

Committee Staff Summary for May 16, 2024

2. Annual Regulation Changes**Today's Item****Information** ☒**Action** ☐

Initial vetting for 2025-26 seasons:

- (A) Waterfowl hunting
- (B) Central Valley sport fishing
- (C) Klamath River Basin sport fishing

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- **Today initial vetting** **May 16, 2024; WRC**
- Discussion and potential recommendation **September 12, 2024; WRC**

Background

This item provides the public an opportunity to engage in initial discussions with the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC), staff, and Department staff about proposed regulation changes for waterfowl hunting, Central Valley sport fishing and Klamath River sport fishing.

- (A) Waterfowl hunting (2025-26), to conform State regulations with federal regulations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service adopts federal regulations each October based, in part, on recommendations from four regional flyway councils. Migratory waterfowl include American coot, common moorhen, ducks, black brant and geese, among others.
- (B) Central Valley sport fishing (2026) for the American, Feather, Sacramento and Mokelumne rivers to conform State regulations with federal regulations. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopts federal Central Valley salmon escapement goals each April based, in part, on recommendations from the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC); the Department then proposes regulation changes for consistency with those goals.
- (C) Klamath River Basin sport fishing (2026) to conform State regulations with federal regulations in the Klamath River Basin. NMFS adopts federal Klamath River Basin salmon allocations each April based, in part, on recommendations from PFMC, and then the Department proposes regulation changes based upon those allocations.

This meeting is an initial opportunity for interested parties to make suggestions to the Department and WRC regarding potential regulation changes in each of the categories. The second opportunity for discussing ideas with WRC will be its September 2024 meeting, before the respective notice hearings for each rulemaking.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits (N/A)****Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**