



## CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Wildlife Branch  
1812 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, CA 95811

# J1 Lake Sonoma Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt

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That portion of Sonoma County within the boundaries of the Lake Sonoma Area, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer (COE) property described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Hot Springs Road and the COE boundary; east and south along the boundary line to the intersection with Brush Creek; west along the north bank of Brush Creek (shoreline) to the Dry Creek arm of Lake Sonoma; south along the shoreline of the Dry Creek arm to Smittle Creek; north along the COE property line to Dry Creek; east along the COE boundary across Cherry Creek, Skunk Creek, and Yorty Creek to the point of beginning. The area contains approximately 5,000 acres.

This either-sex deer hunt shall be open from **November 4 - 5, 2017**.

This hunt is provided only to licensed junior hunters with a valid California junior hunting license (must be between twelve (12) and seventeen (17) years of age as of July 1, 2017). Juniors receiving an apprentice tag must be accompanied by an adult, eighteen (18) years of age or older.

Tag holders shall attend an orientation meeting on **Friday, November 3, 2017 at 4:30 pm** at the Lake Sonoma Visitor Center located at 3333 Skaggs Springs Rd, Geyserville, CA 95441.

Tags are valid only for the area, and class of deer designated on the tag. Antlerless deer are defined as female deer, fawns of either-sex other than spotted fawns, and male deer with an unbranched antler on one or both sides which is not more than three inches in length. Either-sex deer are defined as antlerless deer as described above, or legal bucks that have two or more points in the upper two-thirds of either antler. Spike bucks may not be taken (Section 204(d), Fish and Game Code).

Immediately after killing the deer the tag shall be attached to an ear of the antlerless deer or to an antler of the antlered deer.

Only deer may be hunted on the area during this hunt period. Only non-lead ammunition is allowed on state wildlife areas (see below for further information).

Car-top boats (no other boats allowed) may be launched at the Yorty Creek ramp and used to access the hunt area.

Contact the Lake Sonoma Visitor's Center for camping reservations. A special primitive overnight camp may be provided for this hunt near the upper parking lot, and there are boat-in camps in the hunting area. Campers in the boat camps must make camping arrangements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (707) 433-4533.

Boats are recommended to access areas west of Cherry Creek (2/3 of the hunt area). Only car-top boats are allowed to launch from the Yorty Creek access. Larger boats can be launched at the main ramp near the Rockpile Road bridge and driven around.

There will be other uses occurring at Lake Sonoma during the hunt so please be careful and courteous at all times. The Hunt Area is open year-round for other uses, and can be scouted at any time.

If you have any questions, **please call or email Ms. Stacy Martinelli at (707) 576-2868, [Stacy.Martinelli@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Stacy.Martinelli@wildlife.ca.gov)**. Thank you for your cooperation and have a good hunt.

Most accidents associated with big game hunting involve a loaded gun in the vehicle. Remember what you learned in your hunter safety classes, be careful and enjoy yourself.

## **NONLEAD RESTRICTIONS**

Only Fish and Game Commission or the Department certified projectiles/ammunition may be used or possessed when taking, or attempting to take big game mammals on any wildlife area or ecological reserve. Simply put, when hunting big game in these areas you may only use certified nonlead projectiles/ammunition in firearms (includes centerfire rifles, pistols and revolvers; shotguns and muzzle-loading rifles) legal for big game. In addition, while hunting big game in these areas hunters may not possess any lead projectiles/ammunition and a firearm capable of firing that lead projectile or ammunition.

In April 2015, the Fish and Game Commission adopted CDFW's proposed regulations, which will implement the nonlead requirement in the following three phases:

- **Phase 1** – Effective July 1, 2015, nonlead ammunition will be required when taking Nelson bighorn sheep and all wildlife on CDFW lands.
- **Phase 2** – Effective July 1, 2016, nonlead shot will be required when taking upland game birds with a shotgun, except for dove, quail, snipe, and any game birds taken on licensed game bird clubs. In addition, nonlead shot will be

required when using a shotgun to take resident small game mammals, furbearing mammals, nongame mammals, nongame birds, and any wildlife for depredation purposes.

- **Phase 3** – Effective July 1, 2019, nonlead ammunition will be required when taking any wildlife with a firearm anywhere in California.

Existing restrictions on the use of lead ammunition in the California condor range remain in effect while implementation proceeds.

For more information including a list of certified non-lead projectiles/ammunition that may be used in firearms for the taking of deer or other big game mammals; a map detailing the non-lead area; and links to other related topics go to the following web address: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Nonlead-Ammunition](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Hunting/Nonlead-Ammunition).