



State of California - The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
**2017 SANTA CLARA TULE ELK HUNT**  
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Elk>



**General Information:** Elk within the hunt zone are either on private property or at Department of Fish and Wildlife's San Antonio Valley Ecological Reserve. Private lands are open to elk hunting only with the **written permission** of the land owner. Your elk tag does not give you the authority to enter private property nor is it valid on Private Land Management (PLM) areas that currently harvest elk. The Department does **NOT** have a list of landowners who would allow access. If you wish to hunt San Antonio Valley Ecological Reserve please contact Ms. Terris Kasteen at (408) 365-1066.

Be aware that **NON-LEAD AMMUNITION** restrictions are in place as of July 1, 2008. Refer to Title 14 Section 353 and 354 for legal methods of take. It is unlawful to use, or possess with any firearm capable of firing, any projectile(s) not certified as non-lead within the Condor Range. Pending final approval of the Fish and Game Commission on April 9, 2015, it is unlawful to use, or possess with any firearm capable of firing, any projectile(s) not certified as non-lead when taking all wildlife in any wildlife area or ecological reserve, as described in CCR T14-551, 552, and 630. The Santa Clara elk hunt zone is entirely within the non-lead Condor Range.

**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.**

The Department offers an internet reporting option for hunters to submit big game tag report card information. **Both successful and unsuccessful** hunters will be able to report their hunt results online via the Department's online license service at <http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Online-Sales> 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 new 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. Online reporting 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 <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Elk/Tooth-Age-Data> for hunters that submit teeth from their hunt. The age of your animal can be found by using your GOID number. Please note that these results may not be available until **December** of the **following year (2018)**.

**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.

**CHANGES IN ELK TAG APPLICATION, RETENTION, and EVIDENCE OF SEX: CCR T14-708.11.**

**Elk License Tags, Application, Distribution and Reporting Procedures.**

**Bold sections were new in 2015**

(A) License tags shall be attached to the antler of an antlered elk immediately after killing. **The license tag shall be kept attached to the antler of an antlered elk and retained for 15 days after the close of the season.**

(B) License tags shall be attached to the ear, leg, or largest portion of meat of antlerless elk immediately after killing. If the head is removed and not retained, evidence of sex in the form of udder or vulva must remain naturally attached. Boned out or quartered animals shall have evidence of sex naturally attached to a portion of the meat. The license tag shall be kept attached to the ear, leg, or largest portion of meat of an antlerless elk until processed and then shall be retained for 15 days after the close of the season.

Our goal is to assure that you have a safe and enjoyable hunting experience. Please contact Ms. Terris Kasteen at (408) 365-1066 or Mr. Conrad Jones at (707)944-5544 or Mr. Joe Hobbs (916) 445-9992 if you have any questions.



## Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) 2017



### § 364. Elk.

(d) Department Administered General Methods Tule Elk Hunts:

#### (17) Santa Clara General Methods Tule Elk Hunt:

(A) Area: Those portions of Merced, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties within the following line: beginning at the intersection of the Interstate 5 and the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line; southeast along Interstate 5 to the intersection of Highway 152; west along Highway 152 to the intersection of Highway 101 near the town of Gilroy; north along Highway 101 to the intersection of Interstate 680 near San Jose; north along Interstate 680 to the intersection of the Alameda/Santa Clara County line; east along the Alameda/Santa Clara County line to the intersection of the San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Alameda, Santa Clara County lines; northeast along the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line to the point of beginning.

§	Hunt	1. Bull Tags	2. Antlerless Tags	3. Either-Sex Tags	4. Spike Tags
		5. Season			
(u) Department Administered General Methods Tule Elk Hunts					
(17)(A)	Santa Clara	0	0		
		Shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.			

### Definitions

(1) Bull elk: Any elk having an antler or antlers at least four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(2) Spike bull: A bull elk having no more than one point on each antler. An antler point is a projection of the antler at least one inch long and longer than the width of its base.

(3) Antlerless elk: Any elk, with the exception of spotted calves, with antlers less than four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(4) Either-sex elk: For the purposes of these regulations, either-sex is defined as bull elk, spike elk, or antlerless elk.

