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Fish and Game Commission



*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

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Revised* Meeting Agenda **February 11-12, 2026**

California Natural Resources Headquarters Building
715 P Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Join us in person in Sacramento to provide public comment or observe the meeting.

Options for Remote Public Comment via Zoom or Phone

To join the meeting remotely via Zoom (video and audio), click directly on the meeting link at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83793969599>. You can access detailed instructions for joining by phone or Zoom by clicking [here](#) or visit the Commission meetings page at fgc.ca.gov/meetings; for instructions on how to join by phone (audio only), refer to Option 3.

The Commission will make a reasonable effort to provide the public additional opportunities to observe or provide comment in the meeting through the Zoom webinar platform by computer, mobile device, or telephone connections. However, the Commission cannot guarantee the accessibility or functionality of the remote connection options. Should technical issues affect remote attendee access or webinar quality, an attempt will be made to resolve them; however, the meeting will continue with in-person attendees.

Option for Remote Observation Without Public Comment

To watch or listen only on the day of the meeting visit <http://www.fgc.ca.gov> (link is on the right side of the page). The Commission will make a reasonable effort to live-stream the meeting to allow the public to observe the meeting from a remote location without providing comments. However, the Commission cannot guarantee the accessibility or functionality of the webcast.

***This agenda has been revised to:**

- **Amend the description for Agenda Item 10, Non-regulatory requests from previous meetings (marine), to indicate there are no marine requests to consider;**
- **Amend the description for Agenda Item 23, Elk hunting, to remove language regarding authorizing publication of notice of sufficiently related changes;**
- **Added a note that staff will recommend that Agenda Item 17, Mountain lion, be heard immediately after Item 18, Providing water for fish and wildlife and their habitats; and**

- **Revised the Public Receipt of Documents section to add receipt of a withdrawal of an aquaculture lease amendment request.**

- Notes:**
- (1) **See important meeting deadlines and procedures, including written public comment deadlines, starting on page 13.**
 - (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 (CCR), unless otherwise noted.**

February 11, 2026; 1:00 PM

Call to order and roll call to establish a quorum

1. **Consider approving agenda and order of items**

Commission Elections and Committee Assignments

2. **Election of Commission president and vice president**
The commissioners annually elect one of their number as a president and one as a vice president, by a concurrent vote of at least three commissioners.
(Pursuant to Section 102, California Fish and Game Code)
3. **Committee assignments**
The Commission forms three committees from its membership, consisting of at least one or up to two commissioners: Marine Resources Committee, Wildlife Resources Committee, and Tribal Committee.
(Pursuant to sections 105, 106 and 106.5, California Fish and Game Code)

General Public Comment

4. **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).

Consent Items

Note: Items on the consent calendar are expected to be routine and non-controversial. After any 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.

5. **Southern resident killer whale (consent)**

Consider approving the Department's request for a 30-day extension to review the petition to list southern resident killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act.
(Pursuant to subdivision 2073.5(b), California Fish and Game Code)

6. Recreational take of rockfish, cabezon, greenling, and lingcod regular rulemaking (consent)

Consider adopting proposed amendments to regulations regarding recreational take of rockfish, cabezon, greenling and lingcod, and consider taking final action under the California Environmental Quality Act.
(Amend sections 1.91, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40 and 28.55)

7. Commercial coonstripe shrimp fishery regular rulemaking (consent)

Discuss and potentially adopt proposed amendments to regulations for the commercial coonstripe shrimp fishery.
(Amend sections 180.15, 180.2 and 180.5)

8. Processing and donating sport-caught fish (consent)

Discuss and potentially adopt proposed amendments to regulations for processing and donating sport-caught fish.
(Amend Section 231)

9. Regulation change petitions (marine) (consent)

(Pursuant to Section 662)

(A) Petitions for action today

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.

- I. *Petition 2025-18: Request to restrict recreational hoop net deployment and retrieval north of Point Arguello to the period between sunrise and sunset only*

(B) New petitions

Receive new petitions for regulation change.

Consideration of new petitions (whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review) is currently scheduled for the April 15-16, 2026 Commission meeting.

(C) Referred petitions

Receive public comments on petitions previously referred by the Commission to staff, legal counsel, a Commission committee, and/or the Department for review and recommendation.

Commission action on any referred petition will be scheduled for discussion and consideration once a recommendation is received.

10. Non-regulatory requests from previous meetings (marine) (consent)

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

There are no marine, non-regulatory requests to consider during this meeting.

Discussion and Action Items

11. Commission executive director and Department reports

Receive updates on items of note since the previous Commission meeting.

(A) **Commission executive director**

- I. 2025 year in review
- II. Commission justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan

(B) **Department director and Law Enforcement Division**

12. Experimental fishing permit (EFP) major amendment requests

Receive, consider, and act upon major amendment requests for three previously approved EFPs.

