

## Committee Staff Summary for May 15, 2025 WRC

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

Initial vetting for 2026-27 seasons:

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

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- **Today's initial vetting** **May 15, 2025; WRC**
- Discussion and potential recommendations **September 11, 2025; WRC**
- Present recommendations to the Commission **October 8-9, 2025**

**Background**

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

***Waterfowl Hunting (2026-27)***

Annually, the Commission amends waterfowl hunting regulations 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.

***Central Valley Sport Fishing (2027)***

The Commission adopts Central Valley sport fishing regulations on an annual basis to align State regulations with federal regulations for the American, Feather, Sacramento and Mokelumne rivers. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopts federal Central Valley salmon escapement goals each April based, in large part, on recommendations from the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC); the Department then proposes State regulation changes for consistency with those goals.

***Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing (2027)***

The Commission adopts Klamath River Basin sport fishing regulations on an annual basis to align State regulations with federal regulations. NMFS adopts federal Klamath River Basin salmon allocations each April based, in large part, on recommendations from PFMC, after which the Department proposes State regulation changes based upon those allocations.

This meeting is an opportunity for interested parties to make suggestions to WRC regarding potential regulation changes for each of the three topics. The second opportunity for discussing ideas with WRC will be its September 2025 meeting, when it will consider any

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potential recommendations to the Commission, before the respective notice hearing for each rulemaking.

**Significant Public Comments (N/A)**

**Recommendation (N/A)**

**Exhibits (N/A)**

**Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**