**Method of Take:** Only methods for taking elk as defined in sections 353 and 354 may be used.

#### Tagholder Responsibilities:

(1) No tagholder shall take or possess any elk or parts thereof governed by the regulations except herein provided.

(2) The department reserves the right to use any part of the tagholder's elk for biological analysis as long as the amount of edible meat is not appreciably decreased.

(3) Any person taking an elk which has a collar or other marking device attached to it shall provide the department with such marking device within 10 days of taking the elk.

(p) The use of dogs to take or attempt to take elk is prohibited.

NOTE Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203, 332, 1050 and 1572, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 203, 203.1, 332, 713, 1050, 1570-1572, and 3951, Fish and Game Code.

### § 353. Methods Authorized for Taking Big Game.

(a) Except for the provisions of subsections 353(b) through (g), Title 14, CCR, big game (as defined by Section

350, title 14, CCR) may only be taken by rifles using centerfire cartridges with softnose or expanding bullets; bow and arrow (see Section 354, Title 14, CCR, for archery equipment regulations); or wheellock, matchlock, flintlock or percussion type, including “in-line” muzzleloading rifles using black powder or equivalent black powder substitute, including pellets, with single ball or bullet loaded from the muzzle and at least .40 caliber in designation.

(b) Shotguns capable of holding not more than three shells firing single slugs may be used for the taking of deer, bear and wild pigs. In areas where the discharge of rifles or shotguns with slugs is prohibited by county ordinance, shotguns capable of holding not more than three shells firing size 0 or 00 buckshot may be used for the taking of deer only.

(c) Pistols and revolvers using centerfire cartridges with softnose or expanding bullets may be used to take deer, bear, and wild pigs.

(d) Pistols and revolvers with minimum barrel lengths of 4 inches, using centerfire cartridges with softnose or expanding bullets may be used to take elk and bighorn sheep.

(e) Except as provided in subsection 354 (j), crossbows may be used to take deer and wild pigs only during the regular seasons.

(f) Under the provisions of a muzzleloading rifle only tag, hunters may only possess muzzleloading rifles as described in subsection 353(a) equipped with open or “peep” type sights only.

(g) Under the provisions of a muzzleloading rifle/archery tag, hunters may only possess muzzleloading rifles with sights as described in subsection 353(f); archery equipment as described in Section 354; or both. For purposes of this subsection, archery equipment does not include crossbows, except as provided in subsection 354(j).

(h) Except as otherwise provided, while taking or attempting to take big game under the provisions of Section 353 or Section 354, Title 14, CCR, it is unlawful to use any device or devices which: 1) throw, cast or project an artificial light or electronically alter or intensify a light source for the purpose of visibly enhancing an animal; or 2) throw, cast or project an artificial light or electronically alter or intensify a light source for the purpose of providing a visible point of aim directly on a animal. Devices commonly referred to as “sniperscopes”, night vision scopes or binoculars, or those utilizing infra-red, heat sensing or other non-visible spectrum light technology used for the purpose of visibly enhancing an animal or providing a visible point of aim directly on a animal are prohibited and may not be possessed while taking or attempting to take big game. Devices commonly referred to as laser rangefinders, “red-dot” scopes with self-illuminating reticles, and fiberoptic sights with self illuminating sight or pins which do not throw, cast or project a visible light onto an animal are permitted. NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202 and 203, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 23, 203.1, 207, 2005 and 3950, Fish and Game Code.

#### **§354. Archery Equipment and Crossbow Regulations.**

(a) Bow, as used in these regulations, means any device consisting of a flexible material having a string connecting its two ends and used to propel an arrow held in a firing position by hand only. Bow, includes long bow, recurve or compound bow.

(b) Crossbow, as used in these regulations means any device consisting of a bow or cured latex band or other flexible material (commonly referred to as a linear bow) affixed to a stock, or any bow that utilizes any device attached directly or indirectly to the bow for the purpose of keeping a crossbow bolt, an arrow or the string in a firing position. Except as provided in subsection 354(j), a crossbow is not archery equipment and cannot be used during the archery deer season.

