

## COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR MAY 18, 2016

**6. WILD PIG MANAGEMENT****Today's Item****Information** **Direction** 

Identify and discuss issues associated with managing wild pigs in California.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Previous discussion Sep 9, 2015; WRC, Fresno
- **Today's discussion** **May18, 2016; WRC, West Sacramento**

**Background**

Wild pigs are managed as both depredators (Fish and Game Code, Section 4181 and Title 14, Section 401) and as game mammals (Fish and Game Code, Sections 3953 and 4650-4657 and Title 14, Section 368). Depredation take involves permits and reporting requirements. Hunting as game mammal requires a license, tags, reporting requirements, and fees. Wild pigs are on one hand a valued game animal and on the other, a destructive animal causing damage to private property and habitat, as well as injury to livestock. Assembly Member Bigelow introduced AB 290 to try and resolve some of these issues. In Sep 2015, the WRC discussed elements of AB 290 focusing on how to protect revenues coming into DFW, maintain hunting opportunities, streamline depredation, and minimize waste. The WRC recommended that FGC support legislative efforts to make dealing with depredating pigs more efficient. FGC approved that recommendation in Oct 2015.

In Jan 2016, President Sklar, FGC staff, and DFW staff attended a meeting with Assembly Member Bigelow to discuss the issues raised by the proposed legislation. In Feb 2016, FGC directed WRC to discuss possible changes in pig regulations and suggestions for potential legislation to share with Assembly Member Bigelow at its May meeting.

Today, DFW staff will present an overview of wild pigs in California followed by a discussion identifying and examining the issues related to wild pig management.

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