

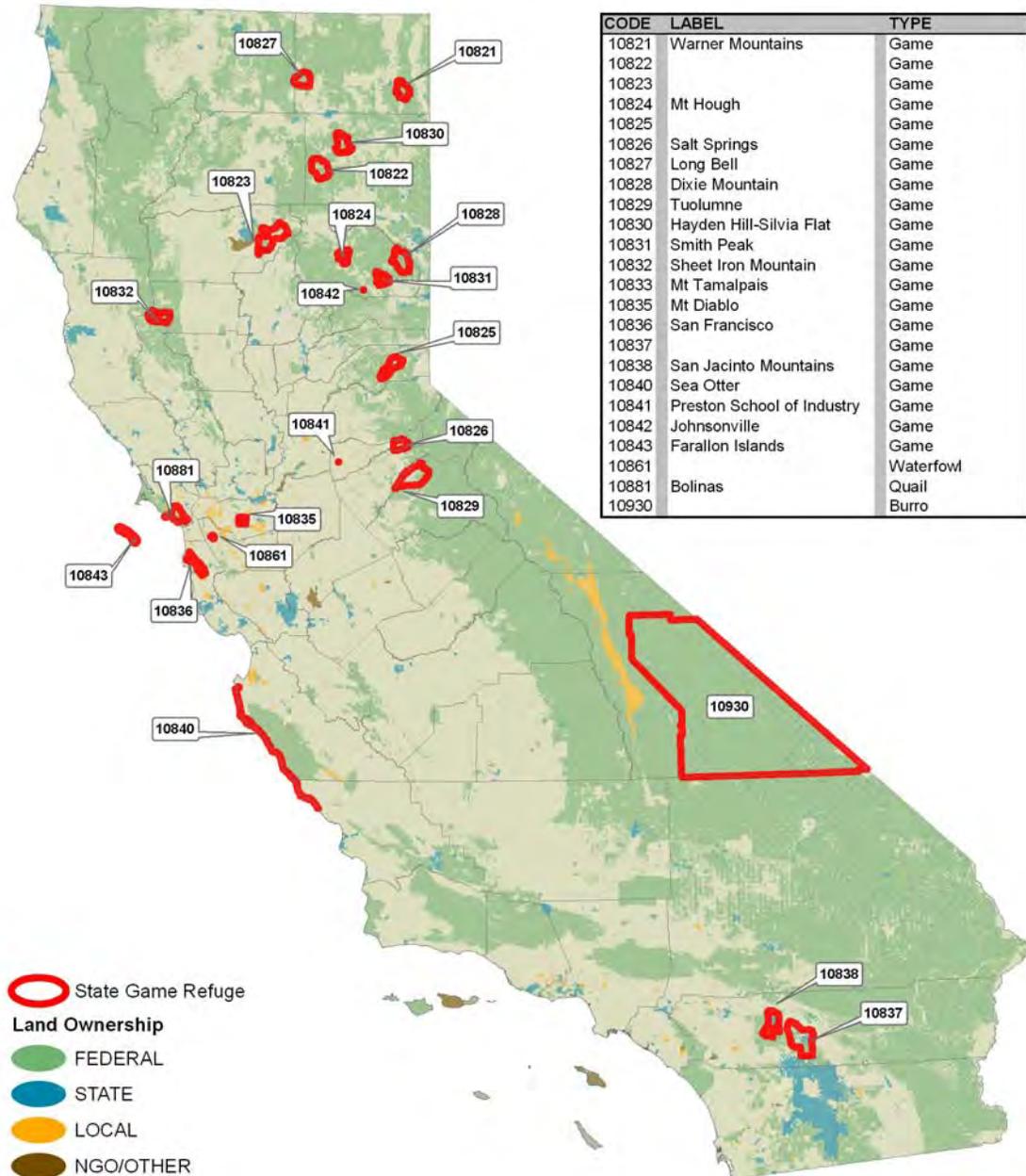
## Appendix A. Maps of State Game Refuges in California

Note: All the individual refuge maps can be re-created by anyone by visiting the public data viewer and selecting desired map coverages:

<http://imaps.dfg.ca.gov/viewers/biospublic/app.asp>

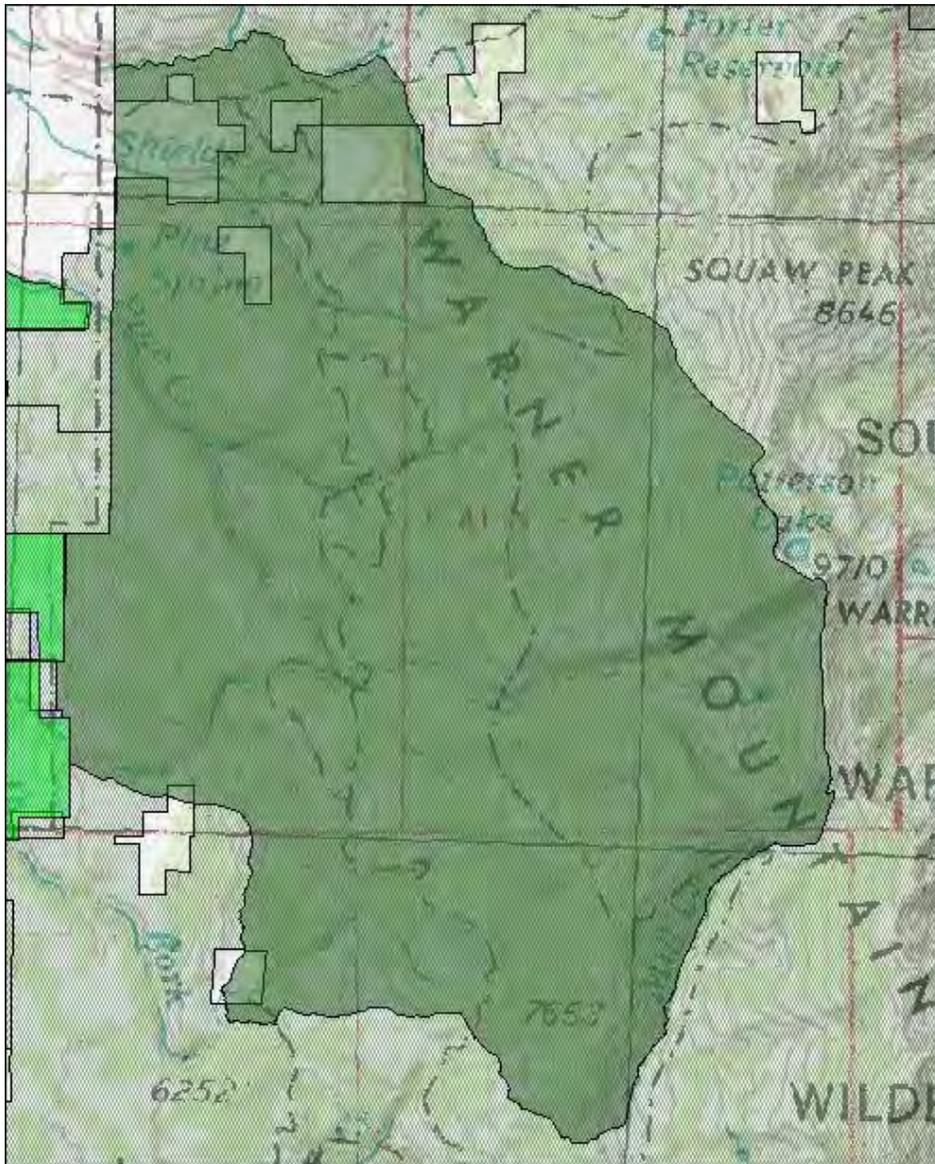
(Map below includes some refuges not in consideration by this report)

# STATE GAME REFUGES



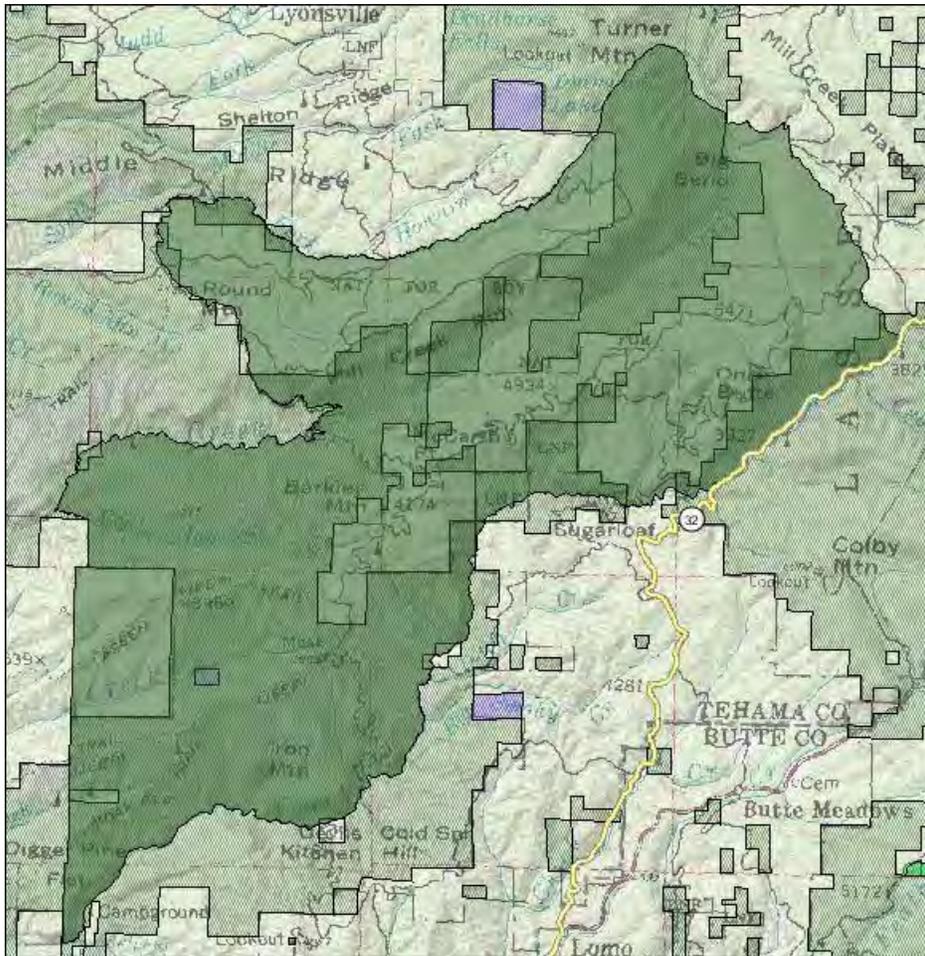
**Refuge 10821- 1C, Warner Mountains (Modoc County)**

This refuge occur primarily on public land administered by the U.S. Forest Service. There is some private land.



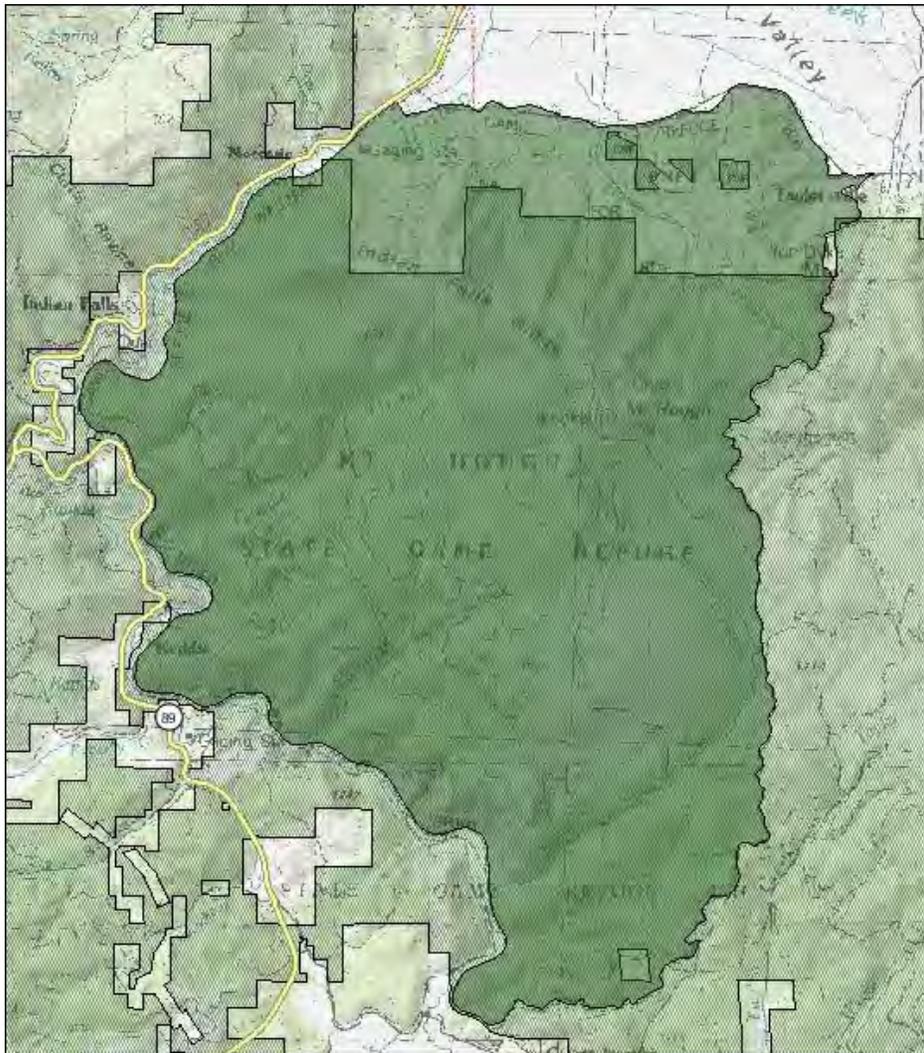
**Refuge 10823- 1G, Tehama (Tehama County)**

This refuge encompasses both public (USFS land) and private land.



