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Fish and Game Commission



Wildlife Heritage and Conservation Since 1870

Meeting Agenda June 19-20, 2024

Participate in Person

* Mountainside Conference Center at Main Lodge 10001 Minaret Road, Conference Room 4 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

or

Participate via Webinar/Phone

The meeting will be live streamed; visit www.fgc.ca.gov the day of the meeting to watch or listen. To provide public comment during the meeting, please join at the in-person location, via Zoom, or by telephone; you may join the webinar directly at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83255957652. For complete instructions on how to join via Zoom or telephone, click here or visit fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2024.

- * The elevation at Mountainside Conference Center at Main Lodge is 9,000 feet. Be prepared for and take proactive steps to avoid altitude sickness symptoms, such as headache, muscle fatigue, insomnia, shortness of breath, sunburn, and dehydration.
- Notes: (1) See important meeting deadlines and procedures, including written public comment deadlines, starting on page 12.
 - (2) Unless otherwise indicated, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is identified as Department.
 - (3) All section and subsection references are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise noted.

Invitation: The Commission invites members of the public to join commissioners and staff for a field trip currently under development. Details will be available in advance of the Commission meeting. Members of the public are welcome to join but must provide their own transportation.

Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

1. Consider approving agenda and order of items

2. Juneteenth

Recognize the importance of June 19 to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved Black people in the United States.

Consent Items

Note: Items on the consent calendar are expected to be routine and non-controversial. After public comment, the Commission will consider approving items on the consent calendar in a single vote without discussion. The presiding commissioner may choose to remove any item from the consent calendar and allow a separate discussion and potential action on that item in response to a request by a Commission member, staff, or an interested person.

3. Initial private lands wildlife habitat enhancement and management area (PLM) plan and licence (consent)

Consider approving initial PLM plan license for: (Pursuant to Section 601)

- (A) Butte County
 - I. Magers Ranch

- (C) Yolo County
 - I. 360 Ranch

- (B) Modoc County
 - I. Fort Bidwell Ranch

4. Five- year PLM plans (consent)

Consider approving five-year PLM plans and 2024-2028 licenses for: (Pursuant to Section 601)

- (A) Calaveras County
 - I. Ordway Ranch
- (B) Glenn County
 - I. Anderson Ranch
 - II. Bird Haven Ranch
- (C) Kern County
 - I. Tejon Ranch
- (D) Lassen County
 - I. Clarks Valley Ranch
 - II. Five Dot Ranch Avila

Unit

III. Red Rock Ranch

- (E) Los Angeles County
 - I. Santa Catalina Island
- (F) Monterey County
 - I. Work Ranch
- (G) Shasta County
 - I. Duncan Creek Ranch

5. Annual PLM plans (consent)

Consider approving annual PLM plans and 2024-2025 licenses for: (Pursuant to Section 601)

- (A) Butte County
 - I. Angel Slough
 - II. Deseret Farms
 - III. Llano Seco Ranch
 - IV. M&T Chico Ranch
- (B) Butte and Tehama counties
 - I. Rock Creek Ranch
- (C) Lassen County
 - I. Ash Valley Ranch
 - II. Dixie Valley Ranch
 - III. Five Dot Ranch Horse Lake Unit
 - IV. Five Dot Ranch School Section Unit
 - V. Five Dot Ranch Tunnel Springs Unit
 - VI. Five Dot Ranch Willow Creek Unit
 - VII. Grasshopper Ranch
 - VIII. Kramer Ranch
 - IX. Mendiboure Cold Springs Ranch
 - X. Mendiboure Ranch
 - XI. Observation Peak Ranch
 - XII. Walton Homestead Family LLC
- (D) Modoc County
 - I. Basin View Ranch
 - II. Lookout Ranch
 - III. Roberts Ranch
 - IV. SL Ranch

- (E) San Bernadino County
 - I. Big Morongo Springs Ranch
- (F) Shasta County
 - I. Black Ranch
 - II. Cow Creek Ranch
 - III. Hathaway Oak Run Ranch
 - IV. Jerusalem Creek Ranch
 - V. JS Ranch
 - VI. Kampmann Ranch
 - VII. Rickert Ranch
 - VIII. Willow Creek Ranch
- (G) Siskiyou County
 - I. Long Prairie Farms
 - II. Pondosa
 - III. Red Rock Valley Farms
- (H) Tehama County
 - I. Big Bluff Ranch
 - II. El Rancho Rio Frio
 - III. Little Dry Creek Ranch
 - IV. Mill Creek Ranch
 - V. Salt Creek Ranch
- (I) Yolo County
 - I. Smith Flat
- (J) Yuba County
 - I. Sugarloaf-Bangor Ranch

