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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of WINEGRAPE GROWERS

December 23, 2013

Armand Gonzales Project Lead CA State Wildlife Action Plan Department of Fish and Wildlife 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1341-B Sacramento, CA 95814 SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov

RE: Statewide Wildlife Action Plan - Companion Plans

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

On behalf of our organizations we want to express our appreciation for the additional State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) Scoping Meeting of Tuesday, December 3, 2013 in Sacramento. The meeting provided a project overview and recap of the other scoping meetings throughout the state to many of the statewide organizations that have an interest in the SWAP. We write today to gain more information about the proposed companion plans presented at the scoping meetings.

Our organizations understand the SWAP is a requirement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service in order for the state to receive federal wildlife funds which are approximately \$3 million per year that assist in the state's wildlife conservation efforts. However, we would like to have a better understanding regarding the intention of the companion plans to the SWAP. The limited discussions to date portray the plans to be creating a list of desired operation and management practices for a plethora of activities throughout the state. Our organizations have some preliminary concerns as it relates to the need, role and utilization of the proposed companion plans. We hope to learn through continued discussion that our concerns that the companion

plans may become quasi regulatory documents are unfounded. It is our understanding the 2005 SWAP was successful in obtaining the federal funding without benefit of the companion plans and would appreciate your edification of the companion plans' intent.

In closing, our organizations look forward to participating in the development of the SWAP over the coming months and gaining a better understanding of the intent and need for the companion plans. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments on this matter.

Sincerely,

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