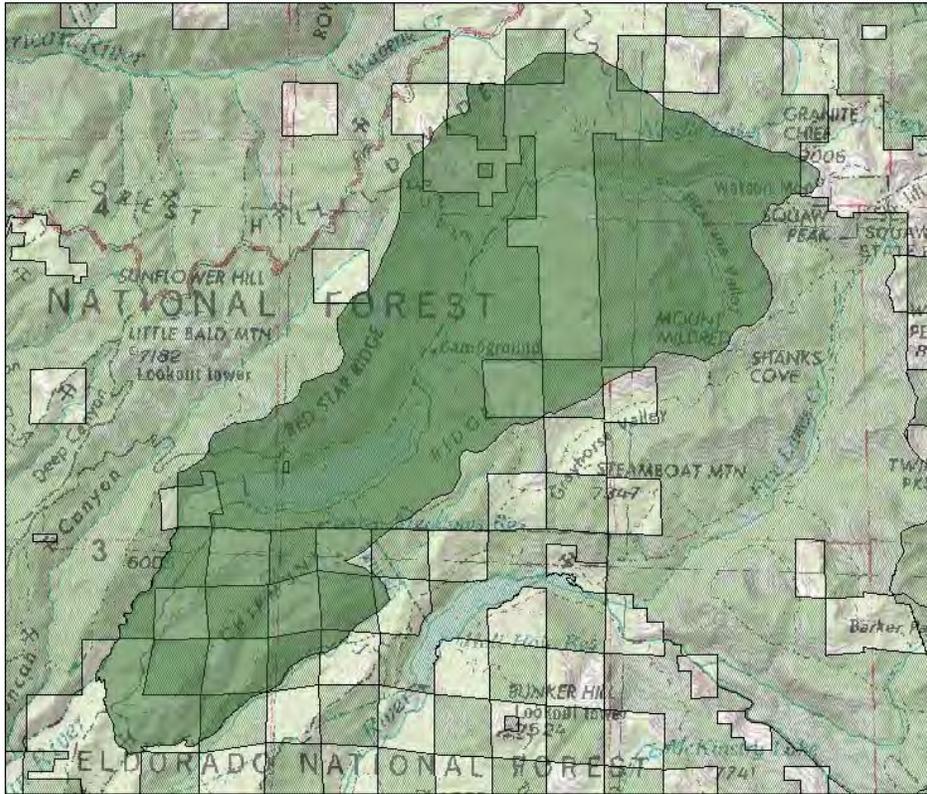
**Refuge 10824- 1H, Mt. Hough (Plumas County)**

This refuge encompasses both public (USFS land) and private land.



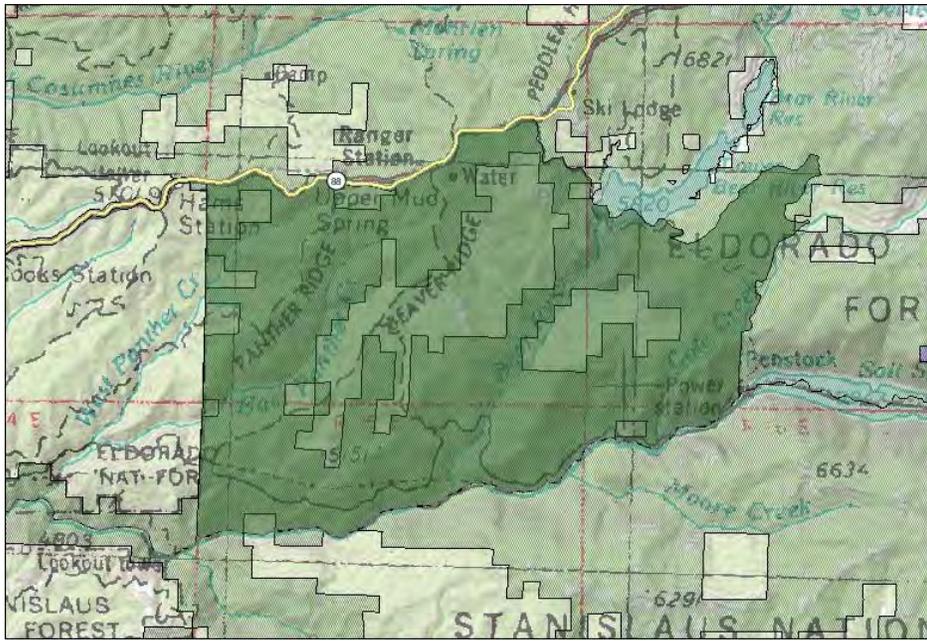
**Refuge 10825- 11, French Meadows Reservoir area (Placer County)**

This refuge encompasses both public (USFS land) and private land.



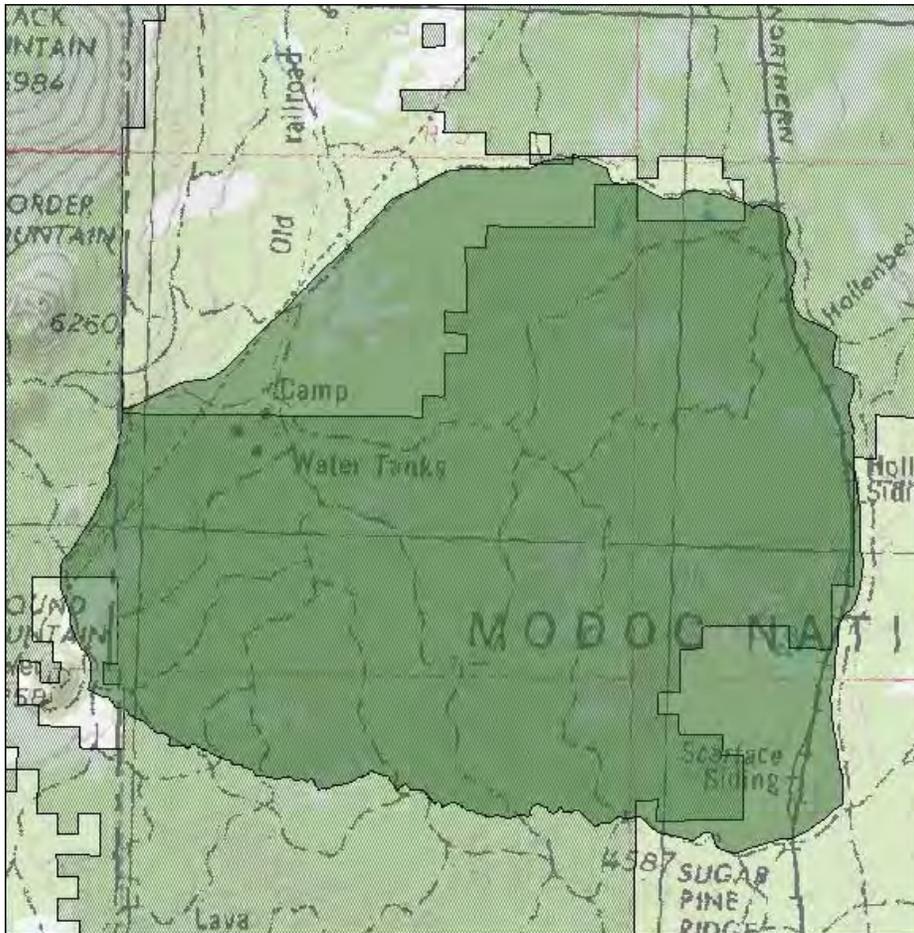
**Refuge 10826- 1J, Salt Springs, Amador County**

This refuge encompasses both public (USFS land) and significant private land, including Sierra Pacific Industries timberland.



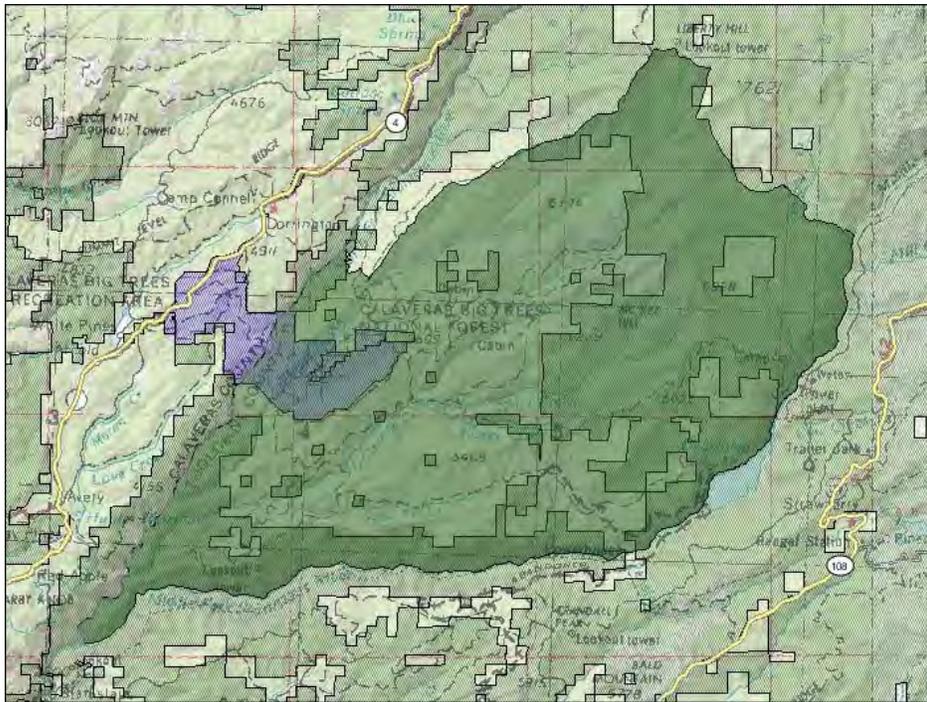
**Refuge 10827- 1N, Long Bell (Siskiyou/Modoc counties boundary)**

This refuge encompasses both public (USFS land) and private land.



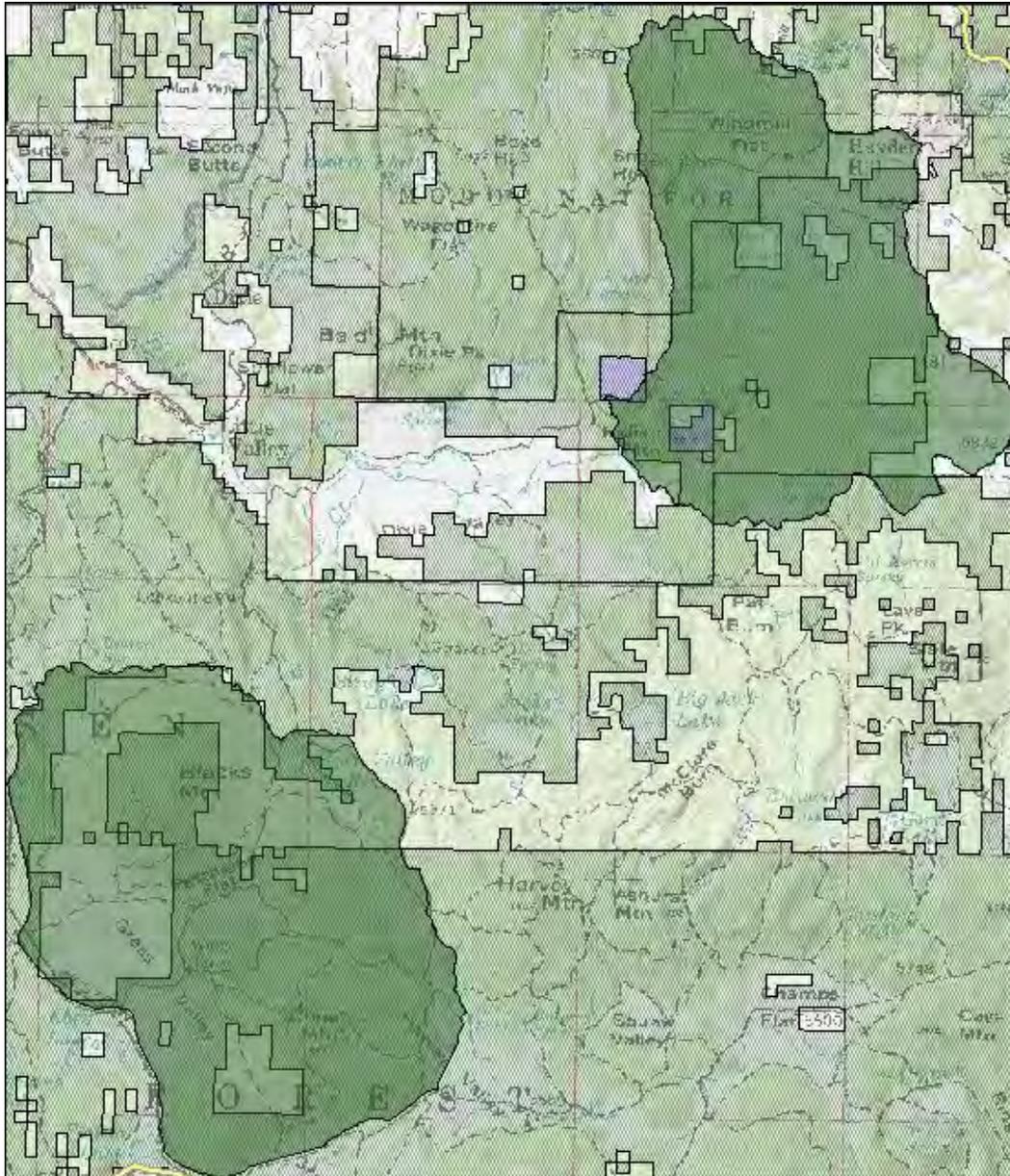
**Refuge 10829- 1R, Tuolumne (Tuolumne County)**

Includes area of Calaveras Big Trees State Park, significant private land including Sierra Pacific Industries timberland, and U.S. Forest Service land.



