

Staff Summary for October 13-16, 2026

25B. 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 August 12-13, 2026
- **Today, consider approving changes to the rulemaking table** **October 13-16, 2026**

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 four changes to the rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 1):

- Add a new "Deer Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments" rulemaking to amend sections 360 and 361, with a rulemaking schedule of notice in December 2026, discussion in February 2027, and adoption in April 2027. This rulemaking is necessary to account for low buck-to-doe ratios by adjusting buck tag quotas in the X5a general and archery hunts, X5b general hunt, and M-4 Horse Lake muzzleloader hunt.
- Add a new "Elk Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments" rulemaking to amend Section 364, with a rulemaking schedule of notice in December 2026, discussion in February 2027, and adoption in April 2027. This rulemaking is necessary to adjust tag quotas and season dates and expand opportunities in conflict areas.
- Schedule the annual "Central Valley Sport Fishing" and "Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing" rulemakings to amend subsections 7.40(b)(4), (43), (66), and (80) and 7.40(b)(50), respectively. These rulemakings occur annually in response to the Pacific Fishery Management Council process to help ensure consistency between federal and state fishing regulations and fishery escapement goals. The requested rulemaking schedule is Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) vetting and recommendation in January 2027, notice in February 2027, discussion in April 2027, and adoption in May 2027.
- Add a new "Sport Caught Processing Permittee Exemption" rulemaking to amend Section 231, with a rulemaking schedule of notice in February 2027, discussion in April 2027, and adoption in May 2027. This rulemaking is necessary to consider Commission Petition 2026-08 and to allow the owner, operator, or crew of a commercial passenger fishing vessel, with appropriate license, to be exempt from needing a sport-caught fish processing permit when filleting fish that are not allowed to be filleted onboard for passengers who have departed that vessel.

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WRC requests one change to the rulemaking timetable (Exhibit 2):

- Reschedule the “Private Lands Management (PLM) Program” rulemaking to amend Section 601. The current rulemaking schedule is notice in December 2026, discussion in February 2027, and adoption in April 2027. WRC would like to facilitate further dialogue and revisit key details of the program and proposal at its January 2027 meeting, with the rulemaking to be rescheduled afterwards.

Commission staff requests one change to the rulemaking timetable:

- Title the “Sport Caught Processing Permittee Exemption” rulemaking requested by the Department as “Sport-Caught Fish Processing Permittee Exemption” to clarify the scope of the proposal.

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, Exhibit 2, and any other changes identified during this meeting.

Committee: Approve the rescheduling of the PLM rulemaking.

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

Exhibits

1. [Department memo, received September 15, 2026](#)
2. [“Perpetual Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions,” dated September 22, 2026](#)

Motion

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 14, 2026

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

From: Meghan Hertel, Director

Subject: October 2026 Request for Changes to the Fish and Game Commission's Timetable for Anticipated Regulatory Actions

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) requests the following schedule changes to the California Fish and Game Commission's (Commission's) 2026 perpetual regulatory timetable for amendments to Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR):

1. Please add a new rulemaking, "Deer Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments" amending sections 360 and 361 and requesting to authorize notice at the December 2026 meeting, discussion at the February 2027 meeting, and adoption at the April 2027 meeting. This regulation would adjust the buck tag quotas for X5a general and archery hunts, X5b general hunt, and the M-4 Horse Lake muzzleloader hunt, necessary to account for low buck to doe ratios.
2. Please add a new rulemaking, "Elk Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments" amending section 364 and requesting to authorize notice at the December 2026 meeting, discussion at the February 2027 meeting, and adoption at the April 2027 meeting. This regulation would adjust tag quotas or season dates and expand opportunities in conflict areas.
3. Please add the following annual rulemakings for inland sport fishing, with initial committee discussion and vetting at the September 10, 2026 Wildlife Resources Committee meeting and committee recommendation at the January 13, 2027 Wildlife Resources Committee meeting. The Department requests to authorize notice at



the February 2027 meeting, discussion at the April 2027 meeting, and adoption at the May 2027 meeting:

- Central Valley Sport Fishing updates, amending Sections 7.40(b)(4), (43), (66), (80) and
 - Klamath River basin Sport Fishing, amending sections 7.40(b)(50)
4. Please add a new rulemaking, "Sport caught processing permit exemption" amending section 231 and requesting to authorize notice at the February 2027 meeting, and discussion at the April 2027 meeting, and planned adoption at the May 2027 teleconference to facilitate a July 1, 2027 effective date. This regulation would allow for the owner, operator or crew of a commercial passenger fishing vessel, with appropriate license, be exempt from needing a sport-caught fish processing permit when filleting fish onboard a vessel. This rulemaking involved coordination with the petition for Commission petition 2026-08.

