

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 18, 2017

5. FALCONRY REGULATIONS, PHASE 2**Today's Item****Information** **Direction**

Identify and discuss potential changes to the falconry regulations.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

- Phase 1 falconry regulations adopted Dec 7-8, 2016; San Diego
- **Today's Phase 2 discussion** **Jan 18, 2017; WRC, Redding**
- Next WRC meeting May 24, 2017; WRC, Sacramento

Background

The falconry regulations were originally amended in 2013 to comply with revised federal regulations which provided a means for states to adopt their own rules governing falconry and allow those states to be delegated authority by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. At that time, it was understood by FGC, DFW, falconers, and the public that the new California regulations would need to be reviewed and updated. Consistent with that understanding, in 2016 DFW prepared numerous proposed changes to bring the regulations more in line with the current practice of falconry in California and conform to federal guidelines. These changes included issues that were raised by the public in 2013, but were delayed until additional analysis could be conducted, and editorial changes for clarity and consistency. The proposed regulatory changes were presented at the Jun 2016 FGC meeting.

Based on public testimony at that meeting, FGC requested five additional changes be added for consideration in the rulemaking (which was adopted in Dec 2016), and provided direction that any additional amendments to the falconry regulations be discussed at the WRC for possible inclusion in a separate rulemaking package (referred to as Phase 2). Today the WRC will begin the discussion to identify potential changes to the falconry regulations for consideration in the Phase 2 rulemaking package.

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