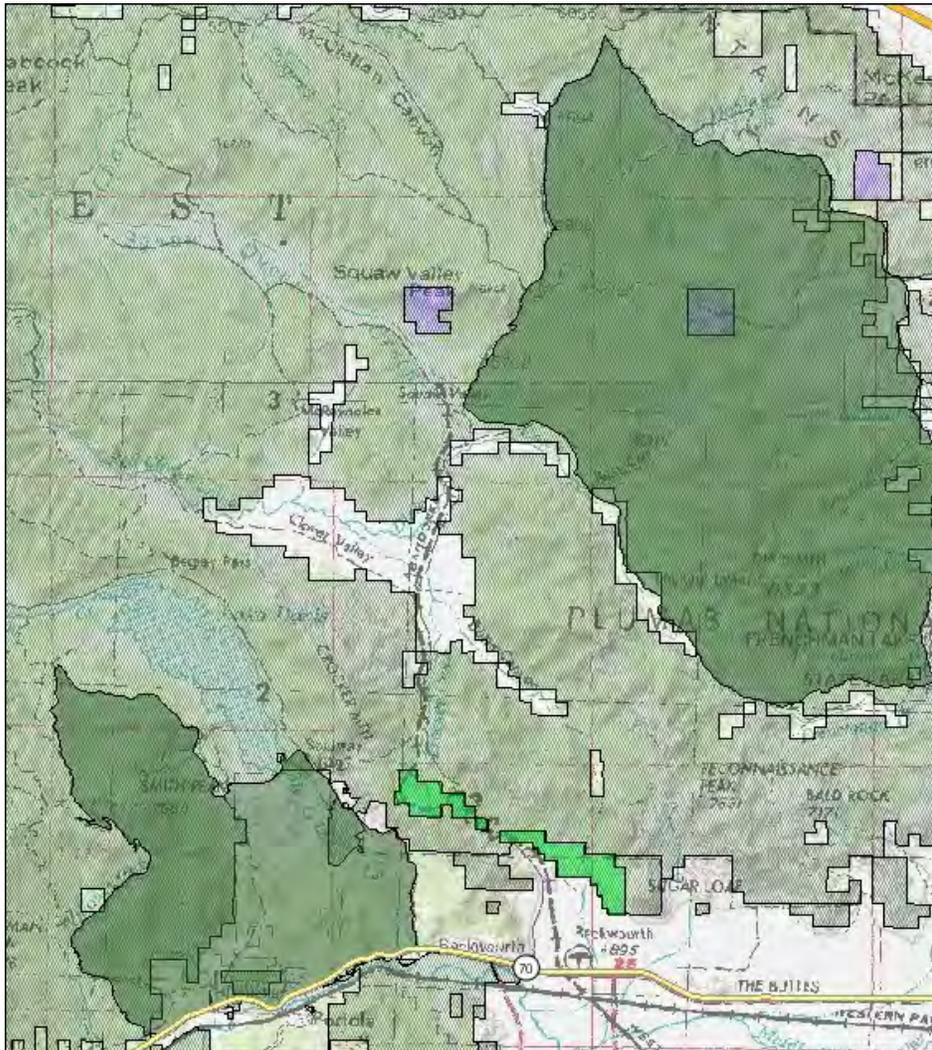
**Refuge 10830- 1S, Hayden Hill – in upper right- (Lassen County) and  
Refuge 10822- 1F, Blacks Mt. – in lower left- (Lassen County)**

Hayden Hill Refuge encompasses both public (BLM and USFS land) and private lands, including a small acreage of State Lands Commission lands. Blacks Mt. Refuge encompasses both public (USFS land including Blacks Mt. Experimental Forest) and private land.



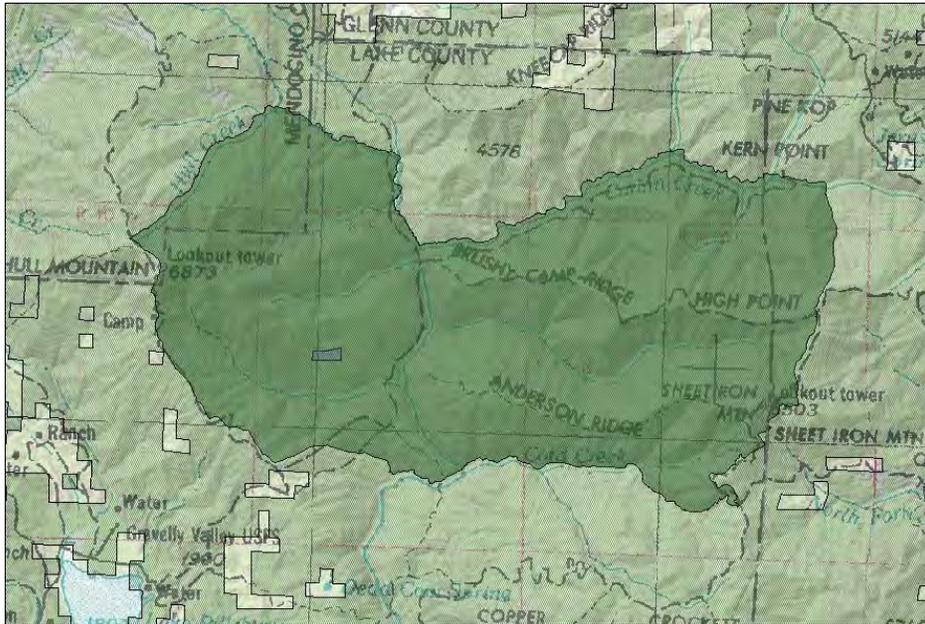
**Refuge 10831- 1V, Smith Peak – lower left- (Plumas County) and  
Refuge 10828- 1P, Dixie Mt. – upper right- (Plumas County)**

Smith Peak area is largely public land administered by the USFS and Dixie Mt. is largely public land administered by the USFS; with small acreage of State Lands Commission and private lands. Bright green areas in between are CDFG wildlife areas.



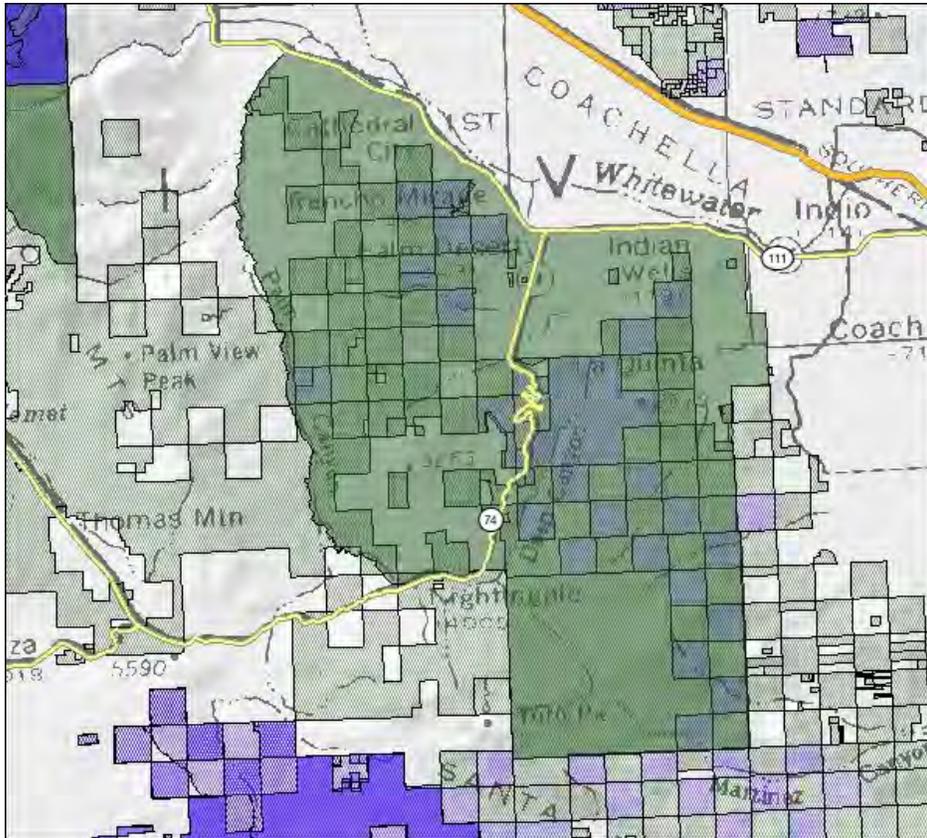
**Refuge 10832- 2A, Sheet Iron Mountain (Mendocino, Lake, and Glenn counties):**

This refuge falls almost entirely within USFS lands with a small amount of private land.



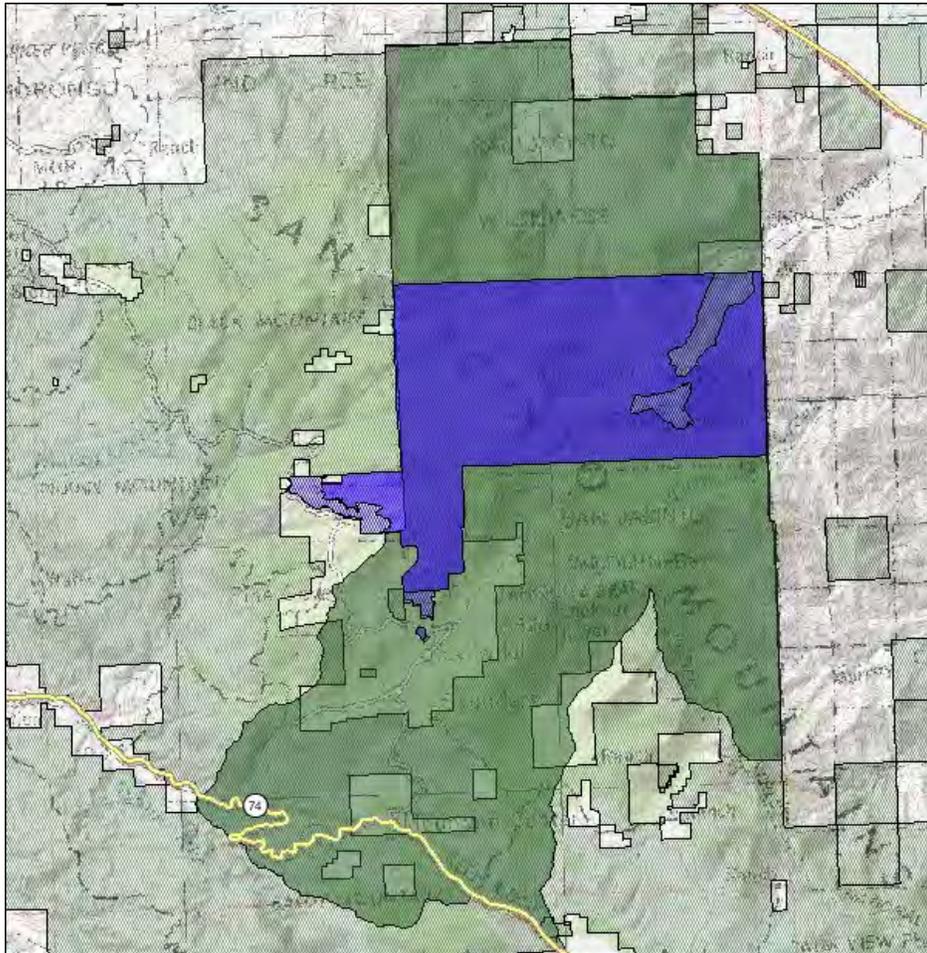
**10837 District 4D - Riverside County (unnamed)**

This refuge falls within a checkerboard of public lands, Department of Fish and Game ecological reserve, conservation easement lands, and private lands.



