

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION

Amend Subsection 360(c) and (d),  
Title 14, California Code of Regulations  
Re: Deer: Additional Hunts

- I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: December 21, 2006
- II. Date of Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons: March 19, 2007
- III. Date of Final Statement of Reasons: April 27, 2007

IV. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:

- (a) Notice Hearing:           Date: February 2, 2007  
                                  Location: Monterey, California
- (b) Discussion Hearing:       Date: March 2, 2007  
                                  Location: Arcata, California
- (c) Discussion Hearing:       Date: April 13, 2007  
                                  Location: Bodega Bay, California
- (d) Adoption Hearing:         Date: April 25, 2007  
                                  Location: Teleconference

V. Update:

Existing regulations provide seasons and any special conditions for Additional Deer Hunts. The original proposal modified seasons for Additional Hunts G-8, G-10 and J-10; and modified special conditions for Additional Hunt G-10.

Existing regulations provide for the number of license tags available for Additional Hunts. The original proposal changed the number of license tags for Additional Hunts to a series of ranges. 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 proposal is further modified to provide the final tag quotas based on updated harvest and population analysis. Pursuant to it's April 25, 2007 meeting, the Fish and Game Commission adopted the original proposed season and special

condition changes to Additional Hunts G-8, G-10, and J-10; and the final tag quotas (Modified Proposal) as follows:

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
G-1 (Late Season Buck Hunt for Zone C-4)	2,850	500-5,000	2,850
G-3 (Goodale Buck Hunt)	35	5-50	35
G-6 (Kern River Deer Herd Buck Hunt)	50	25-100	50
G-7 (Beale Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20 Military*	20 Military*	20 Military*
G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt)	10 Military* & 10 Public	10 Military* & 10 Public	10 Military* & 10 Public
G-9 (Camp Roberts Antlerless Deer Hunt)	15 Military* & 15 Public	15 Military* & 15 Public	15 Military* & 15 Public
G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	300 Military*	400 Military*	400 Military*
G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	500 Military* and DOD**	500 Military* and DOD**	500 Military* and DOD**
G-12 (Gray Lodge Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	10-50	30
G-13 (San Diego Antlerless Deer Hunt)	300	50-300	300
G-19 (Sutter-Yuba Wildlife Areas Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-50	25
G-21 (Ventana Wilderness Buck Hunt)	25	25-100	25
G-37 (Anderson Flat Buck Hunt)	25	25-50	25
G-38 (X-10 Late Season Buck Hunt)	300	50-300	300
G-39 (Round Valley Late Season Buck Hunt)	5	5-150	5
M-3 (Doyle Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	10-75	20
M-4 (Horse Lake Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	5-50	15

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
M-5 (East Lassen Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	5-50	10
M-6 (San Diego Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	80	25-100	80
M-7 (Ventura Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	50-150	150
M-8 (Bass Hill Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	5-50	10
M-9 (Devil's Garden Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	5-100	15
M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	20-200	20
MA-1 (San Luis Obispo Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	20-150	150
MA-3 (Santa Barbara Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	20-150	150
J-1 (Lake Sonoma Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-25	25
J-3 (Tehama Wildlife Area Junior Buck Hunt)	15	15-30	15
J-4 (Shasta-Trinity Junior Buck Hunt)	15	15-50	15
J-7 (Carson River Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	10-50	15
J-8 (Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	10-20	15
J-9 (Little Dry Creek Junior Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	5	5-10	5
J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	10 Military* & 50 Public	10 Military* & 75 Public	10 Military* & 75 Public
J-11 (San Bernardino Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	10-50	40
J-12 (Round Valley Junior Buck Hunt)	10	10-20	10
J-13 (Los Angeles Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	25-100	40

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
J-14 (Riverside Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	15-75	30
J-15 (Anderson Flat Junior Buck Hunt)	10	5-30	10
J-16 (Bucks Mountain/Nevada City Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	10-75	75
J-17 (Blue Canyon Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	5-25	25
J-18 (Pacific/Grizzly Flat Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	10-75	75
J-19 (Zone X-7a Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-40	25
J-20 (Zone X-7b Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20	5-20	20
J-21 (East Tehama Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	50	20-80	50

\* *Specific numbers of tags are provided for military hunts through a system which restricts hunter access to desired levels and ensures biologically conservative hunting programs.*

\*\* *DOD = Department of Defense*

VI. Summary of Primary Considerations Raised in Support of or Opposition to the Proposed Actions and Reasons for Rejecting those considerations:

Responses to public recommendations were included in the Initial Statement of Reasons as Responses to Public Recommendations for Changes In the Mammal Hunting and Trapping Regulations Received by the Fish and Game Commission Between February 21, 2004 and February 2, 2007.

