

[Comment received via e-mail on 3/10/14]

To whom it may concern,

I have just recently become aware of the SWAP and the solicitation of comments. I have just recently (October 2013) begun working for the CVRWQCB in Redding as an Environmental Scientist, but previously I worked for Caltrans (15+ years) as a Wildlife Biologist. During that time I was the coordinator for Caltrans North Region, District 2, for highway/animal collisions. As I read the SWAP species account for Columbian black-tailed deer, I noticed that there was no mention of deer mortality due to vehicles.

The number of deer killed by vehicles is unbelievable. There are numerous deer/vehicle kill hotspots all over the state. It is imperative that this threat to deer (and several other animal species) be included as a threat to the species. This documentation in the SWAP will subsequently help Caltrans and other transportation agencies prioritize funding for avoidance and mitigation of this threat. The number of deer killed on highways is extremely high. Please contact Caltrans HQ Biologist Amy Bailey to obtain data on the number and distribution of deer kill (916-651-8166), amy_bailey@dot.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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