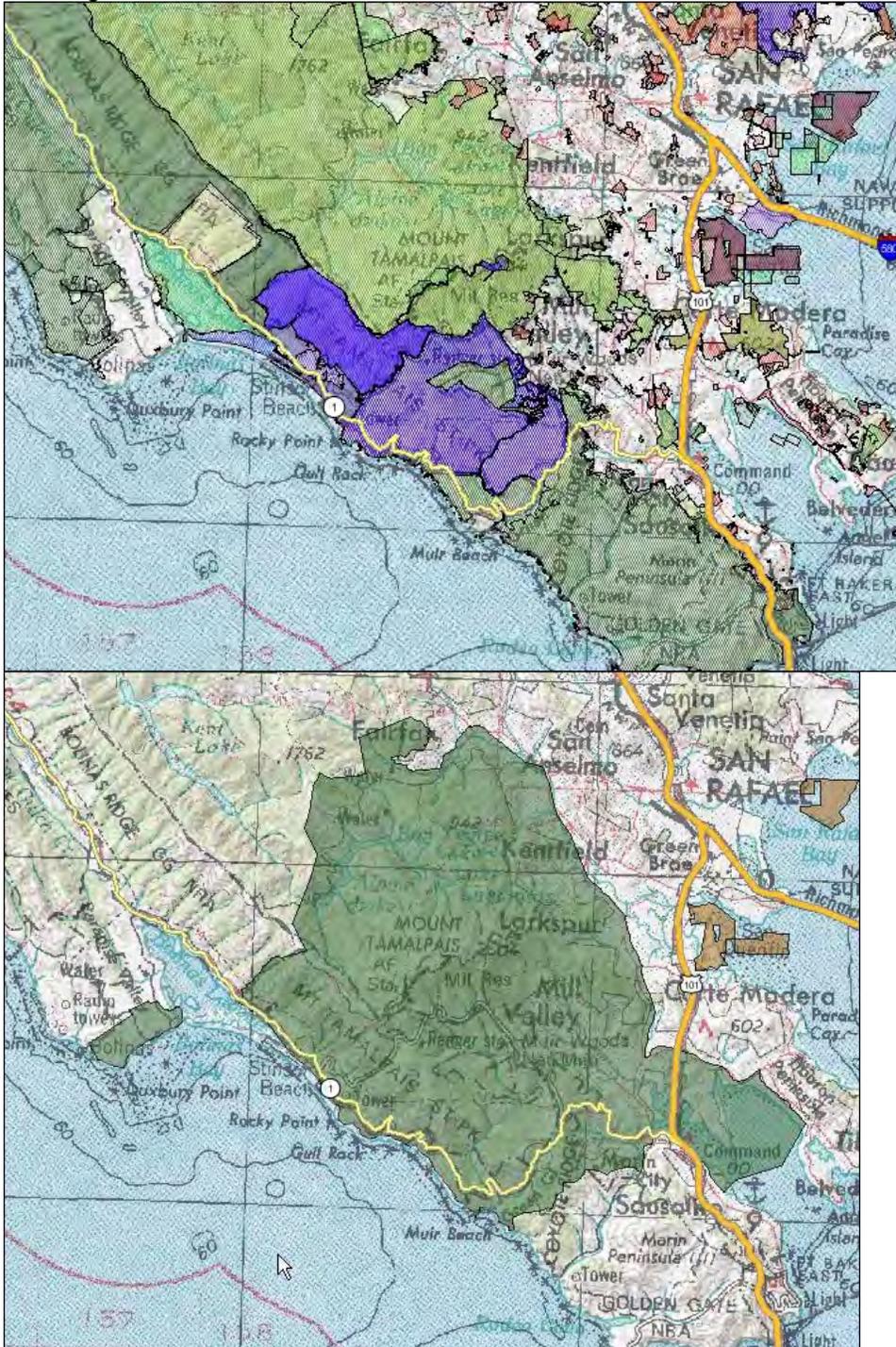
**10838 District 4G - Riverside County (San Jacinto Mts)**

This refuge overlaps much of Mount San Jacinto State Park, some private lands, and public lands (USFS).

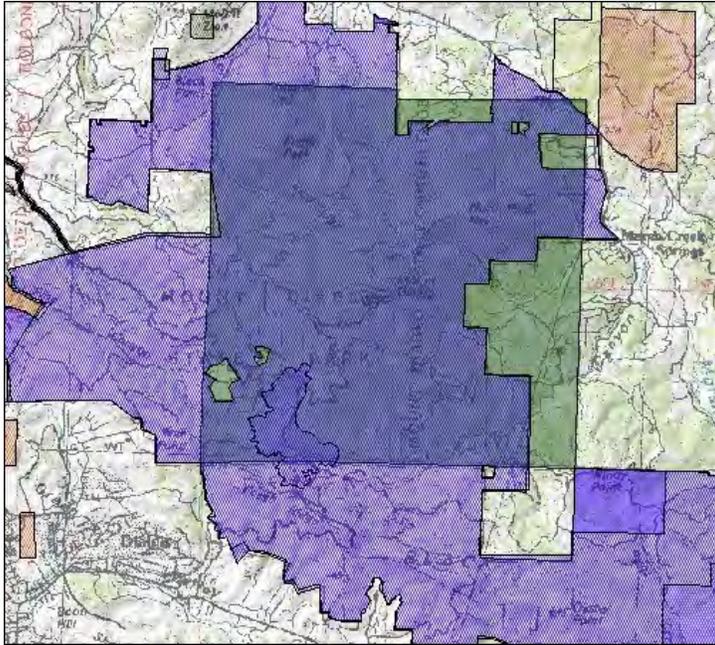


The following refuges are areas for which in the Department of Fish and Game's opinion, the designation could be removed with no consequence:

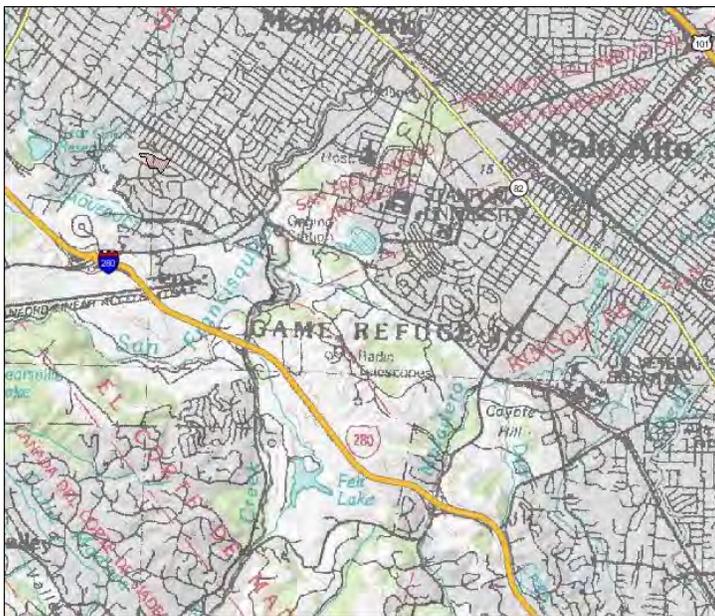
**Refuge 10833- 2B, Mt. Tamalpais:** A change in status would not have any effect as this area is already within a federal national monument, state park, national recreation area and local (city) jurisdiction and would not be open to hunting.



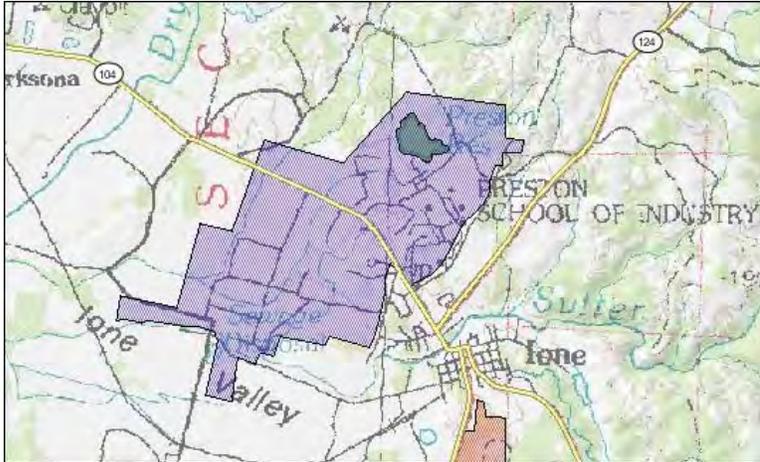
**Refuge 10835- 3F, Mt. Diablo:** This refuge already falls largely within the boundaries of a State Park and private land on the eastern side; there would be no increased public hunting opportunity without consent of landowners on the eastern side.



**Refuge 10836- 3G, Stanford:** This refuge falls within the Stanford University property. It is on private property near the city of Palo Alto and offers no hunting opportunities.

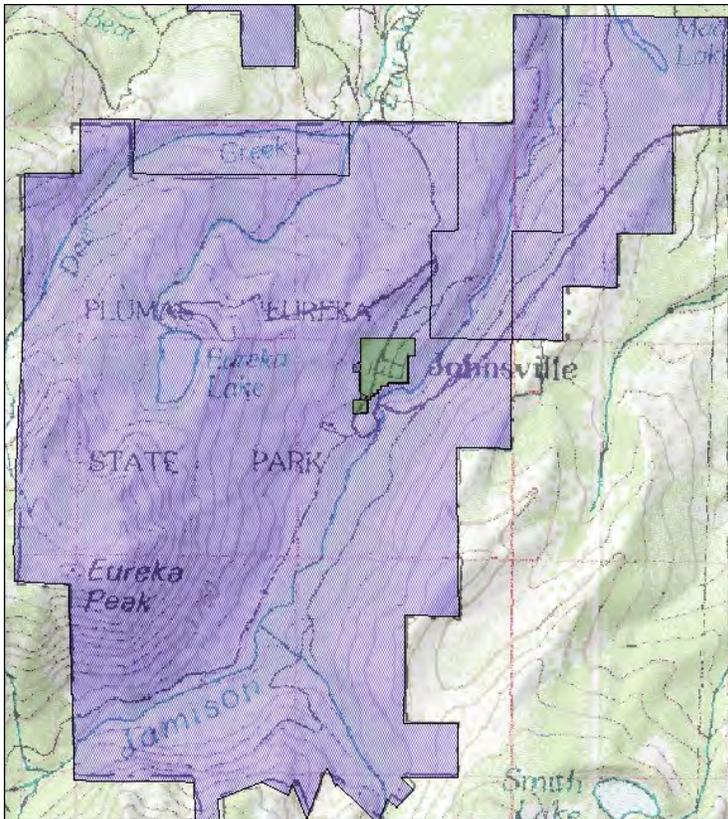


**Refuge 10841- Preston School of Industry (Ione, Amador County):** This refuge is a reservoir within a publicly owned California Youth Authority facility. No hunting is allowed or would be allowed if the refuge designation were removed.



**10842 District 1K - Plumas County (Johnsville)**

This refuge is wholly within the boundaries of Plumas-Eureka State Park where hunting is already prohibited.



## Appendix B.

### Sample of some of the web-based articles and action alerts related to the State Game Refuge evaluation.

#### State agency looks at eliminating some game refuges

Written by [Sean Janssen, The Union Democrat](#) September 28, 2010 11:51 am

The California Department of Fish and Game is looking to eliminate a 100-square-mile state game refuge in northern Tuolumne County.

The Tuolumne State Game Refuge, as well as dozens of others across the state, have proved "an ineffective tool in achieving deer herd management goals," according to a DFG Web site established to inform the public and attract comment before the elimination plan goes to the state Legislature early next year.

However, Ron Colombani, president of the local chapter of the California Deer Association and a former DFG game warden, disagrees with that assessment.

"They're idiots," Colombani said, in a straightforward criticism of the proposed DFG move.

Once refuges are eliminated, "the deer kill will go up and then there won't be any safe havens" for deer, he said. "They're not managing to protect wildlife. They're managing to (sell) more deer tags."

The CDA is a nonprofit wildlife conservation organization formed by sportsmen in 1996. Its principal goal is to improve California deer herds and other wildlife through financial support for habitat improvement and research projects.

Colombani said he believes the refuges help keep "a deer gene pool with larger bucks intact. In a state with 35 million people, the only place the deer have is a refuge."

Much of the Tuolumne refuge, which ranges from Beardsley Reservoir nearly to Highway 4 in Calaveras County, is on property owned by Sierra Pacific Industries as well as Stanislaus National Forest lands.

Colombani said the outcome of eliminating the refuges will likely be devastating.

"Hunters will take what's offered to them," Colombani said. "(Deer) will be like little kids offered candy. Like little kids, they aren't afraid."

But retired DFG wildlife biologist Jim Maddox said he consistently advocated eliminating the refuges during his career, referring to them as "an encumbrance to good wildlife management."

"I don't believe that (refuges) do anything to replenish populations. That was the theory," Maddox said. "It doesn't do what it was originally created to do."

Wildlife biologist Greg Gerstenberg added that the refuges' goal of providing feed areas has not been accomplished and targeted management, including hunting, in the refuge has not been allowed under the designation.

"The south of Tuolumne County is closed by Yosemite National Park, and there is restricted access in wilderness areas (of the national forest)," Gerstenberg said. "There is no need for the refuge in the north part of the county."