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.

ec: Chad Dibble, Deputy Director
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Robert Pelzman, Assistant Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Casey McVay, Lieutenant Supervisor
Law Enforcement Division

Eric Kord, Assistant Chief
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Mario Klip, Game and Connectivity Program Manager
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Craig Shuman, Marine Regional Manager
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Ona Alminas, Env. Program Manager
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David Thesell, Deputy Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director
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Gabe Lopez, Program Manager
Fish and Game Commission

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

September 22, 2026

Subject of Rulemaking	Title 14 Section(s)	MRC Sacramento November 12, 2026	TC Sacramento December 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento December 15, 2026	FGC Sacramento December 16, 2026	WRC Sacramento January 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento February 17, 2027	FGC Sacramento February 18, 2027	MRC Sacramento March 18, 2027	TC Sacramento April 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento April 14, 2027	FGC Sacramento April 15, 2027	FGC Teleconference May 6, 2027	WRC Sacramento May 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento June 9, 2027	FGC Sacramento June 10, 2027	MRC TBD July 15, 2027	TC TBD August 17, 2027	FGC TBD August 18, 2027	FGC TBD August 19, 2027	WRC TBD September 16, 2027	FGC TBD October 13, 2027	FGC TBD October 14, 2027
Central Valley Sport Fishing (Annual)	7.40(b)(4), (43), (66), (80)					R	N				D		A				E 7/15						
Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing (Annual)	7.40(b)(50)					R	N				D		A				E 7/1						
Waterfowl Hunting, 2027-2028 (Annual)	502				N		D				A						E 7/1						
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, 8.10, 28.25, 28.30, 28.32, 28.35, 230, 701					E 1/1																	
Use of Native Rattlesnake	42.1, 43, 703				A					E 4/1													
Harpoons and Flying Gaffs for Recreational Tuna Fishery and Gear Marking in Commercial Harpoon Swordfish Fishery ⁴	28.38, 28.40, 28.90, 28.95, 107					E 1/1																	
Process to Conform State Recreational Fishing Regulations to Federal Regulations, Including for Federal Groundfish	1.95, 27.80					EUF																	
Gear Restrictions for White Shark Emergency	28.06, 28.65				EE 12/31																		
Gear Restrictions for White Shark Emergency (First 90-day Extension)	28.06, 28.65				E 12/31				EE 3/31														
Mammal Trapping Consistency with Statute	251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478, 478.1, 479, 550, 550.5, 551, 630, 696				A					E 4/1													
Department Lands ²	540, 550, 550.5, 551, 552, 630, 702				D		A										E 7/1						
White Seabass Recreational Minimum Size Limit	27.65, 28.35			D				A									E 7/1						
Bighorn Sheep Hunting, 2027-2028 season	362				N		D				A						E 7/1						
Black Bear Hunting, 2027-2028 season	365, 366, 367.5, 708.12				N		D				A						E 7/1						
Deer Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments	360, 361				N		D				A						E 7/1						
Elk Hunts, Seasons, and Tag Adjustments	364				N		D				A						E 7/1						
Sport-Caught Fish Processing Permittee Exemption ⁵	231							N				D	A				E 7/1						
Private Lands Management (PLM) Program	601				N	R	D				A						E 7/1						

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 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)
 2 = Considers CFGC Petitions 2018-016(a) and 2025-12 3 = Considers CFGC Petition 2025-10 4 = Considers CFGC Petition 2024-04 5 = Considers CFGC Petition 2026-08

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

September 22, 2026

Future Rulemakings: Schedule to be Determined

Subject of Rulemaking	Title 14 Section(s)	MRC Sacramento November 12, 2026	TC Sacramento December 14, 2026	FGC Sacramento December 15, 2026	FGC Sacramento December 16, 2026	WRC Sacramento January 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento February 17, 2027	FGC Sacramento February 18, 2027	MRC Sacramento March 18, 2027	TC Sacramento April 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento April 14, 2027	FGC Sacramento April 15, 2027	FGC Teleconference May 6, 2027	WRC Sacramento May 13, 2027	FGC Sacramento June 9, 2027	FGC Sacramento June 10, 2027	MRC TBD July 15, 2027	TC TBD August 17, 2027	FGC TBD August 18, 2027	FGC TBD August 19, 2027	WRC TBD September 16, 2027	FGC TBD October 13, 2027	FGC TBD October 14, 2027
Possess Game / Process Into Food	TBD																						
American Zoological Association / Zoo and Aquarium Association	671.1																						
American Bullfrog and Non-native Turtles	TBD																						
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) ¹	632																						
Restricted Animal Caging Requirements and Materials ³	TBD																						

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¹ = 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)
² = Considers CFGC Petitions 2018-016(a) and 2025-12 ³ = Considers CFGC Petition 2025-10 ⁴ = Considers CFGC Petition 2024-04 ⁵ = Considers CFGC Petition 2026-08