

COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 18, 2017

8. NON-LEAD AMMUNITION**Today's Item**Information Direction

Informational presentation by DFW on phase 2 of non-lead ammunition implementation and update on recent ammunition legislation and ballot initiative.

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

Assembly Bill 711 amended Section 3004.5 of the Fish and Game Code and required FGC to promulgate regulations to require the use of nonlead ammunition, when taking all wildlife with a firearm, no later than Jul 1, 2019. In Apr 2015, FGC adopted new regulations to phase in the statutory requirements for nonlead ammunition in three phases by the statutory deadline. Phase 1, effective Jul 2015, requires use of nonlead ammunition when taking Nelson bighorn sheep or when taking any wildlife in any State wildlife area or ecological reserve. Phase 2, effective Jul 2016, requires use of nonlead ammunition when using a shotgun to take: 1) upland game birds, except dove, quail, snipe, and any game bird taken under the authority of a licensed game bird club; 2) resident small game mammals, fur-bearing mammals, nongame mammals, or nongame birds; and 3) any wildlife for depredation purposes. Phase 3, to be effective Jul 2019, requires the use of nonlead ammunition to take any wildlife for any purpose in the State. Today, DFW will provide an update on the implementation of Phase 2.

The recent ballot initiative and new legislation on firearms and ammunition may impact hunters trying to acquire non-lead ammunition as lead ammunition is phased out. These are:

- **Proposition 63: Safety for All Act of 2016** – This initiative was passed by the voters in Nov 2016. The proposition includes the following provisions related to ammunition:
 - Requires individuals to pass a background check and obtain Department of Justice (DOJ) authorization to purchase ammunition.
 - Requires most ammunition sales be made through licensed ammunition vendors and reported to DOJ.
 - Requires lost or stolen firearms and ammunition be reported to law enforcement.
- **Senate Bill 1235 (DeLeon)** - Amends the Safety for All Act of 2016 from allowing ammunition to be sold only to a person whose information matches an entry in the Automated Firearms System and who is eligible to possess ammunition, to a person who has a current certificate of eligibility issued by the department, or to a person who purchases or transfers the ammunition in a single ammunition transaction, as specified.

Today, FGC staff will provide an overview of the recent proposition and legislation and the potential impacts to hunters as it relates to the non-lead ammunition regulations.

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