According to DFG sources, the refuges were established during the 1910s to enhance deer populations because of a lack of protection in certain areas from hunting. They are usually located on private lands or U.S. Forest Service property.

The elimination of refuges should result in a drop in illegal hunting citations, as the current designation can cause confusion. Many lack sufficient signage, according to the DFG.

An influx of hunters will have a recreational opportunity in new areas, the DFG report said. As many as 1 million acres could be opened up to hunting statewide if the Legislature eliminates the refuges.

Mountain Lion Foundation     



**Mountain Lion Foundation**  
 ACTION ALERT -- please help us stop the California Department of Fish & Game from closing refuges and allowing hunting on these lands. Read the article and then send your comments to [wildlifestrategy@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:wildlifestrategy@dfg.ca.gov) All comments must be submitted before December 1st. Thank you!

 **Mountain Lion Foundation**  
[www.mountainlion.org](http://www.mountainlion.org)

 11  12  11:12 ·    ·     

 Patricia Selves  Tyler Foular  John Zarem  3    

 **Mountain Lion Foundation** Comments can also be submitted through a survey form here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/gamerefuge>

11  12  11:12 ·   

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# ANIMALS

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## Keep California Wildlife Refuges Free of Hunting



**Targeting:** Eric Loft (Chief, Wildlife Branch, California Department of Fish and Game)  
**Started by:** Martin Matheny

In California, close to 1 million acres of land has been reserved for wildlife since the early 20th Century, with no hunting allowed. Now, the California Department of Fish and Game is quietly looking at a recommendation that would open at least some, possibly all, of that land to hunters.

Wildlife and environmental advocates say that the department has kept the evaluation too quiet, and that there are too many unanswered questions.

Ask the California Department of Fish and Game to recommend keeping these refuges free from hunting.

Report

**PETITION TEXT**

**Too many unanswered questions in refuge proposal**

Dear Dr. Loft,

I'm writing to urge your department to recommend against opening certain California wildlife refuges to hunting. There are still too many unanswered questions, including whether opening up these refuges will increase poaching, whether currently viable populations will be affected, and even whether research indicates that this will be effective.

Wildlife in California should be kept safe with increasing habitat preservation and a ban of

### Sign the Petition

3 SIGNATURES GOAL: 100

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# HSUS-The Humane Society of the United States

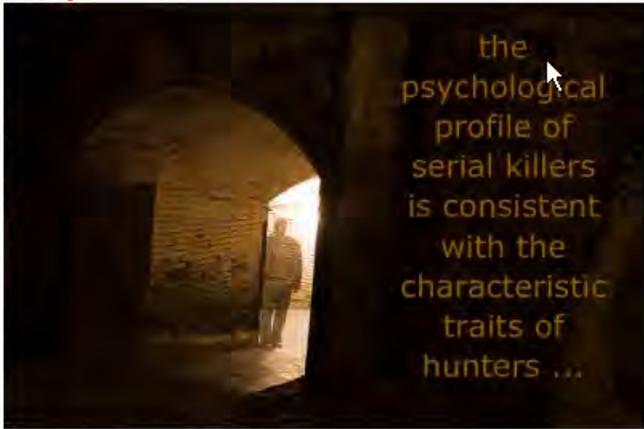
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### California Looks at Opening Wildlife Reserves to Sociopaths

16 hrs ago



Lindsey B.

Immediate, please sign:  
[Keep California Wildlife Refuges Free of Hunting](#)

From [Change.org](#)  
By [Martin Matheny](#)

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### California Wildlife Refuges Soon to Close

Comments | [Like](#) 4 | [Tweet](#) | [Email Friend](#) | [Print](#) | [More](#)

from: [Humane Society of the Sierra Foothills](#)  
category: [Sports and Recreation](#)  
posted: September 14th, 2010

California currently has 21 wildlife refuges spread across our state. They were established a century ago with the intension of enhancing and protecting California's wildlife populations. Below are some things I feel you should be aware of regarding these refuges.



# Stop closure of game refuges

NOVEMBER 17, 2010

Comments (0) Recommend Print this page E-mail this article Share Type Size A A A

Unknown to most, the state Department of Fish and Game is quietly proposing to close 19 of 21 state game refuges and open them to sport hunting.

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California: New scientific muscle building miracle revealed...

Bad idea.

These refuges have existed for nearly 100 years and comprise almost 1 million acres, mostly in Northern California. The refuges provide sanctuary for millions of plants and animals, as well as hikers, birdwatchers and nature lovers. They should remain refuges. Poaching is on the increase, and closures of these areas would exacerbate the problems.

There are fewer than 200,000 hunters in a state of 38 million people, yet the hunting fraternity seems to call the shots. How can this be, when the state Constitution says our wildlife belongs to all Californians, not just the hook 'n' bullet boys?

Hunting may be sport for the hunters, but it's a matter of life and death for animals. Our beleaguered wildlife deserve at least a few areas where they can live out their lives as nature intended.

Deadline for public comments is Dec. 1. E-mail to: [wildlifestrategy@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:wildlifestrategy@dfg.ca.gov); or mail to John McCamman, director of Fish & Game, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Write to all legislators c/o The State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

## **Appendix C.**

### **Summary of selected and representative comments from the public regarding potential elimination of State Game Refuge Status.**

#### **Some “notable” comments related to misconceptions about the refuges, and eliminating or retaining the refuges**

##### **Misconceptions/Incorrect assumptions**

- Hikers, bicyclist and horses do not mix with hunters!
- I hike here and don't want to be shot at.
- Seriously, you'd allow hunting in the middle of Contra Costa County, a suburban area?
- Do not let bill SB 1116 abandon our national parks and open them up to the hunters!
- You want hunting on the Farallon Islands? Mt. Tam? Really? What sicko wants to shoot Mill Valley kids that hike there
- Please don't open up more land for hunting in our state parks. I think hunting is a natural activity to partake in, but I don't like the idea of our state parks becoming a place to kill.
- The only reason to open up these refuges to hunting is to reduce and potentially eliminate wildlife species. Economic considerations support leaving these refuges closed to hunting, because hunting is a trivial money generator, whereas ecotourism is huge business.
- Please quit focusing on monetary and fiscal goals and get real
- The only saving grace is that they are protected in the game refuges from people, their cars, and other perils.
- These wildlife refuges are a photographers dream.
- More and more people, hikers, bicyclists and families are enjoying these areas for their beauty, trails and wildlife sightings.
- you are opening the passageways for destruction to some of the little land left solely put aside for wildlife.
- Please do not bow to the pressure from hunters. Human safety is also at stake.

- One aspect of California we so appreciate is its appreciation of wildlife, and the state's providing areas where we can hike and enjoy seeing deer, coyotes and beautiful birds, without fear of being shot.
- However, the wildlife refuges may serve wildlife in important ways not originally forecasted by the enabling legislation about deer herds. There are other species that benefit from a protected range, like Merriam turkeys.
- I nearly got shot at the Delevan Refuge and have never gone back. My husband and I took one of our children there to see the beautiful birds. I was naive enough to think that Refuge meant what it said until we heard the sharp cracks and the eerie whiz of bullets. We ran back to our vehicle as the lovely birds dropped from the azure skies. It was horrid for us all.
- Mountain Lions, at the top of the food chain, are an essential part of a healthy eco-system.
- We have already destroyed 99% of our wetlands - let's not do that to the few remaining oases of land left in the midst of so much concrete and congestion. Please don't be shortsighted on this issue. Once they lose their protection, they are gone.

#### Retain the refuge designation

- Please do not open the various State wildlife Refuges to hunting. More and more people, hikers, bicyclists and families are enjoying these areas for their beauty, trails and wildlife sightings.
- You've taken more land away from wildlife than you should have already. Humans are THE most destructive and invasive species on Earth. Let hunters hunt each other. Make a reality show out of it. Make a GAME show out of it. You'll make tons on ad revenues.
- Birds and animals have a hard enough time finding safe habitat as it is. And we deplore the idea of more hunting being allowed on publicly owned property. We have concerns not just for the animals, but for public safety, as well as proper staffing to monitor poaching or illegal hunting
- Please do not close the 19 State Wildlife Refuges, and open them to hunting. California needs these precious natural habitats for those that live in them, and humans who relax, exercise, site-see and vacation in these great treasures of California.
- I'm requesting of you to keep State Wildlife Refuges refuges. Opening these lands to hunting will eliminate the beauty of unintimidated wildlife. From my own experience, in the Marin, CA area, it is one of the few places where I can hike and view wild turkey, fox, and deer.
- Humans are really virus to this earth. :( so sad about it.

- Additionally, while most hunters are responsible about firearm safety and respect wildlife and the need to keep a natural balance; there are nonetheless others who skirt the law with regards to kill limits, or who fire on non-game animals. While most hunters will practice safety and responsibility, there is no way to guarantee that they all will. Humans and animals suffer alike when it comes to hunters who choose to be irresponsible.
- Refuges are still safe havens for wild animals and for people who wish to hike, observe, boat, etc., without the threat of hunting and all its impacts.
- With hunters representing less than 1 percent of the state's population there are many more hikers and nature lovers than hunters.
- I ask you keep the open space as is and let these innocent animals live their lives in peace.
- The wildlife in these refuges benefit from these safe havens, whether for migration, or living space free from persecution.
- How would you feel if your neighborhood was opened to crimes committed against you, robberies, mugging, and murder? Please do not let wildlife refuges become places of murder of animals!
- Aside from the obvious risks to wildlife from increasing the number of areas approved for hunters, does the Department have enough wardens to safely open all this land to hunting?
- In all but a VERY few cases, wild meat is not needed for subsistence today. Many of the hunted animals are carnivores, not suited for human consumption, anyway.
- It seems like pure insanity has come to roost. As a California citizen the past 28 years, I implore your agency to PERMIT NO HUNTING whatsoever in these refuges~!!! Please come to your senses. We will be the laughingstock of all the other states if hunting is permitted. Thanks for waking up in time. We must do our part to save this planet.
- Mostly hunters are lousy shots, have trouble at home, and need to prove something. A despicable "sport" and supported by F&G whose income is increased with hunting licenses. Please find something else to raise money. Fundraisers? Hikes with school students through the lovely lands protected for the precious wildlife.
- The deer don't need managing, the Elmer Fudd hunters and their boozy loud "hunting parties" do need managing.

Eliminate the refuge designation

- I am very familiar with this refuge it is poorly posted and I do believe that the presence of legal hunters would curtail much of the poaching that goes on. I think it would be more than a wash on the deer herd in the refuge
- hopefully, you will eliminate the ban on hunting in the State refuges so many more young people can participate in hunting which is a treasure that we don't want to loose. Your consideration will be greatly appreciated.
- I believe the refuges status should be eliminated on as many state properties as possible so more hunter access is possible for more California hunters.
- Hunters contribute a lot of monies toward the refuges and conservation,so it makes absolutely NO sense to exclude them. Paid with public funds so ALL people should have access and not deny a few.
- Eliminating game refuges would have many positive effects, amongst others: For Wildlife - It opens additional land for hunting which takes pressure off other areas. Wildlife numbers will increase due to game management efforts by land owners when the elimination turns game population from a nuisance / liability into an asset. For Landowners - Wildlife becomes an asset worth to be managed for additional income. For Government - Higher income via increased sale of hunting licenses and tags, and less administrative work. For Hunters - Additional land to hunt, more chances to be successful, and less travelling involved (cost savings).
- The elimination of the CA Game Refuges System is a WIN : WIN situation for everybody involved and should be done immediately.
- I strongly support the California Department of Fish and Game in its effort to eliminate select State Game Refuge Designations. In an overall effort to provide well managed, responsible animal habitat I beleive this is a good decision at this time.
- I would like to see limited/permitted hunting on a regulated basis on those lands and if that warrants removal of the State Game Refuge Designation, then remove it. The management tool of hunting is available and those persons that hunt pay huge taxes (Robertson/Pittman Act) in addition to state funded taxation, accordingly they should have some consideration.
- The limited use of these areas by licensed hunters will be a great benefit to our cashes strapped state. These areas should be open to ALL Californians, that includes hunters on these state lands. Please reverse your position and open these lands to all of us that respect the land.
- I am in favor of closing the proposed refuges ---BECAUSE--- Calif hunting license fees continue to rise every year yet hunting area opportunities lessen. Opening the refuge lands to hunting would improve this situation (somewhat) AND show Calif hunters that Fish and Game does care about them.

- It seems all of the recent legislation and proposals have favored the anti-hunting community. Calif is getting very near on the point that Calif hunters have better and more economical opportunities by going out of state to hunt!

**A sample of representative public comments from the survey results are reprinted below for some of the various refuges:**

10821 District 1C - Warner Mountains

- \*\*\* A mule deer refuge in this location is good for the mule deer resource.
- Allow access to public lands for hunters and fishermen
- conservation through hunting management in all refuges
- Deer populations in CA are declining. Hunting will not help.
- For 100 years these refuges have been a safe haven for wildlife and should continue
- Game refuges do not perform objective for creation.
- Hunting brings in money to the surrounding communities and there are a lack of areas to hunt that are open to the public
- I want the DFG biologists to do their job and determine what's best for the fauna. Keep emotion out of science.
- I'm from Modoc. no need.
- Important Butterfly habitat
- Provides refuge for a variety of wild animals
- Region is overgrazed already. No other impact is desirable
- Regulated hunting will bring more game and land stewards to these areas reducing poaching and increasing the viability of the land and animal.
- Wildlife refuges should remain safe, peaceful and natural places. No weapons or bloodshed allowed!

