

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION
(Pre-Publication of Notice Statement)

Amend Subsection 360(c)
Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR)
Re: Deer: Additional Hunts

I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: September 21, 2016

II. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| (a) Notice Hearing: | Date: | December 8, 2016 |
| | Location: | San Diego, CA |
|
 | | |
| (b) Discussion Hearing: | Date: | February 8, 2017 |
| | Location: | Rohnert Park, CA |
|
 | | |
| (c) Adoption Hearing: | Date: | April 26, 2017 |
| | Location: | Van Nuys, CA |

III. Description of Regulatory Action:

- (a) Statement of Specific Purpose of Regulation Change and Factual Basis for Determining that Regulation Change is Reasonably Necessary:

1. Number of Tags

Existing regulations provide for the number of deer hunting tags in the Additional Hunts. The proposed action initially provides a range of tag numbers for each zone from which a final number will be determined based on the post-winter status of each deer herd. Ranges are necessary at this time because the final number of tags cannot be determined until spring herd data are collected in March/April. A low end quota range of zero (0) tags is used in the event final tag quotas need to go lower. Hunts may be cancelled due to events such as fire, disease or other factors.

In early spring, surveys of deer herds are conducted to determine the proportion of fawns that have survived the winter. This information is used in conjunction with the prior year harvest and fall herd composition data to estimate overall herd size, sex and age ratios, and the predicted number of available deer (allowable deer harvest) next season. The number of bucks and does (ADH) needs to be estimated prior to the hunting season to determine how many surplus deer will exist over and above the number required to maintain the desired buck: doe ratio objectives stated in the approved deer herd management plans.

The proposed action changes the number of tags for all existing hunts (except those on military installations) to a series of ranges as indicated in the following table:

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(1)	G-1 (Late Season Buck Hunt for Zone C-4)	2,710	0 - 5,000
(2)	G-3 (Goodale Buck Hunt)	35	0 - 50
(3)	G-6 (Kern River Deer Herd Buck Hunt)	50	0 - 100
(4)	G-7 (Beale Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20 Military*	20 Military*
(5)	G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt)	20 Tags Total* (10 Military & 10 Public)	20 Tags Total* (10 Military and 10 Public)
(6)	G-9 (Camp Roberts Antlerless Deer Hunt)	0	30 Tags Total* (15 Military and 15 Public)
(7)	G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	250 Military*	250 Military*
(8)	G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	200 Military*, DOD and as Authorized by the Installation Commander**	200 Military*, DOD and as Authorized by the Installation Commander**
(9)	G-12 (Gray Lodge Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	0 - 50
(10)	G-13 (San Diego Antlerless Deer Hunt)	300	0 - 300
(11)	G-19 (Sutter-Yuba Wildlife Areas Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 50
(12)	G-21 (Ventana Wilderness Buck Hunt)	25	0 - 100

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(13)	G-37 (Anderson Flat Buck Hunt)	25	0 - 50
(14)	G-38 (X-10 Late Season Buck Hunt)	300	0 - 300
(15)	G-39 (Round Valley Late Season Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 150
(16)	M-3 (Doyle Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 75
(17)	M-4 (Horse Lake Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 50
(18)	M-5 (East Lassen Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 50
(19)	M-6 (San Diego Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	80	0 - 100
(20)	M-7 (Ventura Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(21)	M-8 (Bass Hill Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 50
(22)	M-9 (Devil's Garden Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 100
(23)	M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 200
(24)	MA-1 (San Luis Obispo Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(25)	MA-3 (Santa Barbara Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(26)	J-1 Lake Sonoma Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 25
(27)	J-3 (Tehama Wildlife Area Apprentice Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 30
(28)	J-4 Shasta-Trinity Apprentice Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 0

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(29)	J-7 (Carson River Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	0 - 50
(30)	J-8 (Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	0 - 20
(31)	J-9 (Little Dry Creek Apprentice Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	5	0 - 10
(32)	J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75 Tags Total* (15 Military & 60 Public)	85 Tags Total* (25 Military & 60 Public)
(33)	J-11 (San Bernardino Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	0 - 50
(34)	J-12 (Round Valley Apprentice Buck Hunt)	10	0 - 20
(35)	J-13 (Los Angeles Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	0 - 100
(36)	J-14 (Riverside Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	0 - 75
(37)	J-15 (Anderson Flat Apprentice Buck Hunt)	10	0 - 30
(38)	J-16 (Bucks Mountain-Nevada City Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	0 - 75
(39)	J-17 (Blue Canyon Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 25
(40)	J-18 (Pacific-Grizzly Flat Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	0 - 75
(41)	J-19 (Zone X-7a Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 40
(42)	J-20 (Zone X-7b Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20	0 - 20

