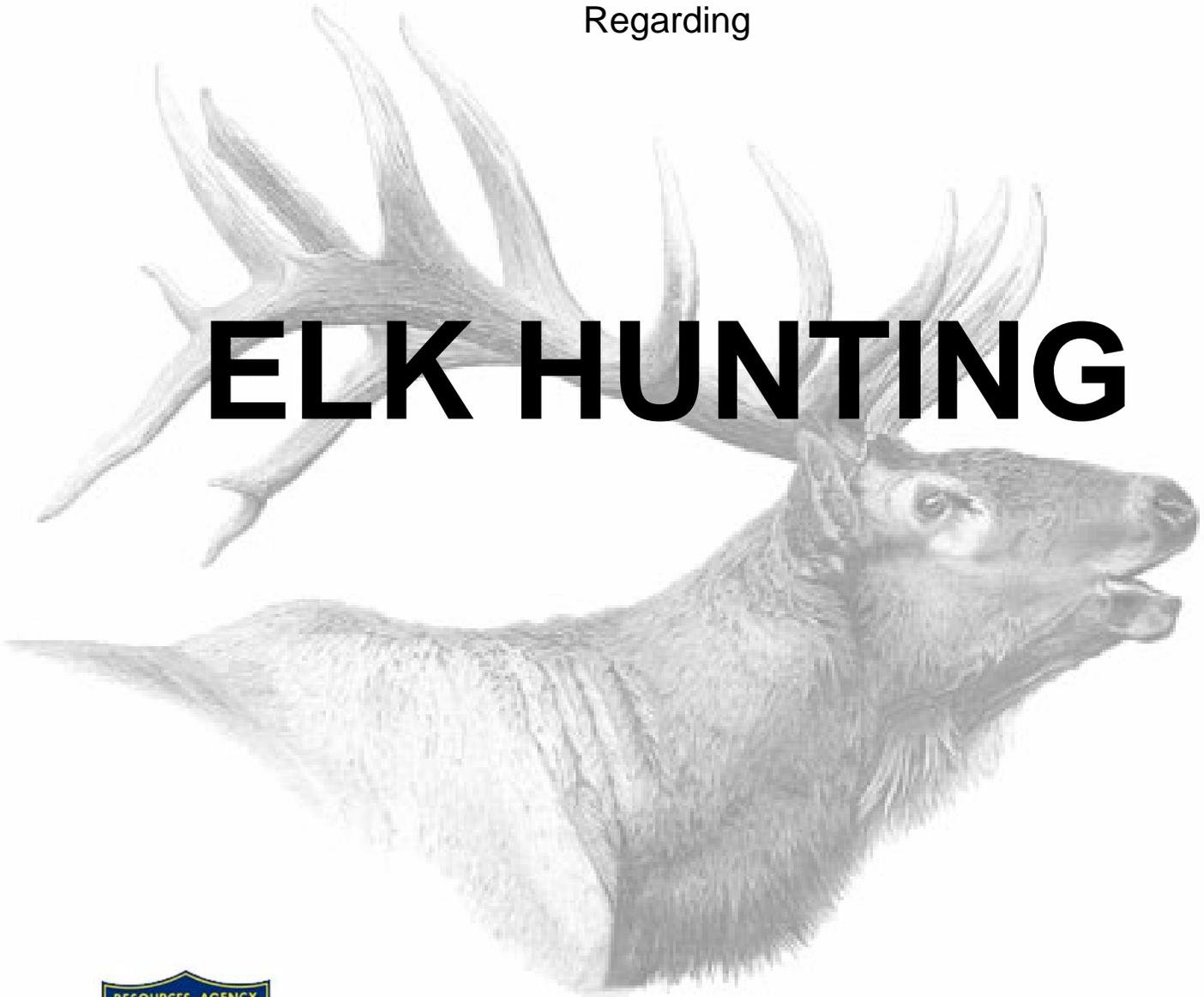


**DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

Section 364, 555, and 601
Title 14, California Code of Regulations

Regarding

ELK HUNTING



JANUARY 27, 2010

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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CHAPTER 1. SUMMARY

Existing law (Section 3950, Fish and Game Code) designates elk (genus *Cervus*) as a game mammal in California. Section 332, Fish and Game Code, provides that the Commission may fix the area or areas, seasons and hours, bag and possession limit, sex, and total number of elk that may be taken pursuant to its regulations. Section 203.1, Fish and Game Code, requires the Commission to consider populations, habitat, food supplies, the welfare of individual animals, and other pertinent facts when establishing hunting regulations for elk.