10822 District 1F - Lassen County

- Don't kill Mountain lions --they are are endangered...but I have no problem with killing deer
- Ineffective use of refuge, allow for hunting opportunities and revenue
- Limited draw for species balance.
- More study needed with open hearings--keeping in mind that people who do not hunt are in the majority and appreciate having refuges, too, at a time when wild habitat everywhere is shrinking
- No longer necessary for deer refuges; waste of money
- Once it's gone as a refuge, it will never be returned. The state should never change a designation unless it ADDS to the game refuge areas.
- Opening refuges to hunting make poaching far worse in California. There aren't enough wardens to properly manage game populations as it is today much less adding 1m acres.
- Refuge not needed due to F&G Commission ability to impose zone or region-specific seasons, bag limits and method of take restrictions. More local hunting opportunities are also needed throughout the state due to historical loss of hunter access and related factors.
- Retain this refuge for the future of several species
- See definition of the word "refuge" - also, I'd rather not have people with guns in public areas
- The current Refuge DFG policies are in name only. Hunters and groups can and do perform a better job at conservation than the current system allows for.
- The state game refuge system has not shown itself to be beneficial when compared to proper game management.

- Have hiked volcano at Mt. Lassen. Very peaceful.
- I have hunted in that county before. I would not want to be cited for accidentally hunting on a game refuge.
- I work in these areas of the Plumas/Lassen national forest. I believe these refuges are vital and need to stay in place to protect the area wildlife and to help reduce pressure from over hunted areas. If we open these refuges up to hunting activity I believe it would drastically reduce the heard numbers in deer, wild bird, and turkey populations.
- Poorly posted. Tends to keep you from hunting open land. In hiking parts of this refuge, we didn't observe any more...or any less wildlife than in the open areas.

10823 District 1G - Tehama County

- continue safe haven for lions, bears, deer, and other wild life
- I am against hunting at a refuge created explicitly to protect its animal inhabitants from hunting. Hunting at a hunting refuge is an oxymoron.
- I believe hunting is a good method of game management. Therefore, if done correctly, these areas can still thrive.
- I would like to express that I am against hunting and for maintaining wildlife sanctuaries to protect our wildlife; therefore, I oppose closing State Game Refuges to increase hunting opportunities. Maintaining the approx. 1100 square miles of wildlife sanctuaries is critical to keep safe havens for lions, bears, deer, and uncounted other wild animals.
- Red Legged frog, Fisher, and other threatened animals and plants
- Opening refuges to hunting make poaching far worse in California. There aren't enough wardens to properly manage game populations as it is today much less adding 1m acres.
- There are no deer left in that herd! Sierra Pacific sprayed the brush in every clear cut. What are they going to eat?
- The Tehama County Fish and Game Commission has argued that allowing hunting in this wildlife refuge would threaten the health of a large deer herd that supports an economically important hunting industry. Because the herd migrates through a gap known as "the narrows," hunting there would be like "shooting fish in a barrel."
- There's no proof this refuge aid in the benefit of the animals but tie up public land use.
- Protect the eastern Tehama deer migration corridor
- This refuge protects a geographical bottleneck in the transition zone between it's summer and winter ranges for the Eastern Tehama Deer Herd and provides undisturbed feed and rest areas when this herd is migrating. This herd is hunted from August through November in several deer zones and special hunts and needs such protection during the time they are moving through the mid-elevations. Elimination of Refuge 1-G would result in "Firing Lines" of deer hunters as they move through this restricted area of their historical migration route.
- This refuge allows migratory deer to hold in a safe area if storms do not force them out. I think this one benefits the deer herd.
- This refuge allows migratory deer to hold in a safe area if storms do not force them out. I think this one benefits the deer herd.

10824 District 1H - Plumas County (Mt. Hough)

- Protect Merriam turkey population
- CA CA Can't land be left alone for what it is-a wildlife refuge? Birds, flora and other fauna will be adversely affected
- Currently, hunting is prohibited in these California State Game Refuges. Thus, the primary result of eliminating these designations will be that these large land areas will be

- opened to hunting, and recreational enjoyment also. Let us enjoy our State Lands and Assets more than we currently are please.
- fish and game needs to do their job and make these refuges supportive of wildlife. manage them to encourage wildlife as opposed to leaving them as is. controlled burning, thinning, these activities are shown to increase growth. F&G is lazy like other state agency. Do your job
  - game will not be at risk, DFG will regulate limits accordingly
  - Hunting is unnecessary and cruel.
  - Hunting is dangerous and noisy and keeps the general public from enjoying the land. It is destructive and harrasses every animal or hiker within hearing. There are so few places left for wildlife; why must we take these few and relatively small areas away from them? The website does not assure us that only deer would be hunted and not rare animals like bears and mountain lions. Deer are prime prey for mountain lions. If deer become scarce in the refuges, mountain lions will have to turn elsewhere for prey, such as people's domestic animals.
  - Hunting should be on private land, not public. CA has lost 99% of its wildlands and hunting is a hobby, not a necessity.
  - Ishi region | great example of what that land looked like Red Legged Frog, etc.
  - It should be accessible to everyone including hunters, Calif has beautiful country just because I'm a hunter I can't use it, thats wrong. Thats why people want to leave Calif.
  - Plenty of privately held land serves as a refuge.
  - this is not truly a wildlife refuge for all game and should be opened to eliminate unnecessary 'trespassing violations' opening the refuge will allow sensible game management and a multitude of additional recreational opportunities for our ever increasing population.
  - This is prime hiking area, no place for guns! This a blatant grab for hunting fees for your struggling budget at animals and public expense, and the public has not been adequately notified of the potential change
  - We believe that maintaining this refuge is critical to the survival of ecosystems that support both wildlife and plants whose habitats are shrinking due to increases in human population, development, and tourism throughout California.
  - Mt Hough refuge is necessary to protect breeding flocks of Merriam turkeys during hunting season Continue to protect the Merriam turkey population here
  - Open up more hunting area near Quincy/Greenville in Zone X6A, reducing pressure on adjacent public land.

## 10825 District 11 - Placer County ---

- Entire county under pressure from development with resulting disruption and loss of habitat. Continued protection needed.
- I have hunted in that county before. I would not want to be cited for accidentally hunting on a game refuge.
- Would improve management of habitat and resources to public under guidance of DFG.
- We need to keep some areas of California free of hunting
- vital to wildlife, impossible to supervise illegal use
- Retain this refuge for the future of several species
- Regulated hunting will bring more game and land stewards to these areas reducing poaching and increasing the viability of the land and animal.
- No-hunting areas are one small attempt to mitigate humans' land use
- All non-developed land should remain as such
- rock art in the Refuge should be protected by isolation from hunters
- Refuge lacks sufficient signage of boundaries and area needs more/better deer hunting opportunities

- Any of the mountain refuges or area surrounding mountains are overgrown with wild pigs uprooting vegetation and many deer that have now over populated much of the state. Especially Placer county and areas around Sierras are over populated with Bear and Boar which is reeking havoc on homes and property. All of these areas should allow hunters to thin herds and be monitored by Fish and game helicopters.
- Deer pop. too thick.
- There is important rock art in Granite Chief Wilderness, Picayune Valley and French Meadows which would be threatened by elimination of the refuge.

10826 District 1J - Amador County

- against hunting in all refuges
- Only eliminate if hunting is allowed.
- continuing encroachment renders game refuges more necessary than ever
- Currently, hunting is prohibited in these California State Game Refuges. Thus, the primary result of eliminating these designations will be that these large land areas will be opened to hunting, and recreational enjoyment also. Let us enjoy our State Lands and Assets more than we currently are please.
- I am opposed to hunting. Enough area already exists.
- I believe hunting is a good method of game management. Therefore, if done correctly, these areas can still thrive
- lone Buckwheat/Manzinita and other native plant habitat/wildlife habitat
- No biological reason for them - expand hunting areas
- CA Dept of Fish & Game has not adequately shown that the refuges are failing and that this failure can be reversed through hunting. More credible data is needed.
- This area is remote and would benefit from the presence of hunters
- This is the only area in its elevation band where hunting is not allowed. Wildlife already has enough challenges in this area without hunting. In 2008 3 mountain lions and 11 juvenile bears (believed to be the entire age class in the canyon) were drowned in the PG&E canal.
- familiar as a hiking destination

10827 District 1N - Sisk/Modoc counties (Long Bell)

- IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT HUNTERS ARE THE "LOW END" OF SOCIETY!
- Refuges should not be eliminated or reduced, but increased
- The impact of opening this refuge to hunting will have a negative effect on threatened wildlife
- An area that appears favorable for hunting.
- Annual limits and tags will suffice
- You all should be hunted for fun!
- Argument for elimination not sufficiently convincing.
- As stated, biologists and research have proven that decisions made 100 years ago haven't increased/decreased deer herds in the state. Increasing hunting access on both public and private lands can only benefit residents and DFG with increased tag/license revenues
- Charging hunting fees would help support enforcement
- Currently, hunting is prohibited in these California State Game Refuges. Thus, the primary result of eliminating these designations will be that these large land areas will be opened to hunting, and recreational enjoyment also. Let us enjoy our State Lands and Assets more than we currently are please.

- fish and game needs to do their job and make these refuges supportive of wildlife. manage them to encourage wildlife as opposed to leaving them as is. controlled burning, thinning, these activities are shown to increase growth. F&G is lazy like other state agency. Do your job
- Hunting should be legal is all areas of public land in California
- I dont believe that this refuge or any of the other refuges in the state are accomplishing the goals for which they were intended. I believe in wildlife management and we need to do all we can to protect our resources and increase wildlife numbers for future hunters, but these refuges are not the way to go about it. Especially if the majority of these lands are open to every public industry to conduct business as usual any ways (i.e logging, mining, drilling)
- My response will be the same for every area. I read your background information and see no reason to allow hunting in areas that have traditionally been protected. Deer are not the only animals of concern. Bear, mountain lion, and condors are just some animals that need increasing protections not less. The reasons listed for eliminating these no hunting areas do not convince me that wildlife would be benefitted in any way. I do not see how the State benefits as your site states " DFG does not anticipate any economic impact to the public or to the DFG should any refuge(s) be eliminated. So there's no increase in revenues expected. The areas are already open to recreation. The goal seems to me to just increase hunting opportunities. I think hunters are a vital part of the ecosystem but I think having some areas where wildlife is safe from the gun have value too. Your site says A State Game Refuge is an area of land on which hunting is not permitted at any time unless specifically authorized by the Fish and Game Commission. So if any species was overpopulating or causing a management problem permission could be granted to hunt that specific species. I like knowing there are areas people can visit and know they are safe from any gun accidents. In short you have failed to convince me that permitting hunting in areas where hunting hasn't happened in about a 100 years is suddenly necessary. I oppose this idea
- This area is remote and would benefit from the presence of hunters
- this is not truly a wildlife refuge for all game and should be opened to eliminate unnecessary 'trespassing violations' opening the refuge will allow sensible game management and a multitude of additional recreational opportunities for our ever increasing population.
- camping with family. no hunters please
- This is near property I own. I don't want hunters and dogs running wild over the area, unchecked.
- Bring more revenue into local areas during hunting seasons
- Used more by migratory deer Hunting pressure is controlled by availability of tags issued, so I don't think there is a need for the refuge and this would open up more land for the public to hunt, Also the boundary signs are not being kept up either making it harder to tell if you are in or out of the refuge

#### 10828 District 1P - Plumas County (Dixie Mt.)

- I hunt this area, and it is very unlikely that this refuge or any others in the vicinity have any effect on maintaining a healthy deer population.
- This area provides some winter range, depend on the amount of snow. The area is also in the middle of X-6b, a good place to allow bucks reach respectable size
- it would be nice to be able to go up there and pursue game.
- HUNTING WILL NOT ADVERSELY IMPACT THIS REFUGE AREA
- Great deer population good access through the refuge. Beautiful area to hunt. Deer season is short anyway. Save from hunters driving around the lake and refuge waiting for the deer to cross
- Area under pressure from development and nearby recreational activities. Continue to protect species using this area.

- good opportunity for chukar and other dry site associated game
- It's nice to know there are some 'safe' areas for the animals that we haven't ruined.
- stopping hunting and protecting wildlife is critically important in our state and beyond.
- This deer herd is already over hunted by having 3 different seasons already. Having a hunt on this herd during the rut makes NO sense, and is a poor game management practice. This herd needs more protection because of over excessive hunting.
- retain- backpacking, wildlife viewing
- I work in these areas of the Plumas/Lassen national forest. I believe these refuges are vital and need to stay in place to protect the area wildlife and to help reduce pressure from over hunted areas. If we open these refuges up to hunting activity I believe it would drastically reduce the heard numbers in deer, wild bird, and turkey populations.
- I have hunted in that county before. I would not want to be cited for accidentally hunting on a game refuge.
- I don't believe that refuge status is helping the wildlife population.
- you have not scientifically demonstrated how closing them would benefit wildlife
- We need to preserve habitat wherever possible to benefit all wildlife.
- Trying to eliminate ALL of these without adequately involving the public indicates greed & poor intention are at work.
- Too much huntable land has been removed from public use in the past and eliminating refuges will help alleviate the situation.
- this is a critical haven for animals do not get rid of it
- This area is remote and would benefit from the presence of hunters
- Mountain Lions are almost gone . this will end them for sure
- Not biologically necessary with our current modern wildlife management
- I believe all wildlife should have refuge from hunters, regardless of the state's intent to benefit only a few species
- Hunting should be on private land, not public. CA has lost 99% of its wildlands and hunting is a hobby, not a necessity.
- Hunting regulations should be determined by DFG and California State Fish and Game Commission
- Don't kill Mountain lions --they are are endangered...but I have no problem with killing deer
- The Dixie Mt. Refuge provides exceptional deer habitat in eastern Plumas County. The area contains numerous large bucks and important fawning grounds that should be kept under protection. The refuge serves as a "source" area for deer and other wildlife.

#### 10829 District 1R - Tuolumne County (Tuolumne)

- The refuge system as is, serves no purpose other than to lock down public lands so that they cannot be hunted. If game species need more protection in certain areas then it needs to be done with regulations on take or even special regulations within these refuge areas. Not with a blanket prohibition on hunting public lands.
- I live in Sonora and hunt the D6 area every year. The hunting pressure in the D6 area is very high is alot of private in lower elevations so everybody floods in every direction up high. If these refuge's are not producing any more deer than normal why keep them. Open up these refuges so this already overpopulated state can have more areas to hunt
- The deer herds are dwindling in this area and the closing of the refuge would be a tragedy Serves as important holding area and refuge area for deer during fall migration; 2. serves as important source population for hunted surrounding populations of bear and quail. 3. CDFG lacks data and no scientific studies exist to conclude elimination of the refuge would not have any significant impact on wildlife.

- This refuge should be retained because it has an abundance of wildlife other than Deer, such as Bear, Turkey, Bob Cat, Mountain Lion, Grey Squirrel as well as other species that would be hunted if not in the protected boundaries of this refuge. The deer population in this refuge is quite high and has several migration routes through the refuge. There are also Deer Herd wintering grounds within the refuge. This is one of the larger refuges in California and should be retained and not opened for hunting. I feel it is meeting its intent and would be a mistake to remove it as a Game refuge.
- If eliminated, it will ruin trophy quality deer genetics
- Do to the large size of this area, I think it should be reduced not eliminated. Possibly keeping a third of the area game refuge. Ideally the area closest to Beardsley Reservoir. I have seen more bears, deer & Mtn. Lions when traveling through this area to go hunting. I think this would be a nice compromise for the environment and us hunters.
- This initiative appears to be another attack on the unprotected wildlife of the State of California. with the defeat of Proposition 21, the need to protect our environment and biological resources needs to be a priority. The future of the natural environment of our state is threatened again by the sport hunters now. We lose our parks, we lose our open, natural refuges. Someone needs to step up and show courage and send a message to all Californians that the environment protection we enjoy cannot be sold or given to a few for their " enjoyment" at the risk of the future generations who will need open space. Since there is no cost or taxes needed to solve this issue, let's hear it for a state that will make a stand for the environment. We do not need more hunters blasting their rifles and emptying their cartridges on protected land. Please stand up for the environment. Stop the destruction of California's natural resources.
- The fragility of the area and problem of hunters interacting with park users.
- HUNTING WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THIS REFUGE AREA
- to allow additional protected areas adjacent to park/forest lands
- Heavy cover a lot of game and predators in those area's. Doesn't make any sense to have a refuge in the middle of huntable areas on all sides. Boundaries hard to locate when off the road
- Unsafe for hikers to hike around men with guns
- i don't feel safe backpacking with my family with hunters around
- Great areas with Lake Tenaya where we have camped
- WE PLEDGED TO PROTECT THESE ANIMALS, THEY CAN NOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. DO NOT OPEN THIS AREA TO HUNTING OF ANY KIND. LEAVE IT ALONE, PRISTINE, BEAUTIFUL & FULL OF WILDLIFE AS NATURE INTENDED.
- Tuolumne, along with Yosemite, is a very common place for families to hike and have picnics. A hunting area does not fit in with the atmosphere created by these wonderful parks.
- This is prime hiking area, no place for guns! This a blatant grab for hunting fees for your struggling budget at animals and public expense, and the public has not been adequately notified of the potential change
- this is not truly a wildlife refuge for all game and should be opened to eliminate unnecessary 'trespassing violations' opening the refuge will allow sensible game management and a multitude of additional recreational opportunities for our ever increasing population.
- These refuges were established for a reason. To protect our wildlife. Let's not destroy all of what we have left.
- The State Game Refuges have been an ineffective tool, otherwise I might support them.
- I desperately want to hunt this
- open more land to public hunting opportunities...due to hunting land losses caused by Yosemite Park, this would be a definite benefit to publicly available land for hunting.
- One of the wonderful things about California is all of the wildlife. Refuges are needed to protect an ever-decreasing amount of habitat for wild animals.
- If animals can not be hunted, wounded or killed, it seems logical that the game refuges are indeed serving the purpose for which they were intended: to protect and conserve

- wildlife. It's debatable that DFG could make a well-researched decision concerning the impact of ecosystems and wildlife in such a short time period and with little public attention. Refuges are safe havens for wild animals and for people who wish to hike, observe, boat, etc., without the threat of hunting and all its impacts. Closing refuges results in a loss for both animals and the people who use the lands peacefully.
- I feel there is enough places to hunt and NOT enough places to preserve our wildlife we need to keep ALL California Wildlife refuges - the animals still need our protection. I am AGAINST closing our wildlife refuges - and opening them to hunting!
  - I don't want to loose any potential hunting area.
  - I beleive the public should have access to the land for all purposes including hunting and that game management techiniques are far superior to land closures. I wish DFG would support a doe mgt policy to improve habitat as well.
  - I am sick to the depths of the soul with all the killing going on. It is time to stop pandering to "Man's" base and sadistic behavior.
  - appropriate land for hunting/camping/fishing
  - As a tax payer, I believe that hunting should be banned on public lands

## 10830 District 1S - Lassen County (Hayden Hill)

- Increase hunter access for youth
- Take away the Mountain Lion and what is left is a dysfunctional eco-system.
- camping, not hunting.
- If this covers Lassen Park
- I frequently hike this area and do not want to worry about guns and shooting
- I don't believe that refuge status is helping the wildlife population.
- With reference to wildlife, this refuge serves absolutely no useful purpose and are an encumbrance to sound wildlife management practices.
- wild animals need this refuge
- TO MAKE MORE HUNTING AREAS AVAILABLE
- To allow regulated public hunting for wildlife management is a sound management pratic. Adjust harvest numbers to population of wildlife
- To ensure safe outdoor excursions for wilderness lovers.
- this is no time to expand hunting opportunities what with warden shortages/lack of overtime/furloughs
- The current Refuge DFG policies are in name only. Hunters and groups can and do perform a better job at conservation than the current system allows for.
- is a refuge in name only
- It is a critical safe haven for bears, lions, and other wildlife.
- I don't believe they server the purpose for which they are intended, and I also think that they may impede DFG's ability to enforce regulations by concentrating personel near the areas during critical times during the hunting season, instead of being more mobile (My observation)
- I do not support game hunting and I believe the wild life should be left alone. Human intervention i.e. hunting is detrimental to natural cycle and evolution of wild species.
- In my opinion, this refuge provides some protection for a group (albeit small) of bucks to reach full maturity. The majority of the hunt zone is open to hunting.
- fawn production
- Don't you think that we (humans) have taken away enough land for our personal use. It is important to remember that we are not the only things living here.
- As long as species numbers are not dangerously low, there should be hunting allowed.

## 10831 District 1V - Plumas County (Smith Peak)

- This refuge has critical value to the wildlife that has found sanctuary there. Over the past century many animals have become acclimated to human presence. It would be a travesty to now open this area up to hunting.
- doe hunt (1956?) was a disaster and nightmare, you ain't seen
- The amount of Urban sprawl in this refuge around Portola makes this a joke.
- Difficult to manage, within Urban Interface area of Portola
- When i get drawn for the zone surrounding this area it would be nice to be able to hunt in these areas
- remove this one, to close to Portola and allow bear hunting to reduce the number of nuisance bears in Portola.
- heavy cover and minimal access make hunting possible by locals or serious hunters
- good blue grouse habitat
- I have property located within this refuge. I would like this refuge's fate to be determined by conservationists and game wardens who understand wildlife and hunting and NOT by career polititions in Sacramento.
- Protect deer breeding habitat
- Proximity to town, popular hiking area
- I have hunted in that county before. I would not want to be cited for accidentally hunting on a game refuge.
- Wildlife have too few areas large enough for bio diversity and without the threat of becoming road kill.
- cattlemen want the lands
- Since the refuge does not serve its intended purpose, and allowing hunting will not harm deer populations, I would like the opportunity to hunt this area.
- safe havens are crucial for maintaining viable wild populations
- Refuges are to protect wildlife from hunting. If hunting is allowed in these areas there WILL be an impact on wildlife
- Population growth and habitat destruction are altering CA landscape. The expe to reestablish or create a refuge is high and will be less likely to happen as population pressures and econmic woes continue. Protect what we have because we can. It is our legacy to give to our childrens children not to use it for ourselves.
- If we open up too many refuges, we may see an excessively large decline in species, and they may become threatened or endangered eventually.
- I beleive the public should have access to the land for all purposes including hunting and that game management techniqes are far superior to land closures. I wish DFG would support a doe mgt policy to improve habitat as well.
- Although not really considered a "refuge" according to the Dept. of Fish and Game, there is still a protection for wildlife, regardless of whether this was the original intent of the "refuge" or not. We are encroaching on most animal species' spaces and need to give them some protection--their world is already greatly disparaged because of other environmental issues

10832 District 2A - Mendo, Lake, Glenn counties (Sheet Iron Mt.)

- I have hunted the adjacent lands for 20+ years and with my experience, find plausible the dept's justification and reasoning for recommending discontinuance of the program accurate in my opinion
- Habitat contributes to tourism, tranquility, beauty of area
- very good deer hunting is available in this refuge

- I am very familiar with this refuge it is poorly posted and I do believe that the presents of legal hunters would curtail much of the poaching that gos on. I think it would be more than a wash on the deer heard in the refuge
- I appreciate that I can visit this area without being disturbed by hunting. I've seen the trash that hunters leave behind and I don't appreciate that. I condone hunting for subsistance but I know hunters that hunt for sport and I don't approve of it, as I feel it appeals to one's greed and encourages apathy toward animals.
- The society of man no longer exists on the hunter-gatherer subsistance type lifestyle.
- I personnally witnessed the opening of timber company land in this area, when it was transferred from private ownership to public ownership. The private owners allowed limited hunting and managed the wildlife on the property. I validated over 40 bucks the first year this property was transferred to USFS on the opening day. Most of these bucks were 3 point or better deer. This property kept zone B3, as one of the last deer zones with a decent deer population. After the public entered this area and over-harvested the area, the whole deer population has crashed as a result. Very few deer were taken in following years and most deer taken were forkhorn (2 year olds) bucks. Eliminating the game refuges will produce the same results. There will be great hunting the first year, and the deer herd will crash in the ensuing years. This will also cause a decline in deer tag sales. Deer herds in California are in serious decline, especially on USFS lands throughout the state. I believe the game refuges are more important now than in 1910 when they were created. Keeping in mind in 1910 there were few roads, scoped rifles were not available, ATV's had not been invented, mountain lion populations could be managed, and winter ranges had not been destroyed through development. This is a serious mistake on the part of DFG to eliminate the last few deer refuges in the state that preserve the states dwindling deer populations. As we all know, winter range will continue to be lost and more roads will be built causing further damage to our deer herds in the future. I do not understand the logic behind killing more deer will help create more deer when DFG even states deer herds are in serious decline statewide. I am an avid deer hunter and advocate hunting. I think would should take care of our wildlife first, instead of allowing people to kill the last few deer in areas where hunting is not allowed. The main reason people want to hunt these areas is because there are few deer left on the surrounding areas open to hunting. Killing deer in these last refuges will further decimate our deer herds into non-existence which is not far off in the future. This statement applies to all game refuges in the state.
- hunt here
- Wildlife should be protected.
- This area is remote and would benefit from the presence of hunters
- Marijuana growers poisoned them all!
- Not biologically necessary with our current modern wildlife management
- KEEP FOR THE LOVE OF ANIMALS< HUNTERS SUCK!!
- i'm a backcountry hiker and california citizen and I'm terrified of the possibility of crossing paths with a wreckless hunter.
- Keep this designation, but tell the Forest Service to manage the land for old-growth characteristics and wildlife rather than for timber and recreation.

## 10837 District 4D - Riverside County (unnamed)

- fragile area with ctitical bighorn sheep population
- need good place to hunt
- I see no need to keep this closed Most of the time one needs to cross the refuge to get into hunttable land and it would not surprize me if some of the hunters shoot deer on the refuge anyway. It would also enlarge the hunting areas and make it much safer around
- My concern is the impact of more visitation by hunters and land use impact in already highly impacted areas. Too close to urban areas.May increase off road vehicle use.