6. Readoption of white sturgeon emergency regulation (consent)

Consider adopting a second 90-day extension of emergency regulations for sport take of white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) in inland and ocean waters to support recovery of populations and to track fishing pressure and success. (Amend sections 5.79, 5.80, 27.90 and 27.92)

7. Duck stamp expenditure proposals (consent)

Consider approving proposed duck stamp project expenditures from the Duck Stamp Dedicated Account Fund for Fiscal Year 2024-25. (Pursuant to Section 3702, California Fish and Game Code)

8. Milo Baker's lupine (consent)

Consider ratifying findings on the decision to list Milo Baker's lupine (*Lupinus milobakeri*) as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act. (Pursuant to Section 2075.5, California Fish and Game Code)

9. Western burrowing owl (consent)

Consider approving the Department's request for a 30-day extension to review the petition to list western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) as a threatened or endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act. (Pursuant to Section 2073.5, Fish and Game Code)

Discussion and Action Items

10. Commission executive director and Department reports

(A) Commission executive director

- I. Update on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan
- (B) Department director and Law Enforcement Division

11. Inland sport fishing

Discuss proposed amendments to inland sport fishing regulations for freshwater sport fishing bag limits, gear, and low-flow information. (Amend sections 2.30, 5.00, 7.50, 8.00, and 703)

12. Emergency regulations to address chronic wasting disease

Discuss and consider adopting emergency regulations to increase surveillance and limit the spread of chronic wasting disease in California. (Amend Section 708.5)

13. Wildlife rehabilitation

Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend regulations regarding wildlife rehabilitation.

(Repeal Section 679; add sections 679.1, 679.2, 679.3, 679.4, 679.5, 679.6, 679.7, 679.8 and 679.9, and add Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual)

14. White sturgeon sport fishing regular rulemaking

Discuss proposed amendments to adopt emergency rules through a regular rulemaking for the recreational take of white sturgeon in inland and ocean waters. (Amend sections 5.79, 5.80, 27.90 and 27.92)

15. White sturgeon petition to list

Consider and potentially act on the petition, Department's evaluation report, and comments received to determine whether listing white sturgeon (*Acipenser*

transmontanus) as a threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act may be warranted.

(Pursuant to sections 2074 and 2074.2, California Fish and Game Code)

Note: if the Commission determines listing may be warranted, a one-year status review will commence before the final decision on listing is made.

16. White sturgeon take and reporting – 2025

Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend regulations for white sturgeon take and reporting for inland sport fishing and ocean recreational fishing beginning in 2025.

Staff will recommend that this item be continued to a future meeting.

17. Commission policies

Discuss potential amendments to five Commission policies currently under review. (Pursuant to Section 703, California Fish and Game Code)

- (A) Code of Conduct
- (B) Planting Fish in Youth Camps
- (C) Youth Fishing Programs
- (D) Research
- (E) Naming Installations

Staff will recommend that this item be continued to a future meeting.

18. Regulation change petitions (wildlife and inland fisheries)

(A) New petitions

Receive new petitions for regulation change.

(Pursuant to Section 662)

Consideration of whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review is expected to be scheduled for the August 14-15, 2024 meeting.

(B) Previously received petitions

Consider whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review, petitions for regulation change received at previous meetings. Petitions granted today will be added to the Commission's rulemaking calendar for development and future consideration.

(Pursuant to Section 662)

Petition 2024-03: Request to amend regulations to prohibit local governments from contracting with private trappers to trap coyotes on public land and to prohibit use of carbon dioxide as a killing method for coyotes.

19. California grizzly bear

Consider a revised resolution to recognize the 100-year anniversary of the extirpation of California's state animal, grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos californicus*).

20. Wildlife Prosecutor of the Year for 2023

Announce recipient of the annual Wildlife Prosecutor of the Year award for 2023. (Pursuant to Commission Wildlife Prosecutor of the Year Policy)

21. Committee and Department reports

Receive updates on items of note since the previous Commission meeting from Commission committees and Department divisions.

