

Staff Summary for December 10-11, 2025

24B. Administrative Items – Rulemaking Timetable Updates**Today's Item**Information ☐Action ☒

Review and consider approving changes to the perpetual timetable for anticipated regulatory actions.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Commission approved rulemaking timetable October 8-9, 2025
- **Today, consider approving changes to the rulemaking timetable December 10-11, 2025**

Background

This is a standing agenda item for staff and the Department to request changes to the Commission's rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 2), confirm changes made by the Commission during this meeting, and highlight minor changes made by staff.

The Department requests five changes to the rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 1):

- Add a new "Harpoons and Flying Gaffs Allowance" rulemaking to amend sections 28.38, 28.40, 28.90, 28.95, and 107. This rulemaking is necessary to allow the use of hand-held harpoons and flying gaffs to assist in landing large recreationally-caught fish, based on regulatory change Petition 2024-04 (granted by the Commission in-part at its December 2024 meeting), and clarify terms when referencing swordfish and finfish. The proposed rulemaking schedule is vetting and recommendation by the Marine Resources Committee (MRC) in March 2026, notice in June 2026, discussion in August 2026, and adoption in October 2026, with an effective date of January 1, 2027.
- Add a new "Department Lands" rulemaking to amend sections 550, 550.5, 552, and 630. This rulemaking is necessary to remove certain coastal properties from the Lands Pass Program, designate new Wildlife Areas, update the names of other properties, consider regulatory change Petition 2018-16 (granted by the Commission at its February 2024 meeting), and make other changes that improve clarity, increase public safety, and provide additional hunting opportunities. The proposed rulemaking schedule is initial vetting by the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) in January 2026, WRC recommendation in May 2026, notice in August 2026, discussion in October 2026, and adoption in December 2026.
- Add a new "Trapping Consistency with Statute" rulemaking to amend sections 251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478, 478.1, 479, 550, 550.5, 551, 630 and 696. This rulemaking is necessary to update existing trapping regulations for consistency with statutory changes resulting from recent legislation and consider regulatory change petition 2023-13 (granted in-part by the Commission at its October 2025 meeting). The proposed rulemaking schedule is initial vetting by WRC in January 2026, WRC recommendation in May 2026, notice in August 2026, discussion in October 2026, and adoption in December 2026, with an effective date of January 1, 2027.

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- Add a new “Private Lands Management (PLM) Program” rulemaking to amend Section 601. This rulemaking is necessary to clarify how a property would be operated, added, or removed from the program, and would include provisions for Department access to PLM properties and public access for PLM tags. The proposed rulemaking schedule is initial vetting by WRC in May 2026 and WRC recommendation in September 2026.
- Rename the existing “Inland Sport Fishing 2026” rulemaking as “Sport Fishing 2026” and add sections 1.62 and 2.11 to the list of affected sections. This change reflects an expansion of the rulemaking scope to include content relevant to marine species. Specifically, adding Section 1.62 relates to the marine topic “Methods for Measuring Fish, and Invertebrates with Minimum Size Limits” (as reflected on the MRC work plan). As a result, the term “inland” no longer accurately describes the full scope of this rulemaking. The marine topic was initially vetted by MRC in November 2025 and is scheduled for MRC recommendation in March 2026. Including it in the broader sport fishing rulemaking allows for coordinated updates across both inland and marine recreational fishing regulations.

Commission staff requests one change to the rulemaking timetable:

- Remove the “Santa Cruz Harbor Salmon Fishing (CFGC Petition 2016-018)” from Future Rulemakings, currently listed under “Schedule to be Determined.” The petition referenced in this rulemaking title was denied by the Commission at its August 2017 meeting.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve the proposed changes to the perpetual timetable for anticipated regulatory actions as identified in this staff summary and Exhibit 2, and any other changes identified during this meeting.

Department: Approve the proposed changes to the rulemaking timetable as identified in Exhibit 1.

Exhibits

1. [Department memo, received December 8, 2025](#)
2. [“Perpetual Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions,” dated December 2, 2025](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the proposed changes to the perpetual timetable for anticipated regulatory actions as recommended and discussed today.

