

Data Supplement to the California Fish and Game Commission

Regarding:

**Proposed 2016 Desert Bighorn Sheep Tag
Allocations**



April 2016

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Table 1. Data Supplement for desert bighorn sheep hunting tag recommendations.

	2015 Tag Quota	2015 Applicants /Tags	2015 Success Rate	Herd unit meets effective population size criteria	Population Size Class Estimate	2016 Proposed Tag Quota Range	2016 Proposed Tag Quota
Marble and Clipper Mountains	3	3119/3	100%	Yes	201-300	0-4	3
Kelso and Old Dad Peak*	0	-	-	Yes	100-150	0-4	1
Clark, Kingston and Mesquite Ranges	1	1002/1	100%	Yes	51-100	0-2	2
Orocopia Mountains	1	737/1	100%	Yes	51-100	0-2	1
San Gorgonio Wilderness	2	1620/2	100%	Yes	Survey not complete	0-3	2
Sheep Hole Mountains**	0	-	-	No	25 - 50	0-2	0
White Mountains	1	1284/1	0%	Yes	201-300	0-5	3
South Bristol Mountains	1	499/1	100%	Yes	51-100	0-3	1
Cady Mountains	2	1640/2	100%	Yes	51-100	0-4	4
Open Zone Fund-raising Tag	1	-	100%	-		0-1	1
Marble/Clipper/South Bristol Mountains Fund-raising Tag	0	-	-	-		0-1	0
Kelso Peak/Old Dad Mountains Fund-raising Tag	0	-	-	-		0-1	1

*In May 2013, pneumonia was detected in bighorn sheep in the Kelso Peak and Old Dad peak herd units. A decline in the population was suspected. The Department proposed and the FGC adopted a tag quota of 0 for the 15/16 hunt year. Population estimates have been updated following an aerial survey in September 2015. Current population estimates meet the criteria for an effective population size as identified in the herd unit management plan.

**In January 2014 a ground survey in the Sheep Hole Mountains did not observe any bighorn sheep. The Sheep Hole Mountains consists of extremely rugged terrain, limiting access and sightability. The Department proposed and the FGC adopted a tag quota of 0 for the 15/16 hunt year.