(Pursuant to Section 91)

- (A) Consider approving a major amendment to an EFP (Commission tracking ID #2023-01) approved to conduct exploratory fishing for brown box crab and California king crab using “on-demand” pop-up fishing gear systems.
- (B) Consider approving a major amendment to an EFP (Commission tracking ID #2023-02) approved to test pop-up gear in the Dungeness and rock crab fisheries.
- (C) Consider approving a major amendment to an EFP (Commission tracking ID #2023-04) approved to test longlining traditional gear in the California Dungeness crab fishery.

13. Committee and Department reports

(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 on April 14, 2026.

(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 on March 12, 2026.

(C) **Department Marine Region**

Receive updates on items of note since the previous Commission meeting.

- I. Update on actions taken by the Department director to lift the closure of the recreational Dungeness crab fishery due to public health hazard from domoic acid in waters from the southern boundary of the Reading Rock marine protected areas (41° 17.6' N. latitude) to Cape Mendocino (40° 10.0' N. latitude).

Recess

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 any 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.

14. Regulation change petitions (wildlife and inland fisheries) (consent)

(Pursuant to Section 662)

(A) ***Petitions for action today***

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 rulemaking calendar for development and future consideration.

I. *Petition 2025-16: Request to update regulations for coyotes in urban cities*

(B) ***New petitions***

Receive new petitions for regulation change.

Consideration of new petitions (whether to grant, deny, or refer for additional review) is currently scheduled for the April 15-16, 2026 Commission meeting.

(C) ***Referred petitions***

Receive comments on petitions previously referred by the Commission to staff, legal counsel, a Commission committee, or the Department for review and recommendation.

Commission action on any referred petition will be scheduled for consideration once a recommendation is received.

15. Non-regulatory requests from previous meetings (wildlife and inland fisheries) (consent)

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

Discussion and Action Items

16. Committee and Department reports

(A) ***Wildlife Resources Committee***

Receive a summary and recommendations from the January 13, 2026 committee meeting, potentially act on the recommendations, discuss referred topics, and consider revisions to topics and timing.

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

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

- 17. Mountain lion**
Consider and potentially act on the petition, the Department's status review report, and comments received to determine whether listing the southern California/central coast evolutionarily significant unit of mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act is warranted.
(Pursuant to sections 2075 and 2075.5, California Fish and Game Code)
Staff will recommend that this item be heard immediately following Item 18.
- 18. Providing water for fish and wildlife and their habitats**
Receive and discuss presentation from the California Department of Water Resources regarding actions it has taken, or will consider in the near future, to contribute clean and cold water to California's rivers and streams, and to help ensure healthy habitats for the state's fish and wildlife.
- 19. Inland sport fishing**

 - (A) **Central Valley (annual)**
Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend Central Valley sport fishing regulations.
(Amend subsections 7.40(b)(4), (b)(43), (b)(66) and (b)(80))
 - (B) **Klamath River Basin (annual)**
Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend Klamath River Basin sport fishing regulations related to Chinook salmon.
(Amend subsection 7.40(b)(50)).
- 20. Waterfowl hunting**
Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for waterfowl hunting.
(Amend Section 502)
- 21. Bighorn sheep hunting**
Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for bighorn sheep hunting.
(Amend Section 362)
- 22. Pronghorn antelope hunting**
Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for pronghorn antelope hunting.
(Amend Section 363)
- 23. Elk hunting**
Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for elk hunting.
(Amend sections 353, 364, 364.1, 555 and 555.1)
- 24. Black bear hunting**
Discuss proposed amendments to regulations for black bear hunting.
(Amend sections 365, 366 and 708.12)
- 25. Commission administrative items**

 - (A) **Legislative report**
Receive updates on state and federal legislation and regulatory activity, and consider providing direction to staff on potential actions.

(B) ***Rulemaking timetable updates***

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

(C) ***Future meetings and new business***

Review logistics and approve draft agenda items for the next Commission meetings (April 15-16, April 21, May 5, May 6, and May 19). Consider any changes to previously approved meeting dates or locations, and introduce any new business for inclusion on a future meeting agenda.

- I. Discuss proposed expansion of May 5 meeting focused on marine protected areas to May 5-6, and to consolidate with the May 6 teleconference agenda items (adoption hearings for Central Valley and Klamath River Basin annual sport fishing rulemakings)
- II. Discuss proposed change to the December 2026 Commission meeting date from December 16-17 to December 15-16 (Tuesday/Wednesday), and proposed change to the December 2026 Tribal Committee meeting from December 15 to December 14 (Monday)

26. General public comment for items not on the agenda

Receive public comment regarding topics within the Commission's authority that are not included on either day of the February 11-12, 2026 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 (Section 11125 and subdivision 11125.7(a), California Government Code).

