I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: March 15, 2012

II. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:

(a) Notice Hearing: Date: March 7, 2012
    Location: Riverside, CA

(b) Discussion/Adoption Hearing: Date: May 23, 2012
    Location: Monterey, CA

III. Description of Regulatory Action:

(a) Statement of Specific Purpose of Regulation Change and Factual Basis for Determining that Regulation Change is Reasonably Necessary:

Current law (Section 102, Fish and Game Code) provides that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) has the authority to elect one of their number as President and one as Vice President.

Current regulations outline the procedures for election of President and Vice President of the Commission. The President shall be the most senior member and the Vice President shall be the next most senior member. Where the member declines to serve as President or Vice President, the next most senior member shall be elected to that office.

The current regulations establish succession provisions to elect the President and Vice President of the Commission. There were concerns raised about the continuity of election of officers as outlined in regulations in Section 660, Title 14, CCR, at the Commission’s February 2, 2012 meeting. The Commission is proposing to repeal these regulations to be able to hold an official election of Commission officers.

The proposed regulatory action will benefit the Commission with a more democratic process to elect its officers.
The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to the protection of public health and safety, worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.

(b) Authority and Reference Sections from Fish and Game Code for Regulation:

Authority: Section 102, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Section 102, Fish and Game Code.

(c) Specific Technology or Equipment Required by Regulatory Change: None.

(d) Identification of Reports or Documents Supporting Regulation Change:

Economic Impact Analysis

(e) Public Discussions of Proposed Regulations Prior to Notice Publication:

No public meetings are being held prior to the notice publication. The 45-day comment period provides adequate time for review of the proposed amendments.

IV. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

No other alternatives were identified.

(b) No Change Alternative:

The No Change Alternative would maintain the current language outlining the procedures for election of President and Vice President of the Commission.

(c) Consideration of Alternatives:

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

V. Mitigation Measures Required by Regulatory Action:

The proposed regulatory action will have no negative impact on the environment.
Therefore, no mitigation is necessary.

VI. 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. There are no economic or business impacts foreseen or associated with the proposed regulation change.

(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; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State’s Environment:

The Commission does not anticipate any impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new business, the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California.

The Commission does not anticipate any benefits to the health and welfare of California residents.

The Commission does not anticipate any non-monetary benefits to worker safety.

The Commission does not anticipate any benefits to the environment.

(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.
Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

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The proposed regulatory action will benefit the Commission with a more democratic process to elect its officers.

The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to the protection of public health and safety, worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.

The proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.