

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

Amend Subdivision 360(a)
Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR)
Re: Deer: A, B, C, and D Zone Hunts

- I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: December 21, 2007
- II. Date of Pre-adoption Statement of Reasons: February 25, 2008
- III. Date of Final Statement of Reasons: May 13, 2008
- IV. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:

- (a) Notice Hearing: Date: February 8, 2008
 Location: San Diego, California
- (b) Discussion Hearing: Date: March 7, 2008
 Location: Stockton, California
- (c) Discussion Hearing: Date: April 11, 2008
 Location: Bodega Bay, California
- (d) Adoption Hearing: Date: May 9, 2008
 Location: Monterey, California

- V. Update:

No modifications were made to the originally proposed language of the Initial Statement of Reasons.

Pursuant to its May 9, 2008 meeting in Monterey, the Fish and Game Commission adopted the regulation changes as proposed.

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

No (other) 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, CA 95814

VIII. Location of Department files:

Department of Fish and Game
1812 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

IX. Description of Reasonable Regulatory Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

1. Number of Tags

There is no reasonable alternative to the proposed action.

2. Modify area description of South Unit 110

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 zones 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.

2. Modify area description of South Unit 110

The no change alternative was considered and found inadequate to attain the project objectives. The no change alternative would unnecessarily restrict hunter opportunity, would not accurately reflect the lead ammunition restriction recently enacted by the legislature, and may result in confusion when other regulatory sections reference the A zone.

- (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 the following 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 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 license tags available for the A, B, C, and D Zones. This regulatory proposal changes the number of tags for all existing zones 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.

Existing regulation inaccurately describe the A zone South Unit 110. This regulatory proposal includes portions of the counties of Madera, Merced, and Tulare in the area description.

Pursuant to its May 9, 2008 meeting in Monterey, the Fish and Game Commission adopted the above referenced changes and tag quotas as follows:

§ 360(a) A, B, C, and D Zone Hunts 2008 Recommended Tag Allocations (Modified Proposal)			
Zone	Current	Original Proposal	Modified Proposal
A	65,000	30,000-65,000	65,000
B	55,500	35,000-65,000	55,500
C	8,575	5,000-15,000	8,575
D3-5	33,000	30,000-40,000	33,000
D-6	10,000	6,000-16,000	10,000
D-7	9,000	4,000-10,000	9,000
D-8	8,000	5,000-10,000	8,000
D-9	2,000	1,000-2,500	2,000
D-10	700	400-800	700
D-11	5,500	2,500-6,000	5,500
D-12	950	100-1,500	950
D-13	4,000	2,000-5,000	4,000
D-14	3,000	2,000-3,500	3,000
D-15	1,500	500-2,000	1,500
D-16	3,000	1,000-3,500	3,000
D-17	500	100-800	500
D-19	1,500	500-2,000	1,500