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Memorandum

Date: July ²¹11, 2014

To: Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham
Director



Subject: **Agenda Item for the Aug 6, 2014 Fish and Game Commission Meeting 5-year
Renewal Private Lands Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Management (PLM) Area
License**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has reviewed the 5-year management plans and renewal applications for five (5) properties in three (3) counties consisting of 26,780 acres.

The new 5-year management plans for these areas are in compliance with Commission policy requirements for private lands management. The applicants have identified the location where records will be kept and made available for inspection. Habitat improvements accomplished under these plans will enhance and maintain wildlife resources on and around the PLM areas. 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 under implementation of these management plans.

The Department recommends that the Commission approve the specified wildlife management plans, applications, and the 2014 harvest programs under the 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.

Attachment

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**PLM AREA LICENSE
5-YEAR RENEWALS, 2014-2019
PROPOSED SEASONS, HARVESTS, AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS**

PLM Area	Proposed Season and Harvest	Habitat Improvement Program
NORTHERN REGION		
CLARKS VALLEY RANCH DEER ZONE X3B LASSEN 2,793 ACRES	<p>Authorized Harvest: Three (3) buck deer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue three (3) buck deer tags to take forked horn or better buck deer for the period of September 17 through November 25, 2014. • No person shall take more than one buck deer annually in the X zones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Remove 40 acres of western juniper in Sections 27 or 23 in Clarks Valley. ➤ Maintain the springs that have been previously developed. ➤ Maintain two (2) existing fenced aspen and willow enclosures. ➤ Continue rotational grazing to protect critical wildlife habitat areas and aspen groves. ➤ Remove two (2) acres of western juniper adjacent to springs to enhance wildlife value.
FIVE DOT RANCH-AVILA UNIT DEER ZONE X3A LASSEN 11,000 ACRES	<p>Authorized Harvest: Six (6) buck deer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 12 buck deer tags to take 6 forked horn or better buck deer for the period of September 12 through November 30, 2014. • No person shall take more than one buck deer annually in the X zones. • In no case shall the number of tags issued be used to exceed the authorized harvest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue reduced livestock use at 450 head from approximately 1,000 head. ➤ Maintain seven (7) livestock enclosures for deer fawning areas. ➤ Provide mineral supplements containing selenium at 20 sites to improve wildlife health. ➤ Maintain six (6) nesting platforms for Canada geese at 4 reservoirs. ➤ Cut and disperse 100 mountain mahogany limbs to spread seed to new areas to recruit young plants. ➤ Maintain all existing springs and reservoirs.
RED ROCK RANCH DEER ZONE X3B LASSEN 6,887 ACRES	<p>Authorized Harvest: Seven (7) buck deer and two (2) buck pronghorn antelope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue seven (7) buck deer tags to take forked horn or better buck deer for the period of September 17 through November 25, 2014. • Issue two (2) buck pronghorn antelope tags for the period of August 4 through September 24, 2014. • No person shall take more than one buck deer annually in the X zones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain two (2) springs near Windy Flat and the exclusion fencing that surrounds them. ➤ Maintain two (2) aspen and willow enclosures for deer fawning areas. ➤ Remove 40 acres of western juniper in Red Rock Valley to enhance shrub recruitment. ➤ Construct a 1-acre aspen enclosure at Red Rock to increase fawning habitat. ➤ Continue to use rotational grazing to rest at least one (1) meadow annually for wildlife cover and forage.

**PLM AREA LICENSE
FIVE-YEAR AND ANNUAL RENEWALS, 2014/2015
PROPOSED SEASONS, HARVESTS, AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS**

PLM Area	Proposed Season and Harvest	Habitat Improvement Program
<i>NORTH CENTRAL REGION</i>		
<p>SOPER-WHEELER DEER ZONE D-3 BUTTE 5,250 ACRES</p>	<p><i>Authorized Harvest:</i> 18 buck deer, 26 turkey, and 200 quail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 18 buck deer tags to take forked horn or better buck deer for the period of October 1 through December 10, 2014. Three tags to be donated to California Deer Association for auction. • Issue 26 turkey tags for the periods of October 15 through November 30, 2014 (fall season, either-sex harvest) and March 10 through May 10, 2015 (spring season, bearded turkey only harvest). Two tags to be donated to the Hunter Education Instructor Tag Incentive Program (HEI) • Issue 200 quail tags for the periods of October 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Predator control, including wild dogs. ➤ Supply mineral blocks for deer outside of hunting season. ➤ Plant turkey mullein plot in meadow. ➤ Install wood duck box near pond. ➤ Maintenance on 11 existing wells. ➤ Refurbish 1 quail guzzler. ➤ Develop 2 new brush piles. ➤ Continue grazing at a reasonable AUM. ➤ Work with grazer to make fences wildlife friendly. ➤ Develop spring on east side of the ranch. ➤ Work to add bentonite to small pond.
<p>ORDWAY RANCH DEER ZONE D-5 CALAVERAS 850 ACRES</p>	<p><i>Authorized Harvest:</i> 5 buck deer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 5 buck deer tags to take forked horn or better buck deer for the period of September 27 through November 30, 2014. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No cattle grazing in Pasture A ➤ Develop and maintain brush piles to provide escape cover for birds near water sources ➤ Maintain three water sources (including two solar-powered wells) for wildlife ➤ Maintain fencing around two natural springs and creek to exclude from cattle ➤ Supply mineral blocks for deer outside of hunting season ➤ Predator Control