

# **Implementing the Bobcat Protection Act of 2013**

California Fish and Game Code  
Section 4155

Presented to the California Fish and Game Commission  
Wildlife Resources Committee by Commission Staff  
September 17, 2014

# Elements of the Act

- Prohibit trapping adjacent to national parks, monuments and wildlife refuges, and state parks in which bobcat trapping is prohibited (roughly 264 affected areas statewide)
- Adjust license fees for full recovery of administrative and implementation costs
- Consider prohibiting trapping within or adjacent to other public or private conservation areas beginning in 2016
- Does not affect depredation trapping

# Before December 2014 Notice

- Identify notice options and evaluate feasibility
- Survey trappers
- Determine California Environmental Quality Act requirements
- Prepare economic impact study
- Draft initial statement of reasons

# Revised Options

- Option A (discussed at July MRC)
  - Identify high value bobcat trapping counties; permit trapping only in those counties
  - Within the high value counties, establish a 0.25-mile buffer around affected areas
  - Ban bobcat trapping in balance of the state
- Option B (new)
  - Establish 0.25-mile buffer zone around each affected area within entire state
  - Prohibit bobcat trapping within the buffer zone
  - Identify and maintain by regulation a public process to list additional prohibited areas
- Option C (new)
  - Establish statewide ban on bobcat trapping

# Cost Recovery

- Determine reasonable costs of administration and implementation
- Identify appropriate fee adjustments for cost recovery – who should pay and how?
- Trapping license, shipping tags, marking
- Recovery of one-time costs
- Is full cost recovery feasible?

# Proposals

- Identify large geographic areas where trapping would be allowed; prohibit trapping for balance of state

*OR*

- Establish a 0.25 mile buffer zone around affected areas (statewide or high value counties); prohibit trapping within the boundaries and require a functioning global positioning system (GPS)

*OR*

- Establish a statewide ban on bobcat trapping

*AND*

- Establish a tag system for shipping and marking and adjust fees for cost recovery from bobcat trappers
- Clarify/define “property” and “traps” [4155(d)]