Memorandum

Date: December 2, 2025

To: Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham
Director

Subject: **December 2025 Request for Changes to the Fish and Game Commission's
Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) requests the following schedule changes to the Fish and Game Commission's (Commission's) 2025 regulatory timetable for amendments to Title 14 (T14), California Code of Regulations (CCR):

1. Add for committee recommendation for the March 2026 Marine Resources Committee meeting, and schedule the proposed rulemaking, "Harpoons and Flying Gaff Allowance" amending sections 28.38, 28.40, 28.90, 28.95, and 107. This regulation would allow the use of harpoon and flying gaff to assist in landing large fish, including tuna, consider Commission petition #2024-04, and clarify terms when references swordfish and finfish. The Department requests to authorize notice at the June 2026 meeting, discuss at the August 2026 meeting, and adopt at the October 2026 meeting, with an effective date of January 1, 2027.
2. Add for committee vetting for the January 2026 Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) meeting, and recommendation for the May 2026 WRC meeting, and schedule the proposed rulemaking, "Department Lands" amending sections 550, 550.5, 552, and 630. This regulation would remove certain coastal properties from the Lands Pass Program, designate new Wildlife Areas, update the names of other properties, consider Commission petition #2018-16, and other updates that improve clarity, increase public safety, or provide additional hunting opportunities. The Department requests to authorize notice at the August 2026 meeting, discuss at the October 2026 meeting, and adopt at the December 2026 meeting, with an effective date of early to mid 2027.
3. Add for committee vetting for the January 2026 WRC meeting, and recommendation for the May 2026 WRC meeting, and schedule the proposed rulemaking, "Trapping Consistency with Statute" amending sections 251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478, 478.1, 479, 550, 550.5, 551, 630 and 696. This regulation

would update the trapping regulations for consistency with statutory changes resulting from recent legislation and consideration of Commission petition # 2023-13. The Department requests to authorize notice at the August 2026 meeting, discuss at the October 2026 meeting, and adopt at the December 2026 meeting, with an effective date of early 2027.

4. Add for committee vetting for the May 2026 WRC meeting, and recommendation for the Sept 2026 WRC meeting, the proposed rulemaking, "Private Lands Management (PLM) Program" amending section 601. This proposed regulation would clarify how a property would be operated, added, or removed from the program, and include provisions for Department access to PLM properties and public access for PLM tags.
5. Update the existing rulemaking, "Inland Sport Fishing 2026" to the name "Sport Fishing 2026" and add Sections 1.62 and 2.11 to the list of affected Title 14 sections. The addition of Section 1.62 – related to minimum and maximum size limits for fish, mollusks, and crustaceans – will affect regulations pertaining to both inland and marine fisheries, therefore expanding the scope of the proposed rulemaking beyond inland sport fishing.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Regulations Unit Manager, Ona Alminas, at (916) 902-9222 or Regulations@wildlife.ca.gov.

cc: Chad Dibble, Deputy Director
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Craig Shuman, D. Env., Regional Manager
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David Thesell, Deputy Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

David Haug, Analyst

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission
October 1, 2025
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Fish and Game Commission

California Fish and Game Commission: Perpetual Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions

December 2, 2025

Proposed changes are shown in blue ~~strikeout~~/underline

Subject of Rulemaking	Title 14 Section(s)	TC Sacramento December 9, 2025	FGC Sacramento December 10, 2025	FGC Sacramento December 11, 2025	WRC Sacramento January 13, 2026	FGC Sacramento February 11, 2026	FGC Sacramento February 12, 2026	MRC Sacramento March 12, 2026	TC Sacramento April 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento April 15, 2026	FGC Sacramento April 16, 2026	FGC Sacramento May 6, 2026	WRC Sacramento May 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento June 17, 2026	FGC Sacramento June 18, 2026	MRC Sacramento July 16, 2026	TC Sacramento August 11, 2026	FGC Sacramento August 12, 2026	FGC Sacramento August 13, 2026	WRC Sacramento September 10, 2026	FGC Sacramento October 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento October 15, 2026	MRC Sacramento November 12, 2026
Central Valley Sport Fishing (Annual)	7.40(b)(4), (43), (66), (80)						N				D	A				E 7/15							
Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing (Annual)	7.40(b)(50)						N				D	A				E 7/1							
Waterfowl Hunting, 2026-2027 (Annual)	502		N				D				A					E 7/1							
Adding Golden Mussel to the List of Restricted Species Emergency (Second 90-Day Extension)	671				EE 12/17																		
Commercial Harvest of Sea Palm; Kelp and Other Aquatic Plants Harvest Reporting	165, 705.1				E 1/1																		
Commercial Coonstripe Shrimp Fishery Emergency (First 90- Day Extension)	180.15				EE 1/5																		
Commercial Coonstripe Shrimp Fishery Emergency (Second 90- Day Extension)	180.15			A	E 1/5				EE 4/5														
Commercial Coonstripe Shrimp Fishery	180.15, 180.2, 180.5			N		D/A			EUF														
Market Squid Fishery Management Plan Amendment	53.01, 53.02, 53.03				E 1/1																		
Commerical Take of Market Squid	149, 149.1				E 1/1																		
Recreational Crab Fishing Gear and Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Trap Validation	29.80, 29.85, 190, 195, 701				E 1/1																		
Golden Mussel, Green Crab, Sinanodonta and Xenostrobus - Restricted Species ⁴	671				EUF																		
Take of Morro Manzanita During Candidacy	749.14				E 1/1																		
Extend Bull Kelp Harvest Restriction Date	165, 165.5				E 1/1																		
Recreational Red Abalone Closure Extension	29.15			A					E 4/1														
Processing and Donating Sport Caught Fish ¹	231			N		D/A										E 7/1							
Recreational Take of Rockfish, Cabezon, Greenling, and Lingcod Emergency	1.91, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, 28.55							EE 2/25															
Recreational Take of Rockfish, Cabezon, Greenling, and Lingcod Emergency (First 90-day Extension)	1.91, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, 28.55			A				E 2/25						EE 5/26									
Recreational Take of Rockfish, Cabezon, Greenling, and Lingcod	1.91, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, 28.55			D		A								E 5/26									
Bighorn Sheep Hunting	362		N				D				A					E 7/1							
Pronghorn Antelope Hunting	363		N				D				A					E 7/1							
Elk Hunting	353, 364, 364.1, 555, 555.1		N				D				A					E 7/1							
Black Bear Hunting	365, 366, 708.12		N				D				A					E 7/1							
Inland Sport Fishing 2026 Sport Fishing 2026	1.62, 1.73, 1.74, 2.10, 2.11, 4.20, 5.00, 5.65, 5.85, 5.88, 6.34, 6.35, 7.00, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00				R						N				D				A				
Rattlesnake Exhibition	42.1, 43				R																		
Harpoons and Flying Gaff Allowance	28.38, 28.40, 28.90, 28.95, 107							R						N				D			A		
Department Lands	550, 550.5, 552, 630				V								R						N			D	
Trapping Consistency with Statute	251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478, 478.1, 479, 550, 550.5, 551, 630, 696				V								R						N			D	
Private Lands Management (PLM) Program	601												V						R				

KEY

CFGC = California Fish and Game Commission MRC = CFGC Marine Resources Committee WRC = CFGC Wildlife Resources Committee TC = CFGC Tribal Committee OAL = Office of Administrative Law

EM = Emergency EE = Emergency Expires E = Anticipated Effective Date (RED "X" = expedited OAL review) EUF = Effective Upon Filing w/ Secretary of State

N = Notice Hearing D = Discussion Hearing A = Adoption Hearing V = Committee Vetting R = Committee Recommendation 1 = Considers CFGC Petition 2023-10

2 = Considers MPA Petitions/sub-actions: 2023-22MPA (sub-actions 1, 2, 4, 6); 2023-25MPA (sub-actions 1, 3); 2023-26MPA (sub-actions 2, 3, 4); and 2023-31MPA (sub-actions 1, 2) 3 = Considers CFGC Petition 2018-016(a) 4 = Considers CFGC Petition 2017-006

California Fish and Game Commission: Perpetual Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions

December 2, 2025

Proposed changes are shown in blue ~~strikeout~~/underline

Future Rulemakings: Schedule to be Determined

Subject of Rulemaking	Title 14 Section(s)	TC Sacramento December 9, 2025	FGC Sacramento December 10, 2025	FGC Sacramento December 11, 2025	WRC Sacramento January 13, 2026	FGC Sacramento February 11, 2026	FGC Sacramento February 12, 2026	MRC Sacramento March 12, 2026	TC Sacramento April 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento April 15, 2026	FGC Sacramento April 16, 2026	FGC Sacramento May 6, 2026	WRC Sacramento May 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento June 17, 2026	FGC Sacramento June 18, 2026	MRC Sacramento July 16, 2026	TC Sacramento August 11, 2026	FGC Sacramento August 12, 2026	FGC Sacramento August 13, 2026	WRC Sacramento September 10, 2026	FGC Sacramento October 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento October 15, 2026	MRC Sacramento November 12, 2026
Santa Cruz Harbor Salmon Fishing (CFGC Petition 2016-018)	TBD																						
Possess Game / Process Into Food	TBD																						
American Zoological Association / Zoo and Aquarium Association	671.1																						
Night Hunting in Gray Wolf Range (CFGC Petition 2015-010)	474																						
Electronic Report Cards	1.74, 5.79, 5.80, 5.81, 5.87, 5.88																						
Shellfish Aquaculture Best Management Practices	TBD																						
Ridgeback Prawn Incidental Take Allowance	120(e)																						
Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) ²	632																						
Lands Pass - Hope Valley Wildlife Area ³	TBD																						

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