

California Department of Fish and Wildlife News Release

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CDFW to Hold Public Meetings on Lands Pass Program

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) plans to hold public meetings regarding possible changes to its Lands Pass Program.

Currently, visitors to CDFW wildlife areas and ecological reserves in this program must purchase a day or annual pass prior to visiting the properties. Purchases are made online, from license vendors or from CDFW offices in advance (no passes are sold on-site at the properties). Exemptions from this requirement include visitors who bring a valid hunting or fishing license, children under the age of 16 and participants in organized school or youth group field trips.

At the upcoming public meetings, CDFW staff will provide information about the current Lands Pass Program and discuss possible changes to the program that are under evaluation by CDFW. Staff will also explain the process for amending regulations and how the public can participate in the review process.

The public meetings will be held during March and April 2015. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19 at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Headquarters, 45211 County Rd 32B (Chiles Road) in Davis (95618). A map of this location is available at www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region3/yolo/.

The meeting will be in an "open house" format; doors will be open from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and participants may arrive at any time during that window. Posters and written materials will be available and CDFW staff will be on hand to answer questions.

As additional meetings are scheduled, they will be posted on the CDFW Public Meetings and Notices webpage (www.wildlife.ca.gov/notices).

For more information about the current Lands Pass Program, please visit www.wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Lands-Pass.

Questions about these meetings may be directed to CDFW Senior Environmental Scientist Julie Horenstein at Julie.Horenstein@wildlife.ca.gov or (916) 324-3772.

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When you file your California income tax return, please consider making a voluntary contribution to the California Sea Otter Fund (line 410) or the Rare and Endangered Species Fund (line 403). Thank you!

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator Melissa Carlin at (916) 651-1214 or Melissa.Carlin@wildlife.ca.gov. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received at least 21 days prior to the event. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioning at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but due to circumstances is no longer needed, please contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator immediately.