

**TITLE 14. Fish and Game Commission
Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority vested by sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 205, 206, 208, 215, 220, 240, 355, 3000, and 3270, of the Fish and Game Code and to implement, interpret or make specific sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 215, 220, 355, 356, 3000, 3270, 3500 and 4304 of said Code, proposes to amend Subsection 300(a)(1)(G), Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to Upland Game Birds - Wild Turkeys.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Existing regulations specify the conditions under which upland game species in California may be hunted. A principal mandate and objective of the Department is to provide for public use and enjoyment of wildlife including hunting. Within the framework of existing regulations, the Commission may modify season dates, bag limits, and other regulations to both conserve wildlife species while providing for their public use.

The proposed regulatory change modifies the regulations to add a 2-day Spring Junior Hunt (16 years of age and younger) period the weekend prior to the normal Spring turkey season. In Spring 2009, the turkey season begins the last Saturday in March and extends for 37 consecutive days. The proposed change would add the Saturday and Sunday preceding the opening day as a 2-day hunt period for juniors.

The purpose is to provide additional recreational opportunity to young hunters for the abundant turkey populations in the State.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the City of Huntington Beach, City Council Chambers, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California, on Friday, November 14, 2008 at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, California, on Friday, December 12, 2008, at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. It is requested, but not required, that written comments be submitted on or before December 12, 2008 at the address given below, or by fax at (916) 653-5040, or by e-mail to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. **Written comments mailed, faxed or e-mailed to the Commission office, must be received before 5:00 p.m. on December 9, 2008.** All comments must be received no later than December 12, 2008, at the hearing in Sacramento, CA. If you would like copies of any modifications to this proposal, please include your name and mailing address.

The regulations as proposed in strikeout-underline format, as well as an initial statement of reasons, including environmental considerations and all information upon which the proposal is based (rulemaking file), are on file and available for public review from the agency representative, John Carlson, Jr., Executive Director, Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, phone (916) 653-4899. Please direct requests for the above mentioned documents and inquiries concerning the regulatory process to John Carlson, Jr., or Jon Snellstrom at the preceding address or phone number. **Dr. Eric Loft, Chief Wildlife Branch, Department of Fish and Game, phone (916) 445-3406, and Assistant Chief Rob Allen, Enforcement Branch, Department of Fish and Game, phone (916) 653-4094, have been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.** Copies of the Initial Statement of Reasons, including the regulatory language, may be obtained from the address above. Notice of the proposed action shall be posted on the Fish and Game Commission website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov>.

Availability of Modified Text

If the regulations adopted by the Commission differ from but are sufficiently related to the action proposed, they will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption. Any person interested

may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency representative named herein.

If the regulatory proposal is adopted, the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the address above when it has been received from the agency program staff.

Impact of Regulatory Action

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the 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 Businesses 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. Considering the small number of permits issued over the entire state, this proposal is 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 a Representative Private Person or Business:

The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business 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) 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, Government Code:

None.

- (h) Effect on Housing Costs:

None.

Effect on Small Business

It has been determined that the adoption of these regulations may affect small business.

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Commission, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Dated: October 14, 2008

Jon K. Fischer
Deputy Executive Director