

STAFF SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 24-25, 2016

16. DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Today's Item	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action <input type="checkbox"/>
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Standing agenda item to receive and discuss informational updates from DFW:

- (A) Director's Report
- (B) Wildlife and Fisheries Division, and Ecosystem Conservation Division
- (C) Law Enforcement Division
- (D) Marine Region
- (E) Other

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)**Background**

(A)-(D) Verbal reports are expected at the meeting. Related to Item (C), DFW's Law Enforcement Division distributes a monthly report; included with this summary are links to the May 2016 and Jun 2016 reports (exhibits C1 and C2).

(E) Other items of potential interest include:

1. Nonlead Ammunition Implementation - Phase 2 of implementation began on Jul 1, with additional requirements to use nonlead shot with a shotgun when taking upland game birds, small game mammals, furbearing mammals, nongame mammals, nongame birds, and any wildlife for depredation purposes (Exhibit E1).
2. *Big Game Grants Program*: DFW has awarded \$1.1 million in grants for big game conservation projects that meet a series of criteria, including dedication to conservation and management, and increased hunting opportunities. The projects are selected and budgets approved by a public advisory committee (Exhibit E2).

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

- C1. [Law Enforcement Division Monthly Report, May 2016](#), received Jun 27, 2016
- C2. [Law Enforcement Division Monthly Report, Jun 2016](#), received Aug 4, 2016
- E1. [Nonlead Ammunition Implementation Phase 2 Starts July 1, Jun 28, 2016](#)
- E2. [Big Game Grants Program Awards \\$1.1 Million for Wildlife, Jul 8, 2016](#)

Motion/Direction (N/A)

CDFW News

ENFORCEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, HUNTER EDUCATION, HUNTING, LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC LANDS, WILDLIFE

Nonlead Ammunition Implementation Phase 2 Starts July 1

JUNE 28, 2016 | AHUGHAN

Starting July 1, 2016, nonlead shot will be required when taking upland game birds with a shotgun in California, except for dove, quail, snipe, and any game birds taken at 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.

Existing restrictions on the use of lead ammunition in the California condor range, when taking Nelson bighorn sheep and when hunting on all California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) wildlife areas and ecological reserves remain in effect.

The next phase of the implementation goes into effect July 1, 2019, when hunters must use nonlead ammunition when taking any animal anywhere in the state for any purpose. There are no restrictions on the use of lead ammunition for target shooting purposes.

Nonlead ammunition for some firearm calibers may be in short supply so hunters should plan accordingly. Hunters are encouraged to practice shooting nonlead ammunition to make sure firearms are sighted-in properly and shoot accurately with nonlead ammunition.

In October 2013, Assembly Bill 711 was signed into law requiring the phase-out of lead ammunition for hunting anywhere in the state by July 1, 2019. The law also required an implementation plan designed to impose the least burden on California's hunters while adhering to the intent of the law.

In order to determine what was least disruptive to hunters, CDFW coordinated question and answer sessions at sportsmen's shows, held meetings with hunting organizations, and hosted a series of eight public workshops throughout the state. Incorporating the public input from these workshops, CDFW then presented draft regulations to the Fish and Game Commission.

In April 2015, the Fish and Game Commission adopted CDFW's proposed regulations and implementation plan.

More information on the phase-out of lead ammunition for hunting in California can be found at www.wildlife.ca.gov/hunting/nonlead-ammunition (<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/hunting/nonlead-ammunition>).

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CDFW News

HABITAT CONSERVATION, HUNTING, WILDLIFE

Big Game Grants Program Awards \$1.1 Million for Wildlife

JULY 8, 2016 | KMACINTY

Hunters' Dollars to Fund Big Game Conservation and Management Projects

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has awarded \$1.1 million in grants for big game conservation projects in Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

The Big Game Grant Program (BGGP), which allocates funds generated by big-game hunters through the purchase of tags for sheep, bear, deer, pronghorn antelope and wild pig, identified 15 proposals for projects that will benefit big-game populations and the habitats upon which they depend.

