Amend Section 361,  
Title 14, California Code of Regulations 
Re: Archery Deer Hunting

I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: December 30, 2002
II. Date of Pre-Adoption Statement of Purpose: March 1, 2003
III. Date of Final Statement of Reasons: May 9, 2003
IV. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:
   (a) Notice Hearing: Date: February 7, 2003  
      Location: Sacramento, California
   (b) Discussion Hearing: Date: April 4, 2003  
      Location: Visalia, California
   (c) Adoption Hearing: Date: May 8, 2003  
      Location: Riverside, California

V. Update:

Existing regulations provide for the number of hunting tags for existing area-specific archery hunts. The proposal changes the number of tags for existing hunts to a series of ranges presented in the following table. These ranges are necessary, as the final number of tags cannot be determined until spring herd data are collected in March/April. Because severe winter conditions can have an adverse effect on herd recruitment and overwinter adult survival, final tag quotas may fall below the proposed range. Pursuant to its May 8, 2003 meeting, the Fish and Game Commission adopted the following quotas:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deer: § 361 Archery Deer Hunting</th>
<th>Tag Allocations</th>
<th>Number of Tags</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Tag Allocations</td>
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<td>Original Proposal</td>
<td>Modified Proposal</td>
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<td>A-1 (C Zones Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-3 (X-1 Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-4 (X-2 Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-5 (X-3a Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-12 (X-6b Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-13 (X-7a Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-22 (San Diego Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-27 (Devil’s Garden Archery Buck Hunt)</td>
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<td>Deer: § 361 Archery Deer Hunting Tag Allocations Continued</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A-32 (Ventura/Los Angeles Late Season Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt)</td>
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<td>50-300</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

VI. Summary of Primary Considerations Raised in Opposition and in Support:

No public comments, written or oral, were received during the public comment period.

VII. Location and Index of Rulemaking File:

A rulemaking file with attached file index is maintained at:
California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

VIII. Location of Department files:

Department of Fish and Game
1812 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

IX. Descriptions of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

1. Number of Tags

There is no reasonable alternative to the proposed action.

(b) No Change Alternative:

1. Number of Tags

The no-change alternative was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current number of tags for the hunts
listed may not be responsive to changes in the status of the herds. The deer herd management plans specify objective levels for the proportion of bucks in the herds. These ratios are maintained and managed in part by modifying the number of tags. The no-change alternative would not allow management of the desired proportion of bucks stated in the approved deer herd management plans.

(c) Consideration of Alternatives:

In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purposes for which the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to the affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

X. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made.

(a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businessmen to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. The proposed action adjusts tag quotas for existing hunts. Given the number of tags available and the area over which they are distributed, these proposals are economically neutral to business.

(b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California:

None.

(c) Cost Impacts on Private Persons:

The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:
None.

(e) Other Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies:
None.

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts:
None.

(g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4:
None.

(h) Effect on Housing Costs:
None.
Updated Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Existing regulations provide for the number of hunting tags for existing area-specific archery hunts. The proposal changes the number of tags for existing hunts to a series of ranges presented in the following table. These ranges are necessary, as the final number of tags cannot be determined until spring herd data are collected in March/April. Because severe winter conditions can have an adverse effect on herd recruitment and overwinter adult survival, final tag quotas may fall below the proposed range.

The Commission, at its May 8, 2003 meeting, adopted the proposed changes, including the tag allocations for each zone. Some minor editorial changes are necessary to correct errors in paragraph numbering.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deer: § 361 Archery Deer Hunting Tag Allocations</th>
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<td>230</td>
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<td>A-11 (X-6a Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-12 (X-6b Archery Hunt)</td>
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<td>A-20 (X-12 Archery Hunt)</td>
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</table>
Subsection 361, Title 14, CCR, is amended to read:

§ 361. Archery Deer Hunting.
(a) Archery Hunting With General Deer Zone Tags. Deer may be taken during the archery season only with archery equipment specified in Section 354 as follows:
   (1) A Zone.
      (A) Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(1).
      (B) Season: The archery deer season in Zone A shall open on the second Saturday in July and extend for 23 consecutive days.
      (C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
   (2) B Zones.
      (A) Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(2)(A).
      2. Season: The archery deer season in Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.
      3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
      (B) Zone B-4.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(2)(A)4.
      2. Season: The archery deer season in Zone B-4 shall open on the fourth Saturday in July and extend for 23 consecutive days.
      (3) C Zones (Note: see subsection 361(b) below for area-specific archery hunt A-1 (C Zones Archery Only Hunt)).
      (4) D Zones.
      (A) Zones D-3 through D-5.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(4)(A)1. through 3.
      2. Season: The archery season in Zones D-3, D-4, and D-5 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 days.
      3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
      4. Special Conditions: Hunters that possess a Zone D-3-5 tag may hunt in zones D-3, D-4, and D-5.
      (B) Zones D-6 through D-10.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(5)(A) through (9)(A).
      2. Season: The archery season in zones D-6 through D-10 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 days.
      3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
         4. Special Conditions: Hunters that possess a D-11, D-13, or D-15 tag may hunt in any, or all three of those zones.
      (C) Zone D-12.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(11)(A).
      2. Season: The archery season in Zone D-12 shall open on the first Saturday and extend for 23 consecutive days.
      3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
      (D) Zones D-14, D-16, D-17 and D-19.
      1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(13)(A), (15)(A), (16)(A) and (17)(A), respectively.
      2. Season: The archery season in zones D-14, D-16, D-17 and D-19 shall open on the first Saturday in September and extend for 23 days.
      3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
      4. Special Conditions: Hunters that possess a D-11, D-13, or D-15 tag may hunt in any, or all three of those zones.
(b) Archery Hunting With Area-specific Archery Tags. Deer may be taken only with archery equipment specified in Section 354, only during the archery seasons as follows:
   (1) A-1 (C Zones Archery Only Hunt).
(A) Area: Shall include all of Zones C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4 as described in subsections 360(a)(3)(A)1 through 4.

(B) Season:
1. Zone C-1. The archery season for Zone C-1 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 16 consecutive days.
2. Zone C-2. The archery season for Zone C-2 shall open on the second Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.
3. Zone C-3. The archery season for Zone C-3 shall open on the second Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.
4. Zone C-4. The archery season for Zone C-4 shall open on the last Saturday in August and extend for 16 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 2,500. A-1 (C Zones Archery Only Hunt) tags are valid in Zones C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4 only during the archery season as specified above in subsections 361(b)(1)(B)1 through 4.

(2) A-3 (Zone X-1 Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(1)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-3 (Zone X-1 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 230

(3) A-4 (Zone X-2 Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(2)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-4 (Zone X-2 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 2515

(4) A-5 (Zone X-3a Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(3)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-5 (Zone X-3a Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 4020

(5) A-6 (Zone X-3b Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(4)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-6 (Zone X-3b Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 4065

(6) A-7 (Zone X-4 Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(5)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-7 (Zone X-4 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 4075

(7) A-8 (Zone X-5a Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(6)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-8 (Zone X-5a Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 2050

(8) A-9 (Zone X-5b Archery Hunt)
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(7)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-9 (Zone X-5b Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 2015.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(9)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-11 (Zone X-6a Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 85130.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(10)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-12 (Zone X-6b Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 45575.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(11)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-13 (Zone X-7a Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 4520.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(12)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-14 (Zone X-7b Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 4515.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(13)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-15 (Zone X-8 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 11070.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(14)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-16 (Zone X-9a Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 120.

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-17 (Zone X-9b Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 350.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(15)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-18 (Zone X-9c Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 175.

(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(16)(A).

(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-19 (Zone X-10 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 16 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 175.
(20) A-20 (Zone X-12 Archery Hunt).
(A) Area: As described in subsection 360(b)(17)(A).
(B) Season: The archery season for hunt A-20 (Zone X-12 Archery Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 195.

(21) A-21 (Anderson Flat Archery Buck Hunt).
(A) Area: In that portion of hunt Zone D-6 in Mariposa and Tuolumne counties lying within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 140 and Bull Creek Road at Bricelburg; north on Bull Creek Road (U.S. Forest Service Road 2S05) to Greeley Hill Road; west on Greeley Hill Road to Smith Station Road (County Route J20); north on Smith Station Road to Highway 120 (near Burch Meadow); east on Highway 120 to the Yosemite National Park Boundary (near Big Oak-Flat Ranger Station); southeast along the Yosemite National Park Boundary to Highway 140; west on Highway 140 to the Yosemite National Park Boundary; northwest along the Yosemite National Park Boundary to Highway 140 (at Redbud Campground); west on Highway 140 to the point of beginning.
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-21 (Anderson Flat Archery Buck Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for 14 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 25.

(22) A-22 (San Diego Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt).
(A) Area: That portion of San Diego County within Zone D-16 (see subsection 360(a)(15)(A)).
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-22 (San Diego Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt) shall open on the first Saturday in September and extend for 44 consecutive days, and reopen on the first Saturday in December and extend through December 31.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One either-sex deer (see subsection 351(c)) per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 1,000.

(23) A-24 (Monterey Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt).
(A) Area: All of Monterey County, except Fort Ord Military Reservation.
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-24 (Monterey Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in October and extend for 30 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One either-sex deer (see subsection 351(c)) per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 100.

(A) Area: That portion of Sonoma County within the boundaries of the Lake Sonoma Area, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) property described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of Hot Springs Road and the COE boundary; east and south along the boundary line to the intersection with Brush Creek; west along the north bank of Brush Creek (shoreline) to the Dry Creek arm of Lake Sonoma; south along the shoreline of the Dry Creek arm to Smittle Creek; north along the COE property line to Dry Creek; east along the COE boundary across Cherry Creek, Skunk Creek, and Yorty Creek to the point of beginning.
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-25 (Lake Sonoma Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt) shall be open on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays only, beginning on the first Saturday in October and extending for 24 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One either-sex deer (see subsection 351(c)) per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 25.
(E) Special Conditions:
1. The use of dogs is prohibited.
2. Boats are required for all areas west of Cherry Creek (some 2/3 of the hunt area). Only cartop boats are allowed to launch from the Yorty Creek access.

(A) Area: That portion of Lassen County within the area described as Zone X-6a (see subsection 360(b)(8)(A)).
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-26 (Bass Hill Archery Buck Hunt) shall open on the third Saturday in November and extend for 23 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 4025.
(A) Area: That portion of Modoc County within a line beginning at the intersection of the Malin Road (Modoc County 114) and the California/Oregon state line; east along the state line to the Crowder Flat Road; south along the Crowder Flat Road to the Blue Mountain Road (Modoc County 136); west on the Blue Mountain Road to the Blue Mountain-Mowitz Butte-Ambrose Road; south on the Blue Mountain-Mowitz Butte-Ambrose Road to Highway 139; north on Highway 139 to the Malin Road; north on the Malin Road to the point of beginning.
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-27 (Devil's Garden Archery Buck Hunt) shall open on the fourth Saturday in October and extend for 16 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 205.
(A) Area: That portion of Mendocino County within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the Humbolt-Mendocino county line; east along the Humbolt-Mendocino county line to the Trinity-Mendocino county line; east along Trinity-Mendocino county line to the Mendocino-Tehama county line; south on the Mendocino-Tehama county line to the Mendocino-Glenn county line; south on the Mendocino-Glenn county line to the Mendocino-Lake county line; west and south on the Mendocino-Lake county line to the Main Eel River; west and north on the Main Eel River to the Hearst-Willits Road; southwest on the Hearst-Willits Road to Commercial Avenue; west on Commercial Avenue to Highway 101; north on Highway 101 to the point of beginning.
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-30 (Covelo Archery Buck Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for sixteen consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 40.
(A) Area: That portion of Los Angeles County within Zone D-11 (see subsection 360(a)(10)(A)).
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-31 (Los Angeles Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt) shall open on the fourth Saturday in September and extend through December 31.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One either-sex deer (see subsection 351(b)) per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 1,000.
(29)(27) A-32 (Ventura/Los Angeles Late Season Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt).
(A) Area: In those portions of Los Angeles and Ventura counties within the area described as the A Zone (see subsection 360(a)(1)(A)).
(B) Season: The season for hunt A-32 (Ventura/Los Angeles Late Season Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for 23 consecutive days.
(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One either-sex deer (see subsection 351(b)) per tag.
(D) Number of Tags: 250.
(c) Archery Hunting with Archery Only Tags. Deer may be taken only with archery equipment specified in Section 354, during the archery seasons and general seasons as follows:
(1) Number of Archery Only Tags Permitted. A person may obtain an archery only tag using a one-deer tag application and a second archery only tag using a second deer tag application.
(2) Zones in Which Archery Only Tags are Valid. An archery only tag is valid for hunt G-10, and during the archery season and general season in all zones except C-1 through C-4 and X-1 through X-12.
(3) Areas: As described in subsections 360(a) and (c).
(4) Seasons: The archery season and general seasons are provided in subsection 361(a) above and in subsections 360(a) and (c).
(5) Bag and Possession Limit: All bag and possession limits per zone are the same as those described in subsections 360(a) and (c).
(d) Hunting Area Limitations. Archers not in possession of an archery only tag may hunt only in the zone, zones, or areas for which they have a general tag or an area-specific archery tag. (Refer to subsection 361(c)(2) for zones in which archery only tags are valid).
(e) Crossbow Prohibition. Crossbows may not be used during any archery season or during the general season when using an archery only tag.