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(43)	J-21 (East Tehama Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	50	0 - 80

* *Specific numbers of tags are provided for military hunts through a system which restricts hunter access to desired levels and ensures biologically conservative hunting programs.*

** *DOD = Department of Defense and eligible personnel as authorized by the Installation Commander.*

The actual tag numbers for each affected zone will be reflected in the Final Statement of Reasons and will be selected from the range of values provided by this proposal. The number of tags is intended to allow the appropriate level of hunting opportunity and harvest of bucks and does in the population, while achieving or maintaining the buck to doe ratios at, or near, objective levels set forth in the approved deer herd management plans. These final values for the license tag numbers will be based upon findings from the annual harvest and herd composition counts. However, under circumstances where various environmental factors such as severe winter conditions can adversely affect herd recruitment and over-winter adult survival, final tag quotas may fall below the “Low Kill” alternative identified in the most recent Environmental Document Regarding Deer Hunting.

Note: The current tag quota of zero (0) for additional deer hunt G-9 (Camp Roberts Antlerless Deer Hunt) reflects the Base’s closure to hunting while construction was under way on the base. Construction was scheduled for completion in 2013; however the timetable for resumption of base hunting programs has not been determined. The Department is currently in meetings with base command, and a decision regarding tag quotas is anticipated prior to the April 2017 Fish and Game Commission meeting date. At this time, the current tag quota of zero (0) has been modified to the former tag quota of thirty (30) in anticipation of the possible resumption of deer hunting activities by the Base in the 2017/2018 season. However, if Base operations take precedence over conducting the G-9 hunt, the tag quota will be reduced to zero (0) and reflected in the Final Statement.

2. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-8

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on October 8 and October 15, and continue for 3 and 2 days respectively, including the Columbus Day holiday, in order to accommodate Base operations and other hunt opportunities.

The current proposal would modify the season to account for the annual calendar shift by changing the season dates to open on October 7 and continue for three (3) consecutive days, including the Columbus Day holiday, and reopen on October 14 and continue for two (2) consecutive days. No loss of hunter opportunity would result from this action and the proposal is consistent with existing deer herd management plan recommendations.

3. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-10

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on the first Saturday in September extending through the first Sunday in December on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and the day after Thanksgiving.

The current proposal would modify the season to account for the annual calendar shift by changing the season dates to open on the first Saturday in September extending through the first Sunday in December. The proposal would also allow hunting on Fridays in addition to Saturdays, Sundays, Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day. Season dates may be open to further restrictions, or additional hunt days scheduled with concurrence from the Department, between the season opener and December 31 by the Commanding Officer due to military operations. This proposal is consistent with current deer herd management objectives and recommendations.

4. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-11

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on the last Monday in August extending through December 31.

The current proposal would modify the season to account for base operations beginning the season on the last Monday in August extending through October 1.

The proposal to shorten the season is necessary to accommodate base operations and is consistent with current deer herd management objectives and recommendations.

5. Modify Season for Additional Hunt J-10

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on October 8 and October 15, and continue for 3 and 2 days respectively, including the Columbus Day holiday, in order to accommodate Base operations and other hunt opportunities.

The current proposal would modify the season to account for the annual calendar shift by changing the season dates to open on October 7 and continue for three (3) consecutive days, including the Columbus Day holiday, and reopen on October 14 and continue for two (2) consecutive days. No loss of hunter opportunity would result from this action and the proposal is consistent with existing deer herd management plan recommendations.

6. Minor Editorial Changes

Minor editorial changes are necessary for consistency in subsection numbering, spelling, grammar, and clarification.

Recent changes to Section 550 require that such references be changed to Section 551 in subsections (c)(11)(A) and (c)(30)(A).

(b) Authority and Reference Sections from Fish and Game Code for Regulation:

Authority: Sections 200, 202, 203, 220, 460, 3051, 3452, 3453, 3953 and 4334, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 207, 458, 459, 460, 3051, 3452, 3453, 3953 and 4334, Fish and Game Code.

(c) Specific Technology or Equipment Required by Regulatory Change: None

(d) Identification of Reports or Documents Supporting Regulation Change:

2007 Final Environmental Document Regarding Deer Hunting.

(e) Public Discussions of Proposed Regulations Prior to Notice Publication:

Fish and Game Commission Wildlife Resources Committee meeting held in Woodland on September 21, 2016.

IV. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

1. Number of Tags

There is no reasonable alternative to the proposed action.

2. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-8

Modify season to allow for the annual calendar shift. This proposal was approved because it allows for base operation scheduling with no loss of hunter opportunity..

3. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-10

Modify season to allow for the annual calendar shift and include Fridays, Labor Day, Columbus Day and Veterans Day. This proposal was approved because it allows for base operations with additional hunter opportunity.

4. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-11

Modify season by shortening it to accommodate base operations. The proposal was approved in response to the need for flexibility in base operations. Although the proposal will result in some loss of hunter opportunity, it is consistent with deer herd objectives.

5. Modify Season Additional Hunt J-10

Modify season to allow for annual calendar shift. This proposal was approved because it accommodates military operations and provides hunter opportunity.

6. Minor Editorial Changes

There is no reasonable alternative to the proposed action.

(b) No Change Alternative:

1. Number of Tags

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current number of tags for the hunts listed may not be responsive to changes in the status of the herds. The deer herd management plans specify objective levels for the proportion of bucks in the herds. These ratios are maintained and managed in part by modifying the number of tags. The “No Change Alternative” would not allow management of the desired proportion of bucks stated in the approved deer herd management plans.

2. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-8

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations, scheduled activities and unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

3. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-10

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations, scheduled activities and/or unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

4. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-11

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations and scheduled activities.

5. Modify Season for Additional Hunt J-10

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations, scheduled activities and/or unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

6. Minor Editorial Changes

The “No Change Alternative” was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives, because inconsistencies in section and subsection references, numbering, spelling, grammar and lack of clarification would exist within the regulations, potentially leading to confusion and possible violations.

(c) Consideration of Alternatives:

In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulation is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

V. Mitigation Measures Required by Regulatory Action:

The proposed regulatory action will have no negative impact on the environment; therefore, no mitigation measures are needed. The maximum number of tags available in the newly proposed range is at or below the number of tags analyzed in the most recent Final Environmental Document regarding Deer Hunting and the approved deer herd management plans.

VI. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made.

(a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed action adjusts tag quotas for existing hunts, modifies season dates for two hunts on military land and makes minor editorial changes for consistency in Section numbering. Given the number of tags available and the area over which they are distributed, these proposals are economically neutral to business.

(b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The proposed action will not have significant impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs or the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within California because it is unlikely to result in a change in hunting effort. The proposed action does not provide benefits to worker safety because it does not address working conditions.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents. Hunting provides opportunities for multi-generational family activities and promotes respect for California's environment by the future stewards of the State's resources. The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment in the sustainable management of natural resources.

(c) Cost Impacts on Private Persons:

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with this proposed action.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

(e) Other Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None

- (g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4:

None

- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None

VII. Economic Impact Assessment:

The proposed action will have no statewide economic or fiscal impact because the proposed action is unlikely to constitute a significant change from the 2016 deer season in the additional hunt zones. The number of tags to be set in regulation for 2017 is intended to achieve or maintain the levels set forth in the approved deer herd management plans to preserve herd health and hunting opportunities in subsequent seasons.

- (a) Effects of the regulation on the creation or elimination of jobs within the State:

The regulation will not affect the creation or elimination of jobs because no significant changes in hunting activity levels are anticipated.

- b) Effects of the regulation on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State:

The regulation will not impact the creation of new businesses or the elimination of businesses because no significant changes in hunting activity levels are anticipated.

- (c) Effects of the regulation on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State

The regulation will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State because no significant changes in hunting activity levels are anticipated.

- (d) Benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents:

The proposed regulation will benefit the health and welfare of California residents by maintaining sustainable deer populations and providing opportunities for the public to participate in a healthy outdoor activity.

- (e) Benefits of the regulation to worker safety.

The proposed regulation will not affect worker safety.

- (f) Benefits of the regulation to the State's environment

It is the policy of the State to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of the State's living resources. The proposed action will further this core objective.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST
(Policy Statement Overview)

Existing regulations provide for the number of deer hunting tags in the Additional Hunts. The proposed action provides a range of tag numbers for each hunt from which a final number will be determined, based on the post-winter status of each deer herd. These ranges are necessary at this time because the final number of tags cannot be determined until spring herd data are collected in March/April. Because various environmental factors such as severe winter conditions can adversely affect herd recruitment and over-winter adult survival, the final recommended quotas may fall below the current proposed range into the “Low Kill” alternative identified in the most recent Environmental Document Regarding Deer Hunting.

Existing regulations for Additional Hunts G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt) and J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on October 8 and continue for three (3) consecutive days and reopen on October 15 and continue for two (2) consecutive days, including the Columbus Day holiday. The proposal would modify the season to account for the annual calendar shift. The proposal would change the season dates to open on October 7 and October 14, for 3 and 2 consecutive days respectively, and include the Columbus Day holiday.

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on the first Saturday in September and extend through the first Sunday in December and allows hunting on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and the day after Thanksgiving. The proposal would allow for the calendar shift and allow hunting on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Labor Day, Columbus Day and Veterans Day.

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting to begin on the last Monday in August and extend through December 31. The proposal would allow hunting to begin on August 28 and extend through October 1.

Minor editorial changes are necessary to provide consistency in subsection numbering, spelling, grammar, and clarification.

The proposed action changes the number of tags for all existing hunts (except those on military installations) to a series of ranges as indicated in the table below.

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(1)	G-1 (Late Season Buck Hunt for Zone C-4)	2,710	0 - 5,000
(2)	G-3 (Goodale Buck Hunt)	35	0 - 50
(3)	G-6 (Kern River Deer Herd Buck Hunt)	50	0 - 100
(4)	G-7 (Beale Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20 Military*	20 Military*
(5)	G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt)	20 Tags Total* (10 Military & 10 Public)	20 Tags Total* (10 Military and 10 Public)
(6)	G-9 (Camp Roberts Antlerless Deer Hunt)	0	30 Tags Total* (15 Military and 15 Public)
(7)	G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	250 Military*	250 Military*
(8)	G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	200 Military*, DOD and as Authorized by the Installation Commander**	200 Military*, DOD and as Authorized by the Installation Commander**
(9)	G-12 (Gray Lodge Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	0 - 50
(10)	G-13 (San Diego Antlerless Deer Hunt)	300	0 - 300
(11)	G-19 (Sutter-Yuba Wildlife Areas Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 50
(12)	G-21 (Ventana Wilderness Buck Hunt)	25	0 - 100
(13)	G-37 (Anderson Flat Buck Hunt)	25	0 - 50

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(14)	G-38 (X-10 Late Season Buck Hunt)	300	0 - 300
(15)	G-39 (Round Valley Late Season Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 150
(16)	M-3 (Doyle Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 75
(17)	M-4 (Horse Lake Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 50
(18)	M-5 (East Lassen Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	0 - 50
(19)	M-6 (San Diego Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	80	0 - 100
(20)	M-7 (Ventura Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(21)	M-8 (Bass Hill Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 50
(22)	M-9 (Devil's Garden Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 100
(23)	M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	0 - 200
(24)	MA-1 (San Luis Obispo Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(25)	MA-3 (Santa Barbara Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	0 - 150
(26)	J-1 Lake Sonoma Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 25
(27)	J-3 (Tehama Wildlife Area Apprentice Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 30
(28)	J-4 Shasta-Trinity Apprentice Buck Hunt)	15	0 - 50

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(29)	J-7 (Carson River Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	0 - 50
(30)	J-8 (Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	0 - 20
(31)	J-9 (Little Dry Creek Apprentice Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	5	0 - 10
(32)	J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75 Tags Total* (15 Military & 60 Public)	85 Tags Total* (25 Military & 60 Public)
(33)	J-11 (San Bernardino Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	0 - 50
(34)	J-12 (Round Valley Apprentice Buck Hunt)	10	0 - 20
(35)	J-13 (Los Angeles Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	0 - 100
(36)	J-14 (Riverside Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	0 - 75
(37)	J-15 (Anderson Flat Apprentice Buck Hunt)	10	0 - 30
(38)	J-16 (Bucks Mountain-Nevada City Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	0 - 75
(39)	J-17 (Blue Canyon Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 25
(40)	J-18 (Pacific-Grizzly Flat Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	0 - 75
(41)	J-19 (Zone X-7a Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	0 - 40
(42)	J-20 (Zone X-7b Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20	0 - 20

Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts Tag Allocations			
§	Hunt Number (and Title)	Current 2016	Proposed 2017 [Range]
(43)	J-21 (East Tehama Apprentice Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	50	0 - 80

**Specific numbers of tags are provided for military hunts through a system which restricts hunter access to desired levels and ensures biologically conservative hunting programs.*

***DOD = Department of Defense and eligible personnel as authorized by the Installation Commander.*

Benefits of the regulations

The deer herd management plans specify objective levels for the proportion of bucks in the herds. These ratios are maintained and managed in part by annually modifying the number of hunting tags. The final values for the license tag numbers will be based upon findings from the annual harvest and herd composition counts. Adjusting tag allocations in response to current deer herd conditions contributes to the sustainable management of healthy deer populations and the maintenance of continued hunting opportunities.

Non-monetary benefits to the public

The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to the protection of public health and safety, worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.

Consistency and Compatibility with State Regulations

The Fish and Game Commission, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Sections 200, 202 and 203, has the sole authority to regulate deer hunting in California. Commission staff has searched the California Code of Regulations and has found the proposed changes pertaining to deer tag allocations are consistent with Sections 361, 701, 702, 708.5 and 708.6 of Title 14. Therefore the Commission has determined that the proposed amendments are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations.