State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

2014 SISKIYOU ROOSEVELT ELK HUNT

www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/elk

Congratulations on being drawn for the Siskiyou Elk Hunt!

General Information: Portions of the hunt area are heavily forested, steep, and rugged. Much of the area is comprised of private land, a great deal of which is agricultural. Elk do not occur throughout the entire area so gathering the information in advance of your hunt will be useful. Please be aware that although elk can occur on public land within the hunt area, in most years, the majority of the elk occupy **private land** where hunting is prohibited or landowners charge a **fee** for access. We have prepared the following information to help you have a successful hunting experience.

For those who have access to a computer and a high speed internet connection, the Department has an interactive mapping program which allows you to zoom in to the 7.5 minute topographical maps. The program website is **http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/gis/imaps.asp.**

Collars: Some of the elk within the hunt area have been fitted with radio collars. The data we are gathering is critical to the management of this herd. In the event that you harvest a collared animal, please contact Mr. Bob Schaefer at (530) 842-4387 or Mr. Joe Hobbs (916) 445-9992 immediately so that we can make arrangements to obtain the collar. In order to prevent the loss of data it is important that we are contacted as soon as possible.

Remember all hunters MUST report to the Department within one week after the close of elk season, REGARDLESS if an elk was taken, either through mailing in the tag or the new online reporting system outlined below.

Due to mandatory harvest reporting for all big-game species the Department offers an internet reporting option for hunters to submit big game tag report card information. For the 2014 hunting season, both successful and unsuccessful hunters will be able to report their hunt results online via the Department's online license service at **http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/ols/**. Log on to the Online License Sales and Service, and then click on Harvest Reporting in the top section. Hunters submitting reports online will receive a report confirmation number and will not have to mail in the report card. The Department encourages all hunters (including those who were unsuccessful or who had a tag but did not hunt) to use this service to meet their respective reporting requirements. Accurate harvest information is a crucial element in developing population estimates and the resulting tag quotas as well as in assessing the performance of current hunt programs and in the development of new opportunities. An online reporting option will provide that information in a timelier, more convenient manner.

Tooth Collection: The Department is collecting teeth from animals taken by hunters for age analysis. Successful hunters should follow directions on the tooth envelope (included with this flyer) to remove the two front teeth (and only the two front teeth, please do not send in sections of the jaw) and submit them to the Department. Please do not wrap teeth in plastic or foil. The Department will post the age analysis results at

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/elk for hunters that submit teeth from their hunt. The age of your animal can be found by using your GO ID number. Please note that these results may not be available until **December** of the **following** year (2015).

Care of Meat: Conditions during the elk hunting season can be quite warm, even with mild temperatures an improperly handled carcass can lead to **spoilage**. The weather and the steep, rugged terrain within the hunt area make it critical you are prepared to properly care for the meat if you harvest an animal. Elk are large mammals and hold heat, which leads to **spoilage**. Open up the elk as soon as possible including the neck area, hip joints, and shoulders to promote cooling. You should be physically fit and prepared to skin and quarter or de-bone your elk **immediately** after it is tagged. It is encouraged that you debone the meat as soon as possible to prevent the meat from spoiling (bone sour). The meat should be hung in fly proof breathable sacks in the shade until you pack it out (as soon as possible). If you are hunting by yourself, you will need, at minimum, four game sacks (six is better for loose cuts of meat), plenty of rope, a game hoist, a knife, a knife sharpener, and a pack frame. A meat saw or hatchet and a tarp would also likely be helpful. Failure to properly care for or remove all edible portions of a harvested animal can lead to a violation of the Fish and Wildlife Code. Never lay meat directly on the bed of a truck because the exhaust system heats the bed and can lead to spoilage. It is suggested you place a pad or sleeping bag down to insulate the meat underneath.

Meat Cutting and Storage Facilities:

Shasta Valley Meats
410 South 11th Street
Montague, California 96067
(530) 459-5149 or (530) 459-5238
Provides cut, wrapping, freezing, and hanging services.
Open Tuesday-Saturday, but can arrange for service on weekends or evenings.

Siskiyou Distributors
1313 Foothill Drive
Yreka, California 96064
(530) 842-1616
Provides cut, wrapping, freezing, and hanging services.
Open Monday-Friday and Saturday morning 0900-1200.

Additional Information:

All hunters should read and be familiar with regulations contained in the current Hunting Regulations for Mammals and Furbearers. Visit the above website address for specific zone regulations (hunt zone map, description, and harvest success information can also be viewed at this address). Section 364 (a) describes the Siskiyou Roosevelt Elk hunt area and hunting season. Some of the elk within the hunt area occur on public lands, however, animals are often found on **private property**. Remember you must obtain **written** permission to hunt on private property and hunter trespass laws are strictly enforced.

Public Land: Most public land within the hunt area is administered by the Klamath National Forest. The primary access into the hunt area is Interstate Highway 5 and Highway 97. Many county and National Forest roads provide good access to public lands. Please be aware that some national forest roads may be closed to vehicle access during the hunting season to protect natural resources or because they are impassible.

Generally, these areas are open to hunting provided access is made by non-motorized vehicle.

Maps: United States Forest Service (USFS) maps are available locally at most USFS offices; by contacting the USFS Pacific Southwest Regional Office at: 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592 (707-562-8737); or ordered by phone (406-329-3024), fax (406-329-3030), mail at USDA Forest Service, National Forest Store, P.O Box 8268, Missoula, MT 59807, or on-line at **http://www.nationalforeststore.com/** . Forest maps are available for a fee and provide general information regarding the location of public lands and roads within the hunt area. District transportation maps are also available for a fee. These maps depict many roads not identified on the general National Forest map. The Goosenest district transportation maps will likely be the most useful to you.

Weather: Weather in this region is highly variable. It may be quite warm but early storms are common. Snow during your hunting season would be unusual but heavy rains can occur making some roads impassable. You should be prepared with appropriate clothing and equipment for a variety of weather conditions. There is a potential for fire due to the high fuel loading and lightning events that occur in this zone. Check with the US Forest Service for the most up to date news on closures at **www.fs.fed.us**. Be aware that tags or refunds will not be reissued due to fire closures.

Camping: Camping is available at National forest campgrounds and is usually permitted at undesignated sites on the forest. Please refer to the Klamath National Forest map for the locations of designated campgrounds or contact the Klamath National Forest for further information.

Outfitters and Guides: Outfitters and guides offer a variety of services for elk hunters interested in hunting in wilderness areas. Many have limited space so be sure to contact them as soon as possible to reserve their services. A list of outfitters and guides permitted by the US Forest Service within the hunt area is available from the US Forest Service. It is your responsibility to verify any guides you retain have a current guide license issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. If you plan to hunt on the US Forest Service property your guides will also need to be permitted with the US Forest Service. Failure to verify the proper licenses required may result in a citation to both the hunter and guide. A list of licensed guides can be obtained online (**http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/hunting/**). Scroll down to the Related Information section and select Big Game Guide List.

If you have any questions regarding this hunt, please contact Mr. Bob Schaefer at (530) 842-4387.

Again, congratulations and we hope you have an enjoyable hunt. Good Luck!