(c) For the taking of big game, hunting arrows and crossbow bolts with a broad head type blade which will not pass through a hole seven-eighths inch in diameter shall be used. Mechanical/retractable broad heads shall be measured in the open position. For the taking of migratory game birds, resident small game, furbearers and nongame mammals and birds any arrow or crossbow bolt may be used except as prohibited by subsection (d) below.

(d) No arrows or crossbow bolt with an explosive head or with any substance which would tranquilize or poison any animal may be used. No arrows or crossbow bolt without flu-flu fletching may be used for the take of pheasants and migratory game birds, except for provisions of section 507(a)(2).

(e) No arrow or crossbow bolt may be released from a bow or crossbow upon or across any highway, road or other way open to vehicular traffic.

(f) No bow or crossbow may be used which will not cast a legal hunting arrow, except flu-flu arrows, a horizontal distance of 130 yards.

(g) Except as described in subsection 354(j), crossbows may not be used to take game birds and game

mammals during archery seasons.

(h) Except as provided in subsection 353(g), archers may not possess a firearm while hunting in the field during any archery season, or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag.

(i) No person may nock or fit the notch in the end of an arrow to a bowstring or crossbow string in a ready-to-fire position while in or on any vehicle.

(j) Any person with a physical disability which prevents him/her from being able to draw and hold a bow in a firing position, may use a crossbow or device which holds a string and arrow in the firing position to assist in the taking of birds and mammals under the conditions of an archery tag, archery season, or general season. Under these conditions, archers must provide to the Department and retain in his/her immediate possession while taking or attempting to take big game written verification of the disability, including: the person's name and signature, address, date of birth, driver's license or DMV number; physician's name and signature, physician's license number and address; and a description of the disability.

NOTE Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203 and 240, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, 202, 203 and 203.1, Fish and Game Code.

### **§ 730. Camping Near or Occupying Wildlife Watering Places.**

(a) Camping/Occupying Defined. For purposes of this Section, camping/occupying is defined as establishing or inhabiting a camp; resting; picnicking; sleeping; parking or inhabiting any motor vehicle or trailer; hunting; or engaging in any other recreational activity for a period of more than thirty (30) minutes at a given location.

(b) Wildlife Watering Places Defined. For purposes of this Section, wildlife watering places are defined as waterholes, springs, seeps and man-made watering devices for wildlife such as guzzlers (self-filling, in-the-ground water storage tanks), horizontal wells and small impoundments of less than one surface acre in size.

(c) Prohibitions.

(1) Camping/Occupying is prohibited within 200 yards of the following:

(A) Any guzzler or horizontal well for wildlife on public land within the State of California.

(B) Any of the wildlife watering places on public land within the boundary of the California Desert Conservation Area as depicted on the Bureau of Land Management maps of "Calif. Federal Public Lands Responsibility," "Calif. Desert Conservation Area" and the new "Desert District, B.L.M."

(2) Camping/Occupying is prohibited within one-quarter mile of the following wildlife watering places:

(A) Butte Well -T31N, R14E, Section 28, NE1/4, M.D.B.M., Lassen County.

(B) Schaffer Well -T31N R14E, Section 25, Center, M.D.B.M., Lassen County.

(C) Tableland Well -T31N, R14E, Section 17, SE1/4, M.D.B.M., Lassen County.

(D) Table Mountain Well -T31N, R14E, Section 32, SE1/4, M.D.B.M., Lassen County.

(E) Timber Mountain Well -T44N, R6E, Section 33, M.D.B.M., Modoc National Forest, Modoc County.

(F) Belfast Well -T31N, R14E, Section 31, NE1/4, M.D.B.M., Lassen County.



# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE

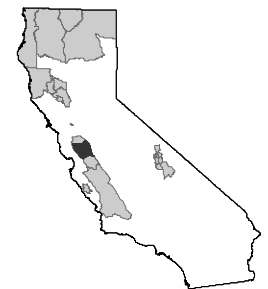
## SANTA CLARA TULE ELK HUNT



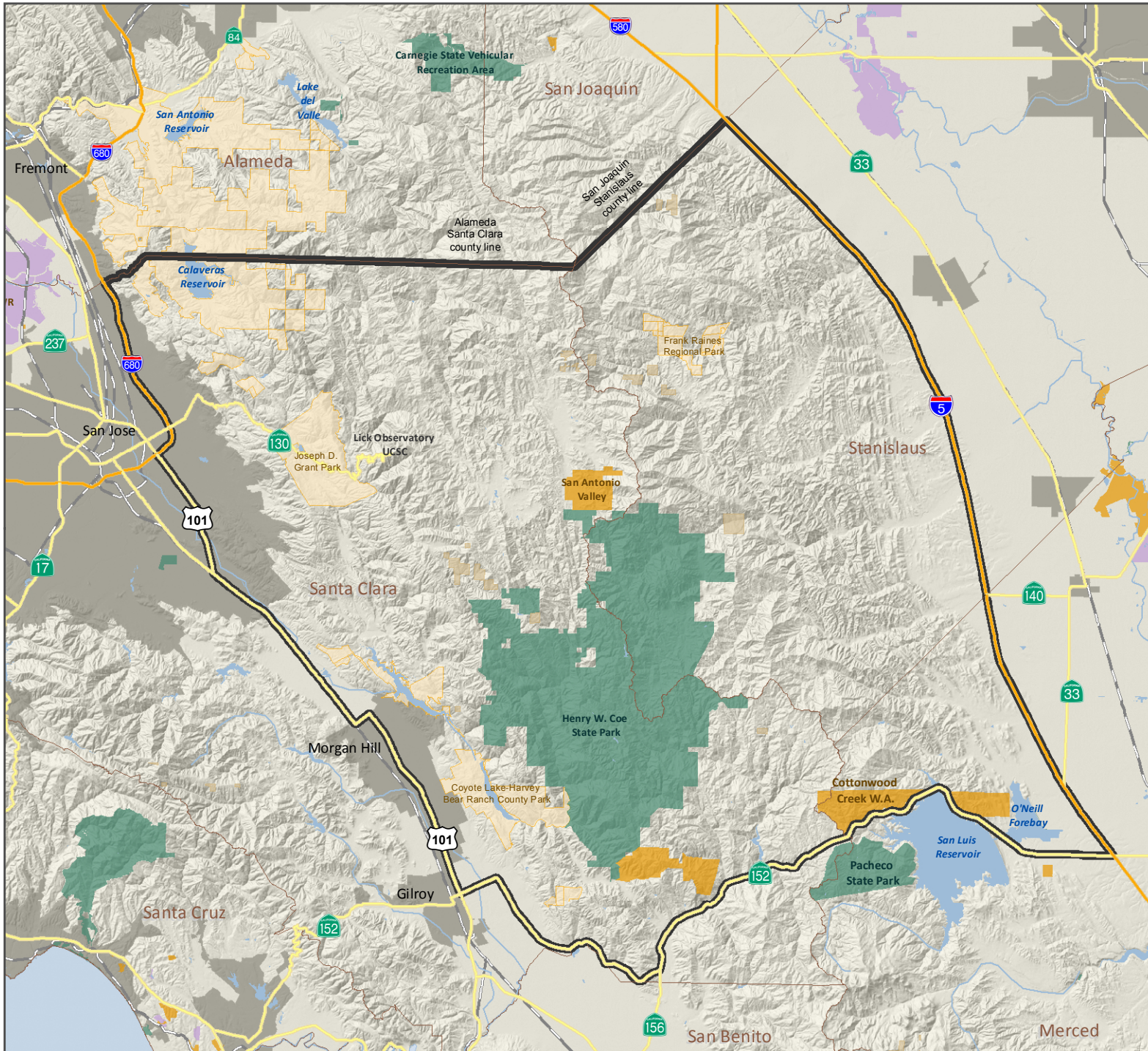
Santa Clara, Stanislaus  
and Merced County

- Santa Clara Hunt Zone
- County Boundary
- CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
- CA Dept. of Parks & Rec.
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. National Park Service
- Other Public Land
- Urban Area

Note: Hunt boundary shown is an approximation. Hunters are responsible for knowing the exact boundary locations as described within Section 364, Title 14, Calif. Code of Regs.



0 2.5 5 Miles



April 2015