Additional responses and analysis to public comments received are included in the attached - Responses to Public Comments for Changes In the Mammal Hunting and Trapping Regulations Received by the Fish and Game Commission Between February 3, 2007 and April 13, 2007.

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. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

1. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-8

Modify season to include all weekdays. This proposal was considered and rejected because it would not accommodate for military operations which primarily occur on weekdays, resulting in daily hunt cancellations, hunter dissatisfaction and the unnecessary restricting of hunter opportunity.

2. Modify Season and Special Conditions for Additional Hunt G-10

Modify season to include all weekdays. This proposal was considered and rejected because it would not accommodate for military operations which primarily occur on weekdays, resulting in daily hunt cancellations, hunter dissatisfaction and the unnecessary restricting of hunter opportunity.

3. Modify Season for Additional Hunt J-10

Modify season to include all weekdays. This proposal was considered and rejected because it would not accommodate for military operations which primarily occur on weekdays, resulting in daily hunt cancellations, hunter dissatisfaction and the unnecessary restricting of hunter opportunity.

4. Number of Tags

There is no reasonable alternative to the proposed action.

(b) No Change Alternative:

1. Modify Season for Additional Hunt G-8

The no change alternative was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations and scheduled activities and unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

2. Modify Season and Special Conditions for Additional Hunt G-10

The no change alternative was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations and scheduled activities and unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

3. Modify Season for Additional Hunt J-10

The no change alternative was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. Retaining the current season length and timing would be unresponsive to Base operations and scheduled activities and unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity.

4. 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 proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed action modifies seasons and special conditions for three hunts and 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 for Additional Hunt G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt) provide for hunting on Saturdays, Sundays, and the Columbus Day holiday only beginning the first Saturday in October and extending for two consecutive weekends. The Base has specifically requested the season be modified to begin on the Thursday preceding the Columbus Day weekend and run for five consecutive days to accommodate Base operations and other hunt opportunities. The proposal would modify the season by consolidating a hunt season consisting of two weekends and a holiday into a five consecutive day season in order to accommodate other hunts and Base operations. No loss of hunter opportunity would result from this action and the proposal is consistent with existing deer herd management plan recommendations.

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting on Saturdays, Sundays, Columbus and Veteran's Day, and the day after Thanksgiving, beginning the third Saturday in September and continuing through the Thanksgiving Day weekend. Certain federal holidays occur on weekdays when the Base is normally closed and additional hunter opportunity has been lost. The Base has specifically requested: the season be lengthened by adding two weeks to the beginning of the season; one week to the end of the season; include all holidays and the day after Thanksgiving, in order to provide additional hunter opportunity. In addition, the Base has requested that additional weekdays be included at the discretion of the Commanding Officer for those days when military operations have been suspended or reduced. The proposal would modify the season to begin on the first Saturday in September and extend through the first Sunday in December; specifically include all holidays; and allow the Commanding Officer discretion, with Department concurrence, to provide additional hunt days on weekdays during the season should military operations be suspended. Special conditions are also adjusted to account for the additional three weeks added to the season. These actions would provide an increase in hunter opportunity as requested by the Base, while maintaining consistency with existing deer herd management plan recommendations.

Existing regulations for Additional Hunt J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt) provide for hunting on Saturdays, Sundays, and the Columbus Day holiday only beginning the first Saturday in October and extending for two consecutive weekends. The Base has specifically requested the season be modified by adding two days to the beginning of the season in order to provide additional junior hunting opportunity. The proposal would modify the season by adding two days to the beginning of the season (Thursday and Friday). These actions would result in increased hunter opportunity, and are consistent with existing deer herd management plan recommendations.

Existing regulations provide for the number of hunting tags for the additional 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.

**Minor editorial changes were made to provide consistency in the regulations. Subsection 360(c)(2)(D) refers to the “Number of Permits”. For consistency with other hunts, the word “Permits” is changed to “Tags”.**

**The original proposal modified the seasons of three (3) Additional Hunts (G-8, G-10 and J-10); modified the special conditions of one (1) Additional Hunt (G-10) ; and changed the number of license tags for Additional Hunts to a series of ranges. The proposal is further modified to provide the final tag quotas based on updated harvest and population analysis. Pursuant to it’s April 25, 2007 meeting, the Fish and Game Commission adopted the proposed season and special condition changes for all three (3) Additional Hunts (G-8, G-10 and J-10) and the final tag quotas (Modified Proposal) as follows:**

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
G-1 (Late Season Buck Hunt for Zone C-4)	2,850	500-5,000	2,850
G-3 (Goodale Buck Hunt)	35	5-50	35
G-6 (Kern River Deer Herd Buck Hunt)	50	25-100	50
G-7 (Beale Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20 Military*	20 Military*	20 Military*
G-8 (Fort Hunter Liggett Antlerless Deer Hunt)	10 Military* & 10 Public	10 Military* & 10 Public	10 Military* & 10 Public
G-9 (Camp Roberts Antlerless Deer Hunt)	15 Military* & 15 Public	15 Military* & 15 Public	15 Military* & 15 Public
G-10 (Camp Pendleton Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	300 Military*	400 Military*	400 Military*
G-11 (Vandenberg Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	500 Military* and DOD**	500 Military* and DOD**	500 Military* and DOD**
G-12 (Gray Lodge Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	10-50	30
G-13 (San Diego Antlerless Deer Hunt)	300	50-300	300
G-19 (Sutter-Yuba Wildlife Areas Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-50	25

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
G-21 (Ventana Wilderness Buck Hunt)	25	25-100	25
G-37 (Anderson Flat Buck Hunt)	25	25-50	25
G-38 (X-10 Late Season Buck Hunt)	300	50-300	300
G-39 (Round Valley Late Season Buck Hunt)	5	5-150	5
M-3 (Doyle Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	10-75	20
M-4 (Horse Lake Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	5	5-50	15
M-5 (East Lassen Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	5-50	10
M-6 (San Diego Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	80	25-100	80
M-7 (Ventura Muzzleloading Rifle Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	150	50-150	150
M-8 (Bass Hill Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	5-50	10
M-9 (Devil's Garden Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	15	5-100	15
M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt)	20	20-200	20
MA-1 (San Luis Obispo Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	20-150	150
MA-3 (Santa Barbara Muzzleloading Rifle/Archery Buck Hunt)	150	20-150	150
J-1 (Lake Sonoma Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-25	25
J-3 (Tehama Wildlife Area Junior Buck Hunt)	15	15-30	15
J-4 (Shasta-Trinity Junior Buck Hunt)	15	15-50	15
J-7 (Carson River Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	10-50	15
J-8 (Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	15	10-20	15

<b>Deer: § 360(c) Additional Hunts 2007 Final Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)</b>			
<b>Hunt Number (and Title)</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Original Proposal</b>	<b>Modified Proposal</b>
J-9 (Little Dry Creek Junior Shotgun Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	5	5-10	5
J-10 (Fort Hunter Liggett Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	10 Military* & 50 Public	10 Military* & 75 Public	10 Military* & 75 Public
J-11 (San Bernardino Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	10-50	40
J-12 (Round Valley Junior Buck Hunt)	10	10-20	10
J-13 (Los Angeles Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	40	25-100	40
J-14 (Riverside Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	30	15-75	30
J-15 (Anderson Flat Junior Buck Hunt)	10	5-30	10
J-16 (Bucks Mountain/Nevada City Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	10-75	75
J-17 (Blue Canyon Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	5-25	25
J-18 (Pacific/Grizzly Flat Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	75	10-75	75
J-19 (Zone X-7a Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	25	10-40	25
J-20 (Zone X-7b Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	20	5-20	20
J-21 (East Tehama Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt)	50	20-80	50

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\*\* *DOD = Department of Defense*