State law (Section 207 of the Fish and Game Code) requires the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) to review mammal hunting regulations and the Department of Fish and Game (Department) to present recommendations for changes to the mammal hunting regulations to the Commission at a public meeting. Mammal hunting regulations adopted by the Commission provide for hunting elk in specific areas of the State [Section 364, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR)].

The regulations also provided for up to 39 tags through the Cooperative Elk Hunting Program during 2009 (Section 555, Title 14, CCR), however only 26 tags were issued. Hunting for Rocky Mountain, Roosevelt, and tule elk also occurred under authority of the Private Lands Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Management (PLM) Area Program. During 2009 67 bull elk and 53 antlerless elk were harvested under the PLM program (Appendix 2).

In adopting regulations providing for limited public elk hunting, the Commission would be implementing sections 332 and 3951 of the Fish and Game Code, which is consistent with the wildlife conservation policy adopted by the Legislature (Section 1801, Fish and Game Code). The State's wildlife conservation policy, among other things, contains an objective of providing hunting opportunities when such use is consistent with maintaining healthy wildlife populations.

PROPOSED PROJECT AND ALTERNATIVES

The project discussed in this document (proposed project) involves elk hunting for 2010 (Section 332, Fish and Game Code). Specifically, the Department is proposing to adjust tag quota's, establish eight (8) new hunt zones, modify season dates, modify existing hunt boundaries, add hunts within existing zones (Marble Mountain and Fort Hunter Liggett), and modify existing hunts (Owens Valley, Independence, Lone Pine, Tinemaha, West Tinemaha, Siskiyou, Marble Mountain, Northeastern, and Big Lagoon). Because final hunter quotas cannot be established until harvest and survey results are completed and analyzed in late March, the Commission is provided with a range of proposed hunting tag quotas (Appendix 3). Upon completion of this analysis, the Department will determine and recommend to the Commission final hunting tag quotas.

The Department is also providing the Commission with a range of alternatives to the proposed project that could feasibly attain the basic objectives of the project. It is

anticipated that the proposed project will fall around the median of the proposed tag ranges. Alternative 1 (no change) would maintain quotas and seasons for each hunt zone without change. Alternative 2 (increased harvest) involves issuing tag quotas at 50% above the proposed project. Alternative 3 (reduced harvest) involves issuing approximately 50 % fewer elk license tags than the proposed project. Alternative 4 involves splitting the La Panza, Marble Mountain, and Northeastern zones into smaller zones (no change in overall tag allocation).

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

Table 1 summarizes Department findings that there are no significant long-term adverse impacts associated with the proposed project or any of the project alternatives considered for the 2010 elk hunting regulations.

Table 1. Impact Summary

Alternative	Significant Impact	Nature of Impact	Mitigation Available	Nature of Mitigation
(Proposed Project)	No	None	N/A	N/A
1. No Change	No	None	N/A	N/A
2. Increased Harvest (+50%)	No	Some population levels may be reduced	N/A	Eliminating hunting opportunity in future years
3. Reduced Harvest (-50%)	No	None	N/A	N/A
4. Zone Splitting	No	None	N/A	N/A

It is anticipated that the number of tags issued will fall around the median from the proposed ranges (Appendix 3). The resulting harvest for 2010 will likely be lower than the proposed tag median because hunter success has historically been less than 100 percent. Based on success rates from previous years, the Department expects that the actual harvest will range from 55-70 percent of the elk tag allocation for 2010 (1990-present, Department of Fish and Game data on file in the Resource Management and Policy Division, Wildlife Branch, Sacramento, California).

AREAS OF CONTROVERSY

A public scoping session regarding the preparation of environmental documents for hunting big game species was held on November 18, 2009 at Yolo Wildlife Area in Davis. No areas of controversy were identified.

ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

As provided by existing law, the Commission is the decision-making body (lead agency) considering the proposed project, while the Department has responsibility for management activities, such as hunting, translocating elk to suitable historic range, and preparing management plans. The primary issue for the Commission to resolve is whether to change elk hunting regulations as an element of elk management. If such changes are authorized, the Commission will specify the areas, seasons, methods of take, bag and possession limit, number of elk to be taken, and other appropriate special conditions.

FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALANCY

CEQA review of the proposed project will be conducted in accordance with the Commission's certified regulatory program (CRP) approved by the Secretary for the California Resources Agency pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5 (See generally Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 781.5, and 15251, subd. (b).). The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires all public agencies in the State to evaluate the environmental impacts of projects they approve, including regulations, which may have a potential to significantly affect the environment. The Department has prepared this Environmental Document (ED), which is the functional equivalent of an Environmental Impact Report, on behalf of the Commission in compliance with this requirement. The ED provides the Commission, other agencies, and the general public with an objective assessment of the potential effects.

CHAPTER 2. THE PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed project being considered consists of the following modifications to existing elk hunting regulations:

1. Number of Tags

In order to maintain hunting quality in accordance with management goals and objectives, it is periodically necessary to adjust quotas in response to dynamic environmental and biological conditions. This proposed project adjusts elk tag ranges to account for fluctuations in population numbers (Appendix 3).

Elk Pop (Smith and Updike 1987) is a microcomputer-based model which was developed by the Department for the purpose of analyzing harvest alternatives. Elk Pop was used to assess effects of the proposed project (and project alternatives) on the specific Roosevelt, Rocky Mountain, and tule elk herds where hunting is proposed. The model allows the user to vary carrying capacity to reflect real-world changes in habitat capability. Observed population age and sex ratios are primary input to the model. Elk Pop allows analysis of multiple harvest alternatives simultaneously and is easily adapted to most herd situations.

Elk Pop utilizes data on age and sex composition of the herd, maximum calf survival, estimated population numbers, nonhunting mortality, and hunting mortality. Age and sex composition and maximum calf survival figures used in the model are based on actual observed rates. Population level and nonhunting mortality rates were estimated. Estimates of nonhunting mortality rates were considered valid representations of actual nonhunting mortality rates when the model predicted the observed herd composition ratios for 10 consecutive years. Effects of various harvest scenarios were then predicted on the basis of observed composition ratios and estimated nonhunting mortality rates. The computer model runs for various harvest scenarios (proposed project and the alternatives) for each elk herd where hunting is proposed are on file in the Resource Management and Policy Division, Wildlife Branch, Sacramento, California.

2. Establish New Hunts:

a. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Mendocino County (Mendocino tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk are not available in Mendocino County. Tule elk became established in Mendocino County in 1981. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in portions of Mendocino County called Mendocino tule elk hunt. Bull tags (range 0 to 4) and antlerless tags (range 0-4) would be available to the public during a season beginning on Wednesday preceding the fourth Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days (Appendix 1 and 5).

b. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties (Bear Valley tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk in Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties are limited or nonexistent. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide additional opportunity for the public to hunt elk. Add a (new) hunt for elk in Colusa, Lake, and Yolo counties. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in portions of Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties called Bear Valley tule elk hunt. Bull (range 0 to 4) and antlerless (range 0-2) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the second Saturday in October and continue for 9 consecutive days. (Appendix 1 and 5).

c. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Lake County (Lake Pillsbury tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk in Lake County are limited. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide additional opportunity for the public to hunt elk. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in portions of Lake County called Lake Pillsbury tule elk hunt. Bull (range 0 to 4) and antlerless (range 0-4) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the second Wednesday in September and continue for 10 consecutive days (Appendix 1 and 5).

d. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Alameda and San Joaquin Counties (Alameda tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk in Alameda and San Joaquin are nonexistent. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide additional opportunity for the public to hunt elk. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in portions of Alameda and San Joaquin Counties called Alameda tule elk hunt. Bull (range 0 to 4) and antlerless (range 0-2) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days (Appendix 1 and 5).

e. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Merced, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties (Santa Clara tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk in Merced, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties are nonexistent or limited. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide additional opportunity for the public to hunt elk. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in portions of Merced, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties called Santa Clara tule elk hunt. Bull (range 0 to 4) and antlerless (range 0-2) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days (Appendix 1 and 5).

f. Establish new tule elk hunt in portions of Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties (San Emigdio Mountains tule elk hunt).