“This year we are funding some exceptional studies that will broaden our knowledge and understanding of the unique needs of elk and sheep,” said Craig Stowers, CDFW’s Big Game Program Manager. “Other projects will help restore crucial habitat for deer and other wildlife, and provide water sources necessary for their survival. All of these proposals have been identified as an appropriate use of hunter dollars. Their funding goes directly to benefit and sustain the wildlife populations they hunt.”



([https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2016/07/08/big-game-grants-program-awards-](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2016/07/08/big-game-grants-program-awards-1-1-million-for-wildlife/841190_428241567255316_1569857989_o-2/)

[1-1-million-for-wildlife/841190_428241567255316_1569857989_o-2/](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2016/07/08/big-game-grants-program-awards-1-1-million-for-wildlife/841190_428241567255316_1569857989_o-2/))



([https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2014/04/01/cdfw-and-usfws-successfully-relocate-tule-elk-from-san-](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2014/04/01/cdfw-and-usfws-successfully-relocate-tule-elk-from-san-luis-national-wildlife-refuge/dsc_0390/)

[luis-national-wildlife-refuge/dsc_0390/](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2014/04/01/cdfw-and-usfws-successfully-relocate-tule-elk-from-san-luis-national-wildlife-refuge/dsc_0390/))



([https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2013/04/17/cdfw-creates-first-bighorn-sheep-herd-in-25-years](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2013/04/17/cdfw-creates-first-bighorn-sheep-herd-in-25-years/_dsc5828/)

[/_dsc5828/](https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2013/04/17/cdfw-creates-first-bighorn-sheep-herd-in-25-years/_dsc5828/))



(<https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2012/01/18/hunters-and-wildlife-both-win-with-big->

game-fund-raising-tags/buck-2/)



(https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2013/05/17/deer-hair-loss-syndrome-challenges-california-researchers/img_0287-2/)

researchers/img_0287-2/)

The projects are selected and budget approved by a public advisory committee. Funded proposals must reflect the grantees' dedication to big game conservation and management and meet a series of criteria, including increased hunting opportunity. Awards approved for 2016-2017 include:

- Three grants totaling \$277,000 to Oregon State University and the California chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation for several studies on the effects of pneumonia and respiratory disease in Desert Bighorn Sheep.
- A \$29,000 grant to the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep to develop water sources for wildlife on isolated parcels of land in the Mojave Desert.
- A \$205,000 grant to Humboldt State University to study Roosevelt elk populations in Humboldt and Del Norte counties.
- Four grants totaling \$127,000 to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to study elk populations in Modoc and Siskiyou counties.
- A \$27,000 grant to the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep to refill dried-up water guzzlers for wildlife in rural areas.
- Two grants totaling \$160,000 to the Mendocino County Blacktail Association to remove fir trees and improve forage and cover for deer in Mendocino, Glenn and Humboldt counties.
- A \$54,000 grant to CalFauna to conduct a prescribed burn in the Stanislaus National Forest and to document revegetation that will benefit wildlife.
- An \$81,000 grant to the Mule Deer Foundation to restore riparian meadows near Little Rattlesnake Creek in the Stanislaus National Forest.
- A \$150,000 grant to the California Deer Association to reconstruct and maintain watering devices for wildlife in the northern part of the state.

Grant monies awarded to the California chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation will allow the continuation of an ongoing study of the spread and consequences of respiratory disease for bighorn sheep in the eastern Mojave Desert. In addition to conserving and enhancing wild sheep populations, the nonprofit is committed to educating the public about sustainable use and the conservation benefits of hunting.

"We could not have funded this three-year sheep study without the support from the Big Game Management Account," said Kyle Meintzer, an avid outdoorsman and bow hunter who serves on the Board of Directors for the Wild Sheep Foundation. "The BGGP shows the importance and value of hunters and the dollars their licenses and tags provide for wildlife management and conservation."

The Big Game Management Account and BGGP were created by the California Legislature in 2010 (currently Fish and Game Code, section 3953). Since the inception of the BGGP, more than \$5 million has gone to such projects. More information about the BGGP can be found at www.wildlife.ca.gov/grants/big-game (<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/grants/big-game>).

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◀ [BIG GAME](#) ◀ [GRANT FUNDING](#) ◀ [GRANTS](#) ◀ [HUNTING](#)