Adjourn

Public Receipt of Documents

This section of the agenda highlights reports or other significant 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 December 12, 2025, the Commission has received three documents to highlight for the public:

1. [Report on necropsies on mountain lions taken under 2025 depredation permits.](#)
(Pursuant to Section 4807, Fish and Game Code)
2. Department's evaluation reports on the petition to list Bendire's thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) and LeConte's thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*) as threatened or endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Consideration of whether the petitioned actions may be warranted is scheduled for April 2026. Additional information about the petition is available on the Commission's CESA page under "Active Petitions" at <https://fgc.ca.gov/CESA>.
3. Department's evaluation report on the petition to list the northern and southern populations of western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*) as threatened (northern population) and endangered (southern population) species under CESA. Consideration of whether the petitioned actions may be warranted is scheduled for April 2026. Additional information about the petition is available on the Commission's CESA page under "Active Petitions" at <https://fgc.ca.gov/CESA>.
4. [Withdrawal of an aquaculture state water bottom lease amendment request](#) by Bernard Friedman, Chief Executive Officer, Santa Barbara Mariculture Company. The request to amend lease M-653-02 was to authorize the cultivation of two additional species – giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) and California mussel (*Mytilus californianus*) – and to expand the lease area by twenty acres.

Executive Session

(Not open to the public)

At a convenient time during the regular agenda of its February 11-12, 2026 meeting, 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. *Bitts v. California Fish and Game Commission* (challenge to suspension of Dungeness crab vessel permit).
 - II. *United Water Conservation District v. California Fish and Game Commission* (challenge to final Southern California steelhead CESA listing decision).
 - III. *The Ballona Wetlands Land Trust v. California Fish and Game Commission and California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife* (challenge to decisions related to public uses on an ecological reserve)
 - IV. *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)
 - V. *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)
 - VI. *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 proposed decision in agency case number 24ALJ45-FGC regarding suspension of commercial passenger fishing vessel licenses issued to the fishing vessels *Caroline*, *Checkmate*, and *Star of Monterey* and suspension of Chris' Fishing Trips Inc.'s and Christopher Arcoleo's privileges to hold a commercial boat registration and/or commercial passenger fishing vessel license.

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
March 12, 2026		Marine Resources Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
April 14, 2026		Tribal Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
April 15-16, 2026	Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	
April 21, 2026	Half Moon Bay area Single topic: Marine protected area petitions	
May 5, 2026	Santa Barbara area Single topic: Marine protected area petitions	
May 6, 2026	Teleconference Sacramento, Trinidad, Sonoma, Santa Cruz, and La Jolla	
May 14, 2026		Wildlife Resources Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
May 19, 2026	San Clemente area Single topic: Marine protected area petitions	
June 17-18, 2026	Sacramento area	
July 16, 2026		Marine Resources Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting Date	Commission Meeting	Committee Meeting
August 11, 2026		Tribal Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
August 12-13, 2026	Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	
September 10, 2026		Wildlife Resources Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
October 14-15, 2026	Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	
November 12, 2026		Marine Resources Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
December 15, 2026		Tribal Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814
December 16-17, 2026	Natural Resources Headquarters Building 715 P Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	

Other Meetings of Interest

Meetings listed here are organizations for which the Commission: (1) is a member, or (2) takes action based upon regulations developed by that organization.

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

- September 13-16, 2026 – Lancaster, PA

Pacific Fishery Management Council

- March 4-9, 2026 – Sacramento, CA
- April 7-12, 2026 – Portland, OR
- June 11-16, 2026 – Spokane, WA
- September 17-22, 2026 – Vancouver, WA
- November 13-18, 2026 – Garden Grove, CA

Pacific Flyway Council

- March 31, 2026 – Columbus, OH
- August or September 2026 – Date and location TBD

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

- June 1-5, 2026 – Boise, ID

Wildlife Conservation Board

- February 26, 2026 – Sacramento, CA
- May 28, 2026 – Sacramento, CA
- August 27, 2026 – Sacramento, CA
- November 19, 2026 – Sacramento, CA

Important Commission Meeting Procedures Information

Welcome to a Meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission

This year marks the 156th 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@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 January 29, 2026**. 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 February 6, 2026**. Comments received by this deadline will be made available to Commissioners at the meeting.

After these deadlines, written comments may be delivered in person to the meeting. Please bring 12 copies of written comments to the meeting and give them to the designated staff member just prior to speaking.

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 received 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 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 via Zoom or phone, 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.

1. In-person speakers will be identified in groups; please line up when your name is called. Speakers on Zoom or phone will be identified by your Zoom display name or the last three digits of your phone number; listen closely for 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, you are encouraged to 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 several exceptions:
 - a. The presiding commissioner may allow up to five minutes for 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. Persons participating via Zoom or phone and ceding their time to another speaker must notify the Commission at fgc@fgc.ca.gov prior to the start of the agenda item, including to whom they are ceding their time, and must be present during the agenda item.
 - c. Individuals may receive advance approval for additional time to speak if such requests 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 speaking 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@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 you bring a print copy of your presentation in case of technical difficulties.