(A) Wildlife Resources Committee

Receive summary and consider approving recommendations from the May 16, 2024 Committee meeting. Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing.

(B) Department Wildlife and Fisheries Division, and Department Ecosystem Conservation Division

- I. Department presentation on bighorn sheep, deer and mountain lion
- II. Department presentation on the Department Private Lands Management Program

The Department will recommend that the second presentation be continued to a future meeting.

General Public Comment

22. General public comment for items not on the agenda

Receive public comment regarding topics within the Commission's authority that are not included on the agenda.

Note: The Commission may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this item, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (sections 11125 and 11125.7(a), Government Code).

DAY 2 - June 20, 2024, 8:30 AM

Call to Order/Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Consent Items

Note: Items on the consent calendar are expected to be routine and non-controversial. After public comment, the Commission will consider approving items on the consent calendar in a single vote without discussion. The presiding commissioner may choose to remove any item from the consent calendar and allow a separate discussion and potential action on that item in response to a request by a Commission member, staff, or an interested person.

23. Restricted Species Permit Application (consent)

Review application approved by the Department for a permit to possess transgenic Hawaiian bobtail squid (*Euprymna scolopes*). (Pursuant to subsection 671.1(a)(8)(H))

Discussion and Action Items

24. Recreational fishing regulations for federal groundfish for 2025 and 2026, and fillet requirements at sea

Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend recreational regulations for (a) federal groundfish for consistency with and to complement federal rules in 2025 and 2026 and (b) fillet regulations for select groundfish and state managed finfish. (Amend sections 27.20, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, 27.45, 27.50, 27.65, 28.27, 28.28, 28.29, 28.47, 28.48, 28.49, 28.54, 28.55, 28.56 and 28.65)

25. Commercial California halibut and white seabass set gill net

Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for commercial California halibut and white seabass gill net fisheries. (Add Section 174.1)

26. Fisheries logbook forms and fishing block charts

Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for fisheries logbook forms and fishing block charts.

(Amend sections 120.7, 122, 165, 190 and 705.1)

27. Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) Application 2024-01

Receive, consider, and potentially act on EFP application to conduct exploratory fishing of brown box crab and to test on-demand buoy retrieval systems in deep water in northern California.

(Pursuant to Section 91)

28. Regulation change petitions (marine)

(A) New petitions

Receive new petitions for regulation change.

(Pursuant to Section 662)

Consideration of whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review is expected to be scheduled for the August 14-15, 2024 meeting.

(B) Previously received petitions

Consider whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review, petitions for regulation change received at previous meetings. Petitions granted today will be added to the Commission's rulemaking calendar for development and future consideration.

(Pursuant to Section 662)

- I. Petition 2024-02: Re-open the red abalone fishery at San Miguel Island, Santa Barbara County, for recreational take and for commercial take under conditions (former commercial abalone divers only, catch quota, data collection).
- II. Petition 2023-10: Allow recreational anglers to donate fish to non-profit organizations under a sport-caught fish exchange permit.

29. Non-regulatory requests from previous meetings (marine)

Consider and potentially act on non-regulatory requests submitted by members of the public at previous meetings.

30. Committee and Department reports

Receive updates on items of note since the previous Commission meeting from Commission committees and Department divisions.

(A) Tribal Committee

Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing. Consider approving draft agenda topics for the next committee meeting to be held Monday, August 13, 2024.

(B) Marine Resources Committee

Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing. Consider approving draft agenda topics for the next committee meeting to be held July 17-18, 2024.

(C) Department Marine Region

- I. Public discussion of action taken to close the recreational razor clam fishery in Humboldt County due to elevated levels of domoic acid. (Pursuant to subdivision 5523(a)(2), California Fish and Game Code)
- Update on annual recreational ocean salmon regulations, and automatic conformance to federal regulations.
 (Pursuant to Section 1.95, Title 14, CCR)

31. Commission administrative items

(A) Legislative report

Receive updates on legislative activity and consider providing direction to staff on potential actions.

(B) Rulemaking timetable updates

Review and potentially approve changes to the perpetual timetable for anticipated regulatory actions.

(C) Potential meeting dates and locations for 2026

Review and provide feedback on draft meeting dates and locations for 2026 as proposed by staff.