Public opportunities to hunt elk in Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties are nonexistent or limited. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide additional opportunity for the public to hunt elk. The proposal would add a (new) hunt for elk in Kern and Ventura Counties called San Emigdio Mountains tule elk hunt). Bull (range 0 to 2) and antlerless (0-2) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning on the second Saturday in November and continue for 14 consecutive days (Appendix 1 and 5).

g. Establish new tule elk hunt in the Owens Valley, Inyo County (Tinemaha Mountain tule elk hunt).

In conjunction with zone boundary modifications for the West Tinemaha tule elk zone a new zone (called Tinemaha Mountain) will be created by dividing the zone. A population of elk has been discovered utilizing higher elevation areas within the West Tinemaha zone. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide opportunity for the public to hunt elk. Creating a new hunt boundary (splitting the zone) allows the Department to more appropriately manage harvest. The proposal would add a new hunt (portion of existing West Tinemaha zone) in Inyo County. Bull (range 0-8) tags would be available to the public during the established seasons (Appendix 1 and 5).

h. Establish new tule elk hunt in the Owens Valley, Inyo County (Whitney).

In conjunction with zone boundary modifications for the Lone Pine tule elk zone a new zone (called Whitney tule elk hunt) will be created by dividing the zone. Sufficient numbers of elk occur within the proposed hunt boundary to provide opportunity for the public to hunt elk. Creating a new hunt boundary (splitting the zone along highway 395) allows the Department to more appropriately manage harvest. The proposal would add a new hunt (portion of existing Lone Pine zone) in Inyo County. Bull (range 0-8) and antlerless (0-8) tags would be available to the public during the established seasons (Appendix 1 and 5).

3. Modify Season Dates:

a. Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt.

The proposal modifies season dates for the Fort Hunter Liggett elk hunts. Due to military use constraints, hunt dates are subject to change from year to year. This is part of an effort to increase hunter opportunity and success (Appendix 1).

b. Northwestern Roosevelt Elk Hunt Fund Raising Tag.

The proposal modifies season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northwestern Roosevelt elk hunt zone. This change will modify the hunt dates for the fund raising tag to end the same day as the general season hunt (Appendix 1).

c. Northeastern Rocky Mountain Elk Fund Raising Tag.

The proposal modifies the season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt zone. This change will modify the hunt dates for the fund raising tag to end the same day as the general season hunt (Appendix 1).

4. Modify Existing Hunt Boundaries:

a. Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt Boundary.

Existing regulations specify boundaries for the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt. During the years that have elapsed since this hunt was established elk population numbers have increased and their range has expanded beyond existing hunt boundaries. The proposal to expand boundaries for the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt south to Highway 36 is necessary to improve hunter opportunity and is consistent with management objectives for elk in the area (Appendix 1 and 4).

b. Marble Mountain Roosevelt Elk Hunt Boundary.

Existing regulations specify boundaries for the Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt. During the years that have elapsed since this hunt was established elk population numbers have increased and their range has expanded beyond existing hunt boundaries. The proposal to expand boundaries for the Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt south to Highway 36 is necessary to improve hunter opportunity and is consistent with management objectives for elk in the area (Appendix 1 and 4).

c. Big Lagoon Roosevelt Elk Hunt Boundary.

Existing regulations specify boundaries for the Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt. The proposal to modify the boundary is necessary to reduce confusion between the boundaries of the Big Lagoon and the Northwestern elk hunt. This modification changes the boundary from the power line right of way to the power line road within the right of way of the Humboldt-Trinity 115 Line and Trinity-Maple Creek 60 Line (Appendix 1 and 4).

d. West Tinemaha Tule Elk Hunt Boundary.

Existing regulations specify boundaries for the West Tinemaha tule elk zone. The proposal modifies the boundary by dividing the zone into two separate zones. This will create a new zone called Tinemaha Mountain tule elk hunt. This will allow more precise allocation of tags to obtain the appropriate harvest between subgroups (Appendix 1 and 4).

e. Lone Pine Tule Elk Hunt Boundary.

Existing regulations specify boundaries for the Lone Pine tule elk zone. The proposal modifies the boundary by dividing the zone along Highway 395 into two separate zones.

This will create a new zone called Whitney tule elk hunt. This will allow more precise allocation of tags to obtain the appropriate harvest between subgroups (Appendix 1 and 4).

