

**Economic Impact Assessment  
Amend Section 300, Title 14, CCR  
Re: Upland Game Birds**

The proposed regulatory action regarding upland game bird hunting regulations is not anticipated to substantially change the current volume of hunters, hunting activity and spending, resulting in little economic impact. The best available information on the economic contribution of hunting is presented in the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation for California, produced by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is the most recent survey completed. The report finds that all hunters contributed about \$964 million and small game hunters alone, contributed about \$142 million on hunting trip-related and equipment expenditures in California in 2011. The report is posted on the US Department of Commerce website at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/fhw11-ca.pdf>.

Effects of the regulation on the creation or elimination of jobs within the state

The result of the regulations on the creation or the elimination of jobs within the state will be neutral. Hunting benefits regions with good upland game bird populations, which typically include small businesses in rural communities employing few individuals. Minor variations in the bag limits as may be established in the regulations are, by themselves, unlikely to impact jobs.

Effects of the regulation on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state

The result of the regulations on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state will be neutral. In general, local businesses that benefit the most from hunting include: sporting goods stores (equipment, guns, ammunition, and clothing), department stores, gas stations, restaurants, grocery stores, motels, and campgrounds. Minor variations in the bag limits as may be established in the regulations are, by themselves, unlikely to stimulate the creation of new businesses or cause the elimination of existing businesses. The number of hunting trips and the economic contributions from them are expected to remain more or less the same.

Effects of the regulation on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state

The effects of the regulations on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state will be neutral. Adoption of scientifically-based upland game hunting season length, bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient upland game populations to ensure their continued existence and future upland game hunting opportunities.

### Benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents

Hunting is an outdoor activity that can provide several benefits for individuals who partake in it. Individual health benefits come from exercise and consumption of wild game. The fees that hunters pay for licenses and stamps are used for conservation. People who hunt have a special connection with the outdoors and an awareness of the relationships between wildlife, habitat, and humans. With that awareness comes an understanding of the role humans play in being caretakers of the environment. Hunting is a tradition that is often passed on from one generation to the next creating a special bond between family members and friends.

### Benefits of the regulation to worker safety

The regulations will not affect worker safety because they will not impact working conditions.

### Benefits of the regulation to the state's environment

It is the policy of this state to encourage the conservation, maintenance, and utilization of natural resources for the benefit of all the citizens of the state. The objectives of this policy include, but are not limited to, the maintenance of sufficient populations of upland game birds to ensure their continued existence and the maintenance of a sufficient resource to support recreational opportunity. Adoption of scientifically-based seasons, bag and possession limits provides for the maintenance of sufficient populations to ensure those objectives are met.