

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR August 24-25, 2016

**23. INITIAL PLM HARVEST PROGRAMS****Today's Item**Information Action 

Approve initial five-year Private Lands Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Management (PLM) Area license 2016-2021 and seasons, harvest and habitat improvements for two properties.

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

Fish and Game Code Sections 3400-3409, and Title 14 Section 601 prescribes conditions for a PLM program that provides incentives for landholders to manage their property for the benefit of fish and wildlife in exchange for access to increased recreational opportunities, such as hunting tags or extended seasons. In return for a harvest program, the landholder must prepare a biologically-sound wildlife management plan and complete specific wildlife habitat improvements on the PLM property. There are three types of PLM Program plans with conditions unique to each participant's property: an *initial 5-year PLM license*, an *annual list of PLM seasons, harvests, and habitat improvements*, and a *five-year PLM license renewal*, all.

Proposed 5-year wildlife management plans and **seasons, harvest and habitat improvements** for the two properties have been reviewed by DFW and found to be in compliance with FGC regulations and policies for PLMs; applicants have identified location where records will be kept and made available for inspection (Exhibit 1).

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

**FGC Staff:** Approve initial five-year PLM license and annual seasons, harvests, and habitat improvements as recommended by DFW under a motion to adopt consent calendar.

**DFW:** Approve the specified wildlife management plans, initial five-year PLM license for 2016-2021, and annual seasons, harvests, and habitat improvements for 2016-2017 for three properties, under the conditions specified in (Exhibit 2) under a motion to adopt the consent calendar.

**Exhibits**

1. [DFW Memo, received July 21, 2016](#)
2. [PLM proposed annual details](#)

**Motion/Direction**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission adopts the consent calendar, items 21-25.

State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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## Memorandum

Date: ~~July 12~~<sup>July 19</sup>, 2016

To: Valerie Termini  
Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham   
Director

Subject: **Agenda Item for the August 24-25, 2016 Fish and Game Commission Meeting Initial Private Lands Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Management (PLM) Area License**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has reviewed the Initial Management Plans for 2 properties in 2 counties consisting of 4,950 acres. The management plans for these properties are in compliance with Commission policy for private lands management. The applicants have identified the location where records will be kept and made available for inspection.

Public notices were published in local newspapers, and certified letters were mailed to adjacent landowners with notification of each applicant's intent to enter into the program. No letters of concern were received by the Department for either property.

Habitat improvements accomplished under these plans will enhance and maintain wildlife resources on and around each PLM area. The goals and objectives stated in the management plans are compatible with Department management plans for appropriate species in these areas. In addition, access to public lands will not be diminished by implementing these management plans.

The Department recommends that the Commission approve the specified wildlife management plans, applications, and each 2016/17 harvest program under conditions specified in the attached table.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Victoria Barr at (916) 445-4034 or by email at [victoria.barr@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:victoria.barr@wildlife.ca.gov).

Attachment

ec: Stafford Lehr, Deputy Director  
Wildlife and Fisheries Division  
[Stafford.Lehr@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Stafford.Lehr@wildlife.ca.gov)

**PLM AREA LICENSE  
INITIAL MANAGEMENT PLANS, 2016-2021  
PROPOSED SEASONS, HARVESTS, AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS**

PLM Area	Proposed Season and Harvest	Habitat Improvement Program
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>		
KRAMER RANCH PLM  DEER ZONE X1  LASSEN  4,070 ACRES	<p><b>Authorized Harvest:</b> 5 buck deer forked horn or better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue 5 buck deer tags for the period of October 1, 2016 through October 16, 2016.</li> <li>• No person shall take more than 1 buck deer annually in the X zones.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Remove all western junipers from at least 25 acres in Area 1 except for any large, old-growth juniper that are being used by wildlife.</li> <li>➤ Create 1 brush pile for every 1-5 acres of western juniper removal to provide cover for wildlife.</li> <li>➤ Replace 0.45 miles of 5-strand barbed wire fencing with wildlife-friendly fencing.</li> <li>➤ Remove noxious weeds including scotch thistle, perennial pepper weed, and diffuse knapweed from at least 2 acres by chemical treatment or hand grubbing.</li> <li>➤ Implement rotational grazing practices in the juniper removal area to allow for establishment of native grasses, forbs, and shrubs for wildlife. Cattle will be rotated before grasses reach a 6-inch stubble height to another area on the ranch. Available forage for wildlife on the ranch will be monitored using 1 m<sup>2</sup> grazing enclosure cages.</li> </ul>
CLOVER CREEK RANCH PLM  DEER ZONE C3  SHASTA  880 ACRES	<p><b>Authorized Harvest:</b> 3 buck deer forked horn or better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue 3 buck deer tags for the period of September 17, 2016 through October 23, 2016.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Replace the bottom strand of barbed wire with smooth wire on at least 1 mile of fencing.</li> <li>➤ Enhance a spring by removing encroaching blackberries and install 600 feet of pipe leading to a 2,500 gallon water tank. Stored water will be used for an irrigated food plot and a water trough.</li> <li>➤ Build and install 5 wood duck boxes on Clover Creek.</li> <li>➤ Prohibit commercial wood cutting and rock picking on the ranch.</li> <li>➤ Develop 1 pond in an area of the ranch that does not currently have a wildlife water source.</li> <li>➤ Establish a 75-acre wildlife refuge on the ranch where no hunting and no disturbance will occur.</li> <li>➤ Reduce the number of livestock grazed on the ranch from 80 to 50 cow/calf pairs.</li> </ul>