5. Add Hunts Within Existing Zones:

a. Marble Mountain Roosevelt Elk Hunt –Muzzleloader/Archery Hunt.

Establish a new hunt period for the Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt. There is demand for alternative weapon hunts for Roosevelt elk. Currently there are no muzzleloader or archery hunts for Roosevelt elk. The proposal establishes a late season hunt for a combination archery and muzzleloader. Either-sex (range 0 to 10) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the last Saturday in October and continue for 9 consecutive days (Appendix 1).

b. Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt – Muzzleloader Hunt.

Establish new hunts for Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk. There is demand for alternative weapon hunts for tule elk. Currently the Owens Valley is the only area that has muzzleloader hunts for tule elk. The proposal establishes a new hunt for muzzleloader only. Bull (range 0-6) tags would be available to the public during a season beginning the first Saturday in November and continuing for 9 consecutive days (Appendix 1).

c. Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt – Early Season Bull Hunt.

Establish new military hunt for Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk. The proposal establishes a new hunt for bull tule elk. Bull tags (range 0-2) would be available for military use during a season beginning the second Tuesday in September and continuing for 6 consecutive days (Appendix 1).

6. Modifications to Existing Hunts.

a. Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only Tule Elk Hunt.

Existing regulations permit the Owens Valley region wide archery tags to be utilized in all of the Owens Valley zones. Due to the non uniform distribution of elk within zones and vulnerability of certain groups of elk the proposal would specify which zones the tags could be utilized to better manage harvest within zones. The proposal would change the name of the Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only hunt to the Owens Valley Multiple-Zone Archery Only hunt. The tag would authorize harvest of elk in the Bishop, Independence, Lone Pine, Tinemaha Mountain, and Whitney zones. Existing regulations for these tags authorize the harvest of either-sex elk. In an effort to better manage harvest and provide more hunter opportunity the proposal would convert the new Owens Valley multiple-zone archery tags from either-sex to bull and antlerless tags (Appendix 1 and 4).

b. Lone Pine and Independence Archery and Muzzleloader Tule Elk Hunts.

Existing regulations specify methods of take for each hunt period in the Owens Valley. Success rates for the period one archery hunt in the Independence zone are low. The Department believes archery success rates would be higher in the Lone Pine zone due to habitat and topography. In an effort to better manage harvest and hunter success the proposal modifies the period one hunt in the Independence zone from archery to muzzleloader and the period one hunt in the Lone Pine zone from muzzleloader to archery (Appendix 1).

c. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha Tule Elk Hunts.

Previously authorized tags for the Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones have been valid in both zones. In an effort to better manage harvest within zones the proposal would issue tags independently for each zone (Appendix 1).

d. Siskiyou Roosevelt Elk Hunt.

Currently the Siskiyou Roosevelt elk hunt authorizes either-sex and antlerless tags. In an effort to better manage harvest the proposal would convert the Siskiyou Roosevelt elk tags from either-sex to bull (range 0-30) (Appendix 1).

e. Marble Mountain Roosevelt Elk Hunt.

Currently the Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt authorizes either-sex general tags. In an effort to better manage harvest and allow more opportunity to hunters the proposal would convert general either-sex tags to bull (range 0 -70) and antlerless (range 0-30) tags (Appendix 1).

f. Northeastern Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt.

Currently the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt authorizes either-sex general tags. In an effort to better manage harvest and allow more opportunity to hunters the proposal would convert general either-sex tags to bull (range 0-30) and antlerless (range 0-10) tags (Appendix 1).

g. Big Lagoon Roosevelt Elk Hunt.

Currently the Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt authorizes either-sex general tags. In an effort to better manage harvest and allow more opportunity to hunters the proposal would convert general either-sex tags to bull (range 0-10) and antlerless (range 0-10) tags (Appendix 1).