- Confusion regarding lack of signage
- Too close to many communities and visitors to the San Jacinto Santa Rosa National Monument
- There are so few animals and very little habitat, we like to walk in these areas and see wildlife!
- There are overlapping jurisdictions
- There are very few places to hunt in So Cal
- good deer populations on nearby private land
- Legal Hunting provides a check/balance for wildlife in the area. Having these areas closed will do more damage to the area.
- HUNTING WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THIS REFUGE AREA
- I would like to see more areas open to hunting in Southern California and the "refuge" status of this area doesn't seem to be having a great positive impact on the wildlife.
- the argument presented for eliminating is absurd
- Southern California needs more quality hunting land open to the public. Access to legal land is often blocked and gated. With these lands open there can be more tags sold in those zones generating additional money to the state. Wild Hogs are now in these areas. Hunting is a proven method of managing wild hogs and will also generate additional revenue. The reduction in hog numbers will help the deer herd.
- More opportunities are needed for hunting, especially for southern California
- Protects bighorns from poaching
- Upland game hunting clubs can introduce methods to help wildlife in the area
- They are being hunted illegally anyway and there are no more or less deer in these areas than the area surrounding them. They are not posted and there seems to be No management or enforcement.
- Simply put the refuges do not work. The signage is not always clear, it's difficult to know exactly where you are. Since carrying a firearm is illegal, even if you are just passing through, it makes being legal hard. This was one of those good ideas that just did not work.
- I have known and hiked the Santa Rosa MTS. since 1955. It is poorly marked and easy to wander into, plus it would open up more territory to hunting.
- stopping hunting and protecting wildlife is critically important in our state and beyond.
- Presence of Bighorn Sheep, close to residential areas
- THERE'S SOMETHING DRASTICALLY WRONG WITH SOCIETY -- WHEN THEY ALLOW THE LEAST CAPABLE AMONG US (intellectually and spiritually) THE RIGHT TO HUNT AND KILL!
- Save the burros--forget it.
- hunting culls the herd but can also kill the best of the herd
- I believe hunting is a good method of game management. Therefore, if done correctly, these areas can still thrive.
- Animals need protection in an area so close to LA
- Hunting is dangerous and noisy and keeps the general public from enjoying the land. It is destructive and harrasses every animal or hiker within hearing. There are so few places left for wildlife; why must we take these few and relatively small areas away from them? The website does not assure us that only deer would be hunted and not rare animals like bears and mountain lions. Deer are prime prey for mountain lions. If deer become scarce in the refuges, mountain lions will have to turn elsewhere for prey, such as people's domestic animals.
- I do not want my tax dollars to support hunting, even passively

10838 District 4G - Riverside County (San Jacinto)

- this refuge does not do what it was intended to do for the deer, furthermore no one knows the refuge line and what it covers every map is different.
- public land should be able to use for hunting with limited tags managed by fish and game
- this area can support hunting pressure
- I have hunted next to this refuge for almost 20 yrs, it is very poorly marked and maps showing the boundry lines are contradicting to the few signs that remain. This refuge area is hunted year after year by hunter with no recourse from wardens because it is too hard to enforce because of its location. I believe eliminating this refuge would also help greatly to spread out the hunters in the area making it safer to hunt and not be so crowded.
- this refuge does not do what it was intended to do for the deer, furthermore no one knows the refuge line and what it covers every map is different.
- I stopped hunting this area about 10 years ago this I will be hunting it again due to having lost my job and can't afford to travel. This will open up a larger area and promote safety. Most of the best hunting areas are within the refuge. In many areas you have to cross the refuge to get into an area to hunt this is true by Lake Hemet from what I remember. This is also a small area with many hunters working it. I believe some of those hunters may kill deer within the refuge and may not even know they are within the refuge. Lifting it will improve hunting within D19 and bring in more hunter into a larger area in return bring more revenue in to the DFG.
- Has not had any effect on improving the number of deer in zone D19
- My concern is the impact of more visitation by hunters and land use impact in already highly impacted areas. Too close to urban areas. May increase off road vehicle use.
- They are not serving the purpose of why they were created and the boundaries are poorly marked, I have several Forest Service Maps from different publication dates and the boundaries are in different locations
- I live locally in this refuge. I would greatly appreciate more hunting opportunities in the area. It is also, at times, difficult to know where the game refuge line is. I do a lot of hiking both in and out of the game refuge and have not noticed a difference in the wildlife populations. The wildlife populations seem to be dependent on quality habitat. This would be a great move for the Department of Fish and Game to open up these area with no adverse effects. Thank you for considering this proposal.
- This area has been closed to hunting for years and I believe the deer population has increased since the implementation of the refuge. By eliminating this refuge, hunters will have more areas to hunt and will be safer to hunt; due to hunters concentrating in one mountain or area. There will also be less violations due to lack of signage in this area and will increase the interest of hunters to hunt the area.
- Too close to many communities and visitors to the San Jacinto Santa Rosa National Monument
- Opens up more hunting opportunities, and eliminates DFG monitoring of those that are in violation of hunting on refuge land.
- We are in this area a lot, seldom see an animal of any kind, I have seen only one deer in 25 years! so please let this poor creature be. Life is hard enough in desert areas. Thank You
- I live locally in this refuge. I would greatly appreciate more hunting opportunities in the area. It is also, at times, difficult to know where the game refuge line is. I do a lot of hiking both in and out of the game refuge and have not noticed a difference in the wildlife populations. The wildlife populations seem to be dependent on quality habitat. This would be a great move for the Department of Fish and Game to open up these area with no adverse effects. Thank you for considering this proposal.
- This change in use needs to be evaluated through an Environmental Impact Report. I suspect that this change will cause a significant environmental impact and a drawdown of DFG resources.
- put turkeys there, have more places to hunt
- I would hunt this area if available

- San Jacinto Wilderness is a small, intimate area with miles of intertwined recreation trails in close proximity of one another. By eliminating the Game Refuge there will be a serious safety consideration for the high numbers of visitors in the area. This island mountain range also is an island of solitude in hectic Southern California. Eliminating the Game Refuge would be an annoyance for the visitors there.
- Hunting needs to return to my area for economic reasons, and the health of the deer herds. Cars hit too many on Hwy 74 each year. I've hit 2 in 13 years. A healthy diet includes game meats. I would welcome being able to hunt in my area as part of returning to a more traditional lifestyle based on foods available locally. Hunting tourism might increase if the refuges were eliminated. Local Native American may welcome being able to hunt again as part of their traditional heritage and for better nutrition.
- Southern California needs more quality hunting land open to the public. Access to legal land is often blocked and gated. With these lands open there can be more tags sold in those zones generating additional money to the state. Wild Hogs are now in these areas. Hunting is a proven method of managing wild hogs and will also generate additional revenue. The reduction in hog numbers will help the deer herd.
- a great place for family and young hunters for near by population centers
- This area is not posted and has been hunted illegally for years. Where is the enforcement? The deer populations are no more, no less than surrounding areas.
- Too urban, dangerous for hunting.
- This is truly wild place, leave it alone
- wildlife should have safe places where they don't have to worry about hunters
- Threats to endangered bighorn from hunters with dogs.
- Refuge means safety, not living in fear
- not useful for population mgmt, law enforcement improvement if eliminated
- I would like to express that I am against hunting and for maintaining wildlife sanctuaries to protect our wildlife; therefore, I oppose closing State Game Refuges to increase hunting opportunities. Maintaining the approx. 1100 square miles of wildlife sanctuaries is critical to keep safe havens for lions, bears, deer, and uncounted other wild animals.

#### 10842 District 1K - Plumas County (Johnsville)

- Insignificant refuge. Can't hunt w/in state park anyway.
- Proximity to State Park
- Although this Refuge is relatively small in size it has great potential to serve as a model area where the DFG can improve wildlife habitat in refuges. Plumas Audubon is interested in partnering with DFG to pursue grant funding to improve wildlife habitat in the State Park.

[note: The Department has not summarized the comments received on the refuges for which the designation would not change the status on the land. That is, the areas would continue to be no hunting areas.]

# 1. Intro

## Evaluation of the Status of Existing State Game Refuges

This survey (Responses will be anonymous) is intended to assist in gathering information regarding public interest in either maintaining/abolishing any of the specified State Game Refuges. Responses will be collected until December 1, 2010.

It assumes you will have some knowledge of the State Game Refuges. That information can be obtained before completing the survey by going to the website listed below.

**NOTE: ONLY ONE (1) RESPONSE PER COMPUTER WILL BE PERMITTED IN THIS SURVEY. THE SYSTEM WILL ENABLE YOU TO RETURN AND EDIT YOUR RESPONSES IF DESIRED.** Please open a separate and new internet window if you wish to visit other websites such as the Department's State Game Refuge information site.

The California Legislature has directed the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to review and evaluate the existing State Game Refuge system. A State Game Refuge is an area of land on which hunting is not permitted at any time unless specifically authorized by the Fish and Game Commission.

In 2008, the DFG proposed a legislative change to eliminate the State Game Refuge status of some areas. The proposed change in status would open these lands to public and private use, consistent with adjacent properties, and consistent with other refuges managed by the state and federal government. The Legislature directed the Department to seek public input on this topic and did not take action on eliminating any of the refuges.

To view the maps showing the names and locations of these refuges, and read about the evaluation before taking this survey, please go to:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/gamerefuges/>

Thanks for your participation. Responses will be anonymous and no additional information will be obtained from your participation.

**1. Are you familiar with the refuges and their intent? Reading the Department's website information regarding the State Game Refuges may help before completing the survey. REMEMBER, DO NOT END THIS SESSION TO GO READ THE MATERIAL, INSTEAD, OPEN A NEW BROWSER WINDOW AND COPY THIS LINK TO IT:**

**<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/gamerefuges/>**

Yes, I am familiar with these refuges (some or all of them) and their intent.

I am somewhat familiar with these refuges (some or all of them) and their intent.

I am not familiar with these refuges (none of them) and their intent.

**2. Simply to illustrate where responses are coming from, would you please provide your zip code.**

ZIP:

**3. (Optional) If you would like to have your contact information included for the record, you may do so here:**

Name:

Company:

City/Town:

State:

Email Address:

**4. Because the State Game Refuges were established to exclude hunting, we would appreciate your perspective on hunting.**

I am supportive of hunting.

I do not hunt and am neither for/against it.

I am opposed to hunting.

**5. Below is a list of the 19 State Game Refuges that the Department is evaluating for recommendation to the Legislature for closure. Please indicate your opinion on whether the refuge should be retained or not.**

**A general, and more detailed map is available at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/gamerefuges/> to refresh your memory about their locations.**

**The refuges are listed by: Refuge code, District in code, Name (if it has one).**

	I am in favor of eliminating this refuge	I am in favor of keeping this refuge	I have no opinion on keeping/eliminating this refuge
10821 District 1C - Warner Mountains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10822 District 1F - Lassen County	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10823 District 1G - Tehama County	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10824 District 1H - Plumas County (Mt. Hough)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10825 District 1I - Placer County ---	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10826 District 1J - Amador County	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10827 District 1N - Sisk/Modoc counties (Long Bell)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10828 District 1P - Plumas County (Dixie Mt.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10829 District 1R - Tuolumne County (Tuolumne)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10830 District 1S - Lassen County (Hayden Hill)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10831 District 1V - Plumas County (Smith Peak)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10832 District 2A - Mendo, Lake, Glenn counties (Sheet Iron Mt.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10833 District 2B - Marin County (Mt Tamalpais)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10835 District 3F - Contra Costa County (Mt. Diablo)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10836 District 3G - San Mateo/Santa Clara counties (Stanford Univ.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10837 District 4D - Riverside County (unnamed)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10838 District 4G - Riverside County (San Jacinto)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10841 Preston School of Industry (Ione, Amador County)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10842 District 1K - Plumas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**6. Based on your opinion from the previous question, can you state why you believe the refuge(s) you identified should be eliminated or retained?**

**If you have no opinion on a particular refuge, you may skip it and leave it blank.**

10821 District 1C - Warner Mountains

10822 District 1F - Lassen County

10823 District 1G - Tehama County

10824 District 1H - Plumas County (Mt. Hough)

10825 District 1I - Placer County ---

10826 District 1J - Amador County

10827 District 1N - Sisk/Modoc counties (Long Bell)

10828 District 1P - Plumas County (Dixie Mt.)

10829 District 1R - Tuolumne County (Tuolumne)

10830 District 1S - Lassen County (Hayden Hill)

10831 District 1V - Plumas County (Smith Peak)

10832 District 2A - Mendo, Lake, Glenn counties (Sheet Iron Mt.)

10833 District 2B - Marin County (Mt Tamalpais)

10835 District 3F - Contra Costa County (Mt. Diablo)

10836 District 3G - San Mateo/Santa Clara counties (Stanford Univ.)

10837 District 4D - Riverside County (unnamed)

10838 District 4G - Riverside County (San Jacinto)

10841 Preston School of Industry (Ione, Amador County)

10842 District 1K - Plumas County (Johnsville)