(D) Future meetings and new business

Review logistics and approve draft agenda items for the next Commission meeting (August 14-15, 2024), consider any changes to approved meeting dates or locations, or introduce new business for a future meeting agenda.

General Public Comment

32. General public comment for items not on the agenda

Receive public comment regarding topics within the Commission's authority that are not included on the agenda.

Note: The Commission may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this item, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (sections 11125 and 11125.7(a), Government Code).

Adjourn

Public Receipt of Documents

This section of the agenda highlights reports or other documents received by the Commission since the previous meeting. Any Commission discussion or action on these documents will be noticed and placed on the agenda of a future meeting. Since April 23, 2024, the Commission received one Department document:

The Department's <u>five-year species review report on Lake County stonecrop</u> (Sedella leiocarpa) which is currently listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=222433)

Executive Session

(Not open to the public)

At a convenient time during the regular agenda of the meeting listed above, the Commission will recess from the public portion of the agenda and conduct a closed session on the agenda items below. The Commission is authorized to discuss these matters in a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 11126, subdivisions (a)(1), (c)(3), and (e)(1), and Fish and Game Code Section 309. After closed session, the Commission will reconvene in public session, which may include announcements about actions taken during closed session.

- (A) Pending litigation to which the Commission is a Party
 - I. The Ballona Wetlands Land Trust v. California Fish and Game Commission (Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve petition for regulation change)
 - II. Wright v. Sklar (classification of ferrets)
 - III. Borba et al. v. Merced Co, Merced Irrigation Dist, California Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and California Fish and Game Commission (complaint for damages related to flooding)
 - IV. Perez-Ramirez et al. v. County of Merced, City of Merced, Merced Irrigation Dist., California Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and California Fish and Game Commission (complaint for damages related to flooding)
 - V. Glenn et al. v. County of Merced, City of Merced, Merced Irrigation Dist., California Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and California Fish and Game Commission (complaint for damages related to flooding)
- (B) Possible litigation involving the Commission
- (C) Staffing
- (D) Deliberation and action on license and permit items
 - I. Consider the accusation in FGC Case No. 24ALJ04-FGC seeking a one-year suspension of John Boling's commercial Dungeness crab permit.

California Fish and Game Commission Meeting Schedule

Note: As meeting dates and locations can change, please visit www.fgc.ca.gov for the most current list of meeting dates and locations. All Commission meetings will include a webinar/teleconference option for attendance and every effort will be made to ensure that committee meetings include the same.

Meeting Date	Commission Meeting	Committee Meeting
July 17-18, 2024		Marine Resources Santa Rosa area
August 13, 2024		Tribal River Lodge Conference Center 1800 Riverwalk Drive Fortuna, CA 95540
August 14-15, 2024	River Lodge Conference Center 1800 Riverwalk Drive Fortuna, CA 95540	
September 12, 2024		Wildlife Resources San Jose
October 9-10, 2024	California Natural Resources Headquarters Building Auditorium, 1 st Floor 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814	
November 7, 2024		Marine Resources California Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
December 10, 2024		Tribal San Diego area
December 11-12, 2024	San Diego area	

Other Meetings of Interest

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

• September 22-25, 2024 - Madison, WI

Pacific Fishery Management Council

- September 18-24, 2024 Spokane, WA
- November 13-19, 2024 Costa Mesa, CA
- March 5-11, 2025 Vancouver, WA
- April 9-15, 2025 San Jose, CA

Pacific Flyway Council

• August 30, 2024 - Jackson, WY

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

- December 3-5, 2024 WY
- June 2-6, 2025 Provo, UT

Wildlife Conservation Board

- August 22, 2024 Sacramento, CA
- November 21, 2024 Sacramento, CA

Important Commission Meeting Procedures Information

Welcome to a Meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission

This year marks the 155th year of operation of the Commission in partnership with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Our goal is the preservation of our heritage and conservation of our natural resources through informed decision making; Commission meetings are vital in achieving that goal and we provide this information to be as effective and efficient toward that end. Welcome, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Persons with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other Commission activities are invited to contact the Department's Civil Rights Office (CRO) at civilrights@wildlife.ca.gov. Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility and requests for American Sign Language interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Requests for real-time captioners should be submitted at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the CRO immediately.

