

Memorandum

Date: September 9, 2014

To: Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham
Director

Subject: **Agenda Item for the October 8, 2014 Fish and Game Commission Meeting 5-year Renewal Private Lands Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Management Plan (PLM) Area License**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has reviewed the 5-year management plans and renewal applications for two (2) properties (Bell Ranch and Corning Land and Cattle Company) in Tehama County consisting of 21,200 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		
BELL RANCH DEER ZONE C4 TEHAMA 15,000 ACRES	<p>Authorized Harvest: 19 buck deer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 22 buck deer tags to take 19 forked horn or better buck deer for the period October 25 through December 7, 2014. • No more than 3 buck deer may be harvested between November 30 and December 7, 2014. • In no case shall the number of tags issued be used to exceed the authorized harvest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain 15 previously developed springs and 6 reservoirs. ➤ Develop one new spring. ➤ Provide at least 2 tons of mineral supplements containing selenium in key locations to improve wildlife health. ➤ Mechanically treat 15 acres of decadent brush. ➤ Replace ¼ mile of woven wire fence with wildlife friendly fence to reduce wildlife entanglement.
CORNING LAND AND CATTLE COMPANY DEER ZONE B5 TEHAMA 6,200 ACRES	<p>Authorized Harvest: 7 buck deer, 4 antlerless deer and 300 quail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 7 buck deer tags to take forked horn or better buck deer and 4 antlerless deer tags for the period of October 15 through November 30, 2014. • Issue 300 quail seals for the period of October 15, 2014 through February 28, 2015. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Retain 8 irrigated forage plots, totaling 20 acres planted in grain/vetch/forb combination for use by wildlife. ➤ Continue reduced livestock numbers at 150 and deferred grazing from December 1 through May 1. ➤ Develop a 1 acre irrigated forage plot of alfalfa in an area that lacks green forage for use by wildlife. ➤ Maintain 25 acres of canola for wildlife use. ➤ Retain approximately 2 miles of riparian areas for wildlife forage and cover by not removing vegetation. ➤ Mechanically treat at least 20 acres of decadent brush to improve wildlife forage.