission to WRC are displayed within a work plan for scheduling and tracking. The updated work plan is provided as Exhibit 1 and includes proposed topics for September 2024.

New Topics

Staff has no recommendations for new topics for Commission referral to WRC.

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2024, with webinar and phone options. In addition to standing agenda items (Department updates and future agenda items), four topics are proposed:

1. *Periodic and Annual Rulemakings*: Initial vetting for upland (resident) game birds, mammal hunting, waterfowl hunting, Central Valley sport fishing, and Klamath River Basin sport fishing.
2. *Take of Nongame Mammals*: Discuss concerns regarding take of nongame mammals.
3. *Shotgun Wads*: Continue discussion of plastic pollution caused by shotgun debris from waterfowl hunting.
4. *Waterfowl Hunting in Southampton Bay*: Continue exploration and vetting of potential regulation changes to address waterfowl hunting noise concerns specific to Southampton Bay, consistent with Commission direction at its October 2023 meeting.

The May WRC meeting is currently scheduled to be held in Yreka to accompany a site visit to the Klamath River dam removal sites; that site visit will now be held separately. Staff requests to move the next WRC meeting to the Redding area to simplify travel and to facilitate locating a suitable meeting venue.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

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Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve the topics and work plan as proposed and approve the Redding area as the location for the next WRC meeting.

Exhibits

1. [WRC work plan, updated April 8, 2024](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the Wildlife Resources Committee topics and work plan as proposed and approves the change of location for the May 16, 2024 meeting to Redding.

California Fish and Game Commission
Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) Work Plan
Scheduled Topics and Timeline for Items Referred to WRC
Updated December 4, 2023

Note: Proposed changes to topics/timing are shown in blue underscore or strike-out font

TOPICS	CATEGORY	Jan 2024	May 2024	Sep 2024
Periodic and Annual Regulations				
Upland (Resident) Game Birds	Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Mammal Hunting	Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Waterfowl Hunting	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Central Valley Sport Fishing	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Inland Sport Fishing	Regulatory	X/R		<u>X</u>
Regulations & Legislative Mandates				
Falconry	Referral for Review			
Restricted Species	Regulatory			
Discussions and Updates				
Take of Nongame Mammals	Referral for Review	X	X	<u>X</u>
Shotgun Wads (plastic pollution)	Referral for Review	X	X	<u>X/R</u>
Waterfowl Hunting in Southampton Bay	Referral for Review	X	X	<u>X/R</u>

KEY: X Discussion scheduled X/R Recommendation potentially developed and moved to FGC