Stay Informed

To receive meeting agendas and regulatory notices about those subjects of interest to you, visit the Commission's website, www.fgc.ca.gov, to sign up on our electronic mailing lists.

Submitting Written Comments

The public is encouraged to comment on any agenda item. Submit written comments by one of the following methods: E-mail to fgc.ca.gov; mail to California Fish and Game Commission, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090; deliver to California Fish and Game Commission, 715 P Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (you must call at least one business day in advance to arrange delivery). Materials provided to the Commission may be made available to the general public.

Comment Deadlines

The *Comment Deadline* for this meeting is **5:00 p.m. on June 6, 2024**. Written comments received at the Commission office by this deadline will be made available to Commissioners prior to the meeting.

The *Supplemental Comment Deadline* for this meeting is **noon on June 14, 2024**. Comments received by this deadline will be made available to Commissioners at the meeting.

Written comments will not be accepted after the supplemental comment deadline.

Petitions for Regulation Change

Any person requesting that the Commission adopt, amend, or repeal a regulation must complete and submit form FGC 1, *Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change* (as required by Section 662, Title 14, CCR), available at https://fgc.ca.gov/Regulations/Petition-for-Regulation-Change. To be received by the Commission at this meeting, petition forms must be delivered by the *Supplemental Comment Deadline* (or delivered in person at the meeting during the regulation change petitions agenda item). Petitions received at this meeting will be scheduled for consideration at the next

regularly scheduled business meeting, unless the petition is rejected under staff review pursuant to subsection 662(b), Title 14, CCR.

Non-Regulatory Requests

All non-regulatory requests will follow a two-meeting cycle to ensure proper review and thorough consideration of each item. All requests submitted by the **Supplemental Comment Deadline** (or heard during general public comment at the meeting) will be scheduled for receipt at this meeting and scheduled for consideration at the next regularly scheduled business meeting.

Speaking at the Meeting

To speak on an agenda item in-person, please complete a "speaker card" and provide it to the designated staff member before the agenda item is announced. Please complete one speaker card per item. Cards will be available near the entrance of the meeting room.

To speak on an agenda item by webinar/teleconference, please "raise" your hand either through the Zoom function or by pressing *9 once on your phone when prompted at the beginning of the agenda item.

- In-person speakers will be identified in groups; please line up when your name is called. Speakers by webinar/teleconference will be identified by your Zoom display name or last three digits of your phone number; please pay attention to when your name or number is called.
- 2. When addressing the Commission, please give your name and the name of any organization you represent, and provide your comments on the item under consideration.
- 3. If there are several speakers with the same concerns, please appoint a spokesperson and avoid repetitive testimony.
- 4. The presiding commissioner will allot between one and three minutes per speaker per agenda item, subject to the following exceptions:
 - a. The presiding commissioner may allow up to five minutes to an individual speaker if a minimum of three individuals who are present when the agenda item is called have ceded their time to the designated spokesperson, and the individuals ceding time forfeit their right to speak to the agenda item.
 - b. In-person participants ceding their time shall complete a speaker card and approach the staff table with the spokesperson so that staff may confirm the presence of those ceding their time. If you are participating via Zoom and ceding your time to another speaker, please notify the Commission at fgc.ca.gov prior to the start of the agenda item, including to whom you are ceding your time, and be present on Zoom during the agenda item.
 - c. Individuals may receive advance approval for additional time to speak if requests for additional time to speak are received by email or delivery to the Commission office by the **Supplemental Comment Deadline**. The president or designee will approve or deny the request no later than 5:00 p.m. two days prior to the meeting.
 - d. An individual requiring an interpreter is entitled to at least twice the allotted time pursuant to Government Code Section 11125.7(c).

e. An individual may receive additional time to speak to an agenda item at the request of any commissioner.

Agenda items may be heard in any order and on either day pursuant to the discretion of the presiding commissioner.

Visual Presentations/Materials

All electronic presentations must be submitted by the **Supplemental Comment Deadline** and approved by the Commission executive director before the meeting.

- 1. Electronic presentations must be provided by email to fgc.ca.gov. If the presentation file is too large to send via email, contact staff to identify an alternative method for submitting the file.
- 2. All electronic formats must be Windows PC compatible.
- 3. If presenting at the in-person meeting location, it is recommended that a print copy of any electronic presentation be submitted in case of technical difficulties.