

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION

Amend Section 251.4
Title 14, California Code of Regulations
Re: Mountain Lion Possession Permit

- I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: June 24, 2013
- II. Date of Final Statement of Reasons: September 20, 2013
- III. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:
 - (a) Public Hearing: Date: September 19, 2013
Location: Sacramento, CA
- IV. Update:

No modifications were made to the originally proposed language of the Initial Statement of Reasons.
- V. No public comments, written or oral, were received during the public comment period.
- VI. Location and Index of Rulemaking File

A rulemaking file with attached file index is maintained at:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1208
Sacramento, California 95814
- VII. Location of Department Files:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1208
Sacramento, CA 95814
- VIII. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:
 - (a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

No alternatives were identified.
 - (b) No Change Alternative: The “no change” alternative would not provide a process to apply for the possession of mountain lion carcasses or parts or

products of mountain lion carcasses for educational or scientific purposes.

(c) Consideration of Alternatives:

In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulation is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to the affected private persons than the proposed regulation, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

IX. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following final determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

(a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed regulation change will allow a small number of educational institutions or non-profit entities to display or store mountain lion carcasses or parts or products thereof. In view of the small number of permits anticipated, to entities that provide educational services specific to California eco-systems, the Department does not believe the proposed action will have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

(b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

Because of the small number of permits likely to be issued to individuals, nonprofit museums, or educational institutions, the Department does not anticipate any impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new business, the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California.

The Department does not anticipate any benefits to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the environment.

Small Business Determination: The Department has determined that the proposed regulations do not affect small businesses. The Department did not identify any for-profit entities adversely affected by the proposed regulation.

(c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

None.

(e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies:

None.

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts:

None.

(g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code:

None.

(h) Effect on Housing Costs:

None.

X. Authority and Reference:

Authority cited: Sections 702, 1002 and 1050, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 702, 1002, 1050 and 4800 Fish and Game Code.

- XI. The Initial Statement of Reasons incorrectly states on page 2 that the regulation “establishes a Mountain Lion Possession Permit in the form of a letter from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department), as the authorizing document for permitting the possession of a mountain lion carcass, or product thereof for scientific and educational purposes.” This statement should have indicated that a person who applies for a permit and provides the information required in subdivisions (b) and (c) will receive a letter from the Department on Department letterhead permitting possession of the mountain lion carcass or product thereof.