

Staff Summary for April 15-16, 2026

15A. Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC)**Today's Item**Information Action

Discuss referred topics and consider revisions to topics and timing. Consider approving the draft agenda topics for the next committee meeting on May 14, 2026.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Previous committee meeting January 13, 2026; WRC
- **Today consider approving agenda topics April 15-16, 2026**
- Next committee meeting May 14, 2026; WRC

Background

WRC works under Commission direction to set and accomplish its work plan.

Committee Work Plan

Topics that have been referred by the Commission to WRC are displayed within a work plan for scheduling and tracking. The updated work plan in Exhibit 1 includes proposed topics for May 2026, including one potential new topic.

Potential New Topic

The Department proposes that the regulatory topic "Private Lands Management (PLM) Program" be referred to WRC for initial vetting and discussion in May, and discussion with a potential recommendation in September 2026. This potential rulemaking would amend provisions of the PLM Program.

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2026 in Sacramento, with webinar and phone options for the public. In addition to standing agenda items (Department updates and future agenda items), four topics are proposed:

- *Annual Rulemakings*. Discussion of (1) waterfowl hunting, (2) Central Valley sport fishing, and (3) Klamath River Basin sport fishing.
- *Periodic Rulemakings*. Discussion of (1) upland (resident) game birds, (2) big game hunting (deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, black bear, Nelson bighorn sheep), and discussion and potential recommendation for (3) Department lands (ecological reserves and wildlife areas).
- *Mammal trapping*. Discussion and potential recommendation for Department-recommended regulatory amendments related to mammal trapping.
- *Private Lands Management Program*. Initial vetting and discussion of Department-recommended regulatory amendments related to the PLM Program.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Staff Summary for April 15-16, 2026

Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve the draft agenda topics for the May 14 WRC meeting and approve the updated work plan as proposed in Exhibit 1, including any changes identified during today's meeting.

Exhibits

1. [Draft work plan, updated April 8, 2026](#)

Motion

Moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Commission approves the topics for the May 14, 2026 Wildlife Resources Committee meeting, as discussed today, and approves the work plan as proposed.

California Fish and Game Commission
Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) Work Plan
Scheduled Topics and Timeline for Items Referred to WRC
Updated April 8, 2026

Note: Proposed changes to topics/timing are shown in blue underscore or strike-out font.

Topics	Category	Jan 2026	May 2026	Sep 2026
Periodic and Annual Regulations				
Upland (Resident) Game Bird Hunting	Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Big Game Hunting (deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, black bear, Nelson bighorn sheep)	Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Waterfowl Hunting	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Central Valley Sport Fishing	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing	Annual Regulatory		X	<u>X/R</u>
Sport Fishing	Regulatory	X/R		<u>X</u>
Department Lands	Regulatory	X	X/R	
Regulations & Legislative Mandates				
Mammal Trapping	Regulatory	X	X/R	
<u>Commercial Use of Rattlesnakes</u>	<u>Regulatory</u>	<u>X/R</u>		
<u>Private Lands Management Program</u>			<u>X</u>	<u>X/R</u>
Restricted Species	Regulatory			
Take of Coyotes	Referral for Review			

KEY: X = Vetting/Discussion X/R = Discussion/Potential Recommendation to Commission