The Department is recommending that the Commission adopt regulations that will provide for limited public hunting of Roosevelt, Rocky Mountain, and tule elk in 26 areas of the State. The department is recommending tag allocations within the ranges listed in Appendix 3 for each hunt area with the following seasons: Archery only, muzzleloader only, general, apprentice, archery/muzzleloader only, and fund raising hunts. Based on historic quotas from the past 5 years, the department expects that the tag quota for 2010 will fall within the median of the listed ranges. Three of the bull tule elk license tags shall be made available for fund-raising purposes, as authorized

pursuant to subsection 332(d), Fish and Game Code. These tags will be sold pursuant to a regulation adopted by the Commission. In addition, up to 45 Cooperative Elk Hunting tags would be available, and not more than 100 antlerless and 139 bull tags would be recommended under the PLM Program for hunting Roosevelt elk in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, Rocky Mountain elk in Modoc, Shasta and Kern counties and tule elk from the Cache Creek, Fremont Peak, Grizzly Island, Mount Hamilton, and La Panza herds as well as within the Mendocino Tule Elk Management Unit and portions of Monterey and San Benito counties.

The proposed project modifies current elk hunting regulations. Hunting under authority of the PLM Program would continue. PLM hunting would occur for Rocky Mountain elk herds in northeastern California and Kern County, and for tule elk in the La Panza, Cache Creek, southern San Benito, Fremont Peak, Grizzly Island and Mount Hamilton herds. PLM hunting for tule elk also may occur in central Monterey County and within the Mendocino Tule Elk Management Unit. PLM hunting would occur for Roosevelt elk in northwestern California. An element of the proposed project includes continuing the Cooperative Elk Hunting Program (Section 555), which provides a limited number of elk license tags for hunting.

One element of the proposed project provides archery only elk hunt periods at specified locations. The proposed project provides archery only tags each for the Northeastern California Rocky Mountain elk hunt and the Owens Valley tule elk hunt. The project provides additional archery only tags for Fort Hunter Liggett. Hunt periods exclusively for archers are designated at each location.

Another element of the proposed project provides muzzleloader only elk hunt periods at specified locations. The proposed project provides muzzleloader only tags for Fort Hunter Liggett and the Owens Valleys Lone Pine and Bishop Tule Elk hunts.

An additional element of the proposed project provides archery/muzzleloader only hunt period at a specified location. The proposed project provides combination archery and muzzleloader only tags for the Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt during a proposed late season hunt.

BACKGROUND AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

THE MANAGEMENT OF ELK IN CALIFORNIA

There are three subspecies of elk in California: Roosevelt, Rocky Mountain, and tule elk. Roosevelt and tule elk are native to California. Roosevelt elk occupied the Cascade and Coast mountain ranges as far south as San Francisco (Harper et al. 1967), and eastward at least to Mount Shasta (Murie 1951). Tule elk were distributed throughout the Central, Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys and the grasslands and woodlands of central California's Coast Range (McCullough 1969).

The status of Rocky Mountain elk in California upon the arrival of Europeans to North

America remains unclear. Upon examining museum specimens of skulls and antlers collected from northeastern California, McCullough (1969) reported characteristics similar to those of Rocky Mountain elk. However, Murie (1951) and Bryant and Maser (1982) suggested that the Great Basin, combined with the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges, served as a western barrier to the natural movement of Rocky Mountain elk. Thus there appears to be disagreement regarding their subspecific status, but both Murie (1951) and McCullough (1969) included portions of Shasta, Siskiyou and Modoc counties in northeastern California within the historical range of elk. Further study of the historical and current subspecific status of elk in northeastern California is an academic quest made challenging by the translocation of Rocky Mountain elk to the Pit River area in the early 1900s.

Because of their large body size and the availability of smaller prey, it is unlikely that Native Americans had a significant impact on elk populations in California. Early explorers also had little direct impact on elk populations. Apparently they preferred domestic livestock to elk (McCullough 1969). However, these early explorers were responsible for the introduction of exotic annual grasses and domestic livestock, both of which had long-term, deleterious impacts on California's elk populations. Livestock competed directly with elk for forage and contributed to the conversion of the native perennial grasslands to annual grasslands, which resulted in the loss of important forage plants used by elk during the summer and fall months.

Historical Perspective of Roosevelt Elk Management

Although once widely distributed throughout northern California, by the late 1800s, Roosevelt elk were extirpated throughout much of their historic California range. Barnes (1925a, 1925b) reported that by 1925, Roosevelt elk range in California was reduced to one small area in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Mining, logging, agriculture, and market shooting were factors that contributed to the decimation of Roosevelt elk in much of California. Because of their large body size and herding behavior, elk were vulnerable to market shooting. Harper et al. (1967) discussed the historical distribution of Roosevelt elk in California and reported that by 1