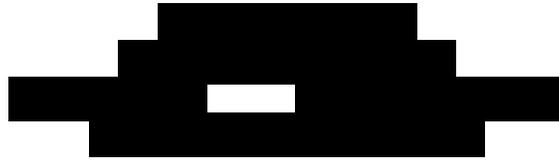


# STEVE E PARK APIARIES, INC.



November 6, 2014

California Fish & Game Commission  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Steve Park. I am a second generation beekeeper in Palo Cedro, Shasta County, running over 15,000 hives between Montana and California for the past 45 years.

I am writing this letter to express my growing concern about the rapidly increasing bear population in California.

Ever since the law was passed, not allowing dogs to hunt the bears; they have become even more of a nuisance. They are a serious problem for those of us in agriculture, from the beekeepers to the nuts and fruit growers and the livestock owners. I even heard of them eating out of a Coi Pond, at \$1,000 per fish.

They have become increasingly brave, coming into places we have never seen them before and this is just the beginning. Just looking at the 2013 season, there were approximately 50% less bears taken than had been in the past several years. The number of bears taken in 2013 was approximately only 1,002 instead of approximately 1,962 in previous years.

There have been bears killed in the parking lot at Wal-Mart in Willows, Hamilton City and other cities where there have never been bear problems before.

There ARE things that the Dept of F&G can do without legislation to mitigate the problem. Such as, give out more tags, extend the season, have a spring season, drop the price of tags to say \$5.00, allow more than one tag per person, make the depredation permits easier to obtain, etc.

The damage these bears do to our crops is extremely costly, in time and money. There MUST be something done.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you wish to discuss this further.

Thank You

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Steve E Park, president  
Steve E Park Apiaries, Inc.

