

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION  
(Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons)

Amend Sections 702, 708.5, 708.11, and 713  
Title 14, California Code of Regulations  
Re: Big Game Tags, Deer Reporting & Fee

- I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: September 15, 2014
- II. Date of Pre-Adoption Statement of Purpose: March 16, 2015
- III. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:
  - (a) Notice Hearing: Date: December 3, 2014  
Location: Van Nuys, California
  - (b) Discussion Hearing: Date: February 12, 2015  
Location: Sacramento, California
  - (c) Adoption Hearing: Date: April 9, 2015  
Location: Santa Rosa, California
- IV. Description of Modifications of Originally Proposed Language of Initial Statement of Purpose:

In accordance with the direction provided by the public and Commission, notice was given that the amendment to Section 708.5 establishing a “non-reporting fee” of \$20 will not apply during the 2015-16 deer season but will begin in the 2016-17 season.
- V. Reasons for Modification of Originally Proposed Language of Initial Statement of Purpose:

Reason for the change is based on request by various hunting organizations to assist in advertising this change prior to the imposition of the non-reporting fee.
- VI. Summary of Primary Considerations Raised in Opposition and in Support:

Public comments and Department responses regarding all proposed 2015 mammal hunting regulations, oral or in writing, which were received as of March 10, 2015, are contained in Attachment A.

## VII. Text of the Regulations

Section 708.5 is amended to read:

### **§ 708.5. Deer Tagging and Reporting Requirements.**

(a) Upon the killing of any deer the tag holder shall immediately fill out all portions of the tag including the report card completely, legibly, and permanently, and cut out or punch out and completely remove notches or punch holes for the month and date of the kill. The deer license tag shall be attached to the antlers of an antlered deer or to the ear of any other deer and kept attached during the open season and for 15 days thereafter. Except as otherwise provided, possession of any untagged deer shall be a violation. (Refer to Fish and Game Code, Section 4336).

(b) Every person to whom a deer license tag is issued shall ~~return the completed report card portion to the department within thirty days of taking a deer.~~ report to the Department their deer harvest.

(1) Successful deer tag holders are required to report deer harvested within 30 days of the date of harvest or by January 31, whichever date is first.

(2) Unsuccessful deer tag holders, whether they hunted or not, are required to report no harvest by January 31 annually.

(c) Harvest Report Card Return and Reporting Mechanisms.

(1) By mail or in person at the address specified on the harvest report card. A harvest report card returned by mail shall be postmarked by the date applicable to that card as specified in this section.

(2) Online through the department's internet license sales service website by the date specified in the section. Tag holders reporting online will be provided a confirmation number upon successful submission. The tag holder must record the provided confirmation number in the space provided on the harvest report card and retain the harvest report card until March 1 annually. Tags reported online must be surrendered to the department upon demand.

(d) **Beginning July 1, 2016, D**deer tag holders, whether successful or unsuccessful, who fail to report by the date specified in this section shall be subject to a Deer Harvest Non-reporting Fee. The fee specified in Section 702 shall be charged prior to the issuance of a deer tag or deer tag drawing application in the following year.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203, 215, 219, 220, 1050, 1572, 4336, 4340 and 10502, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 200, ~~201~~, 202, 203, 203.1, 207, 210, 215, 219, 220, 1050, 1570, 1571, 1572, 3950, 4336, 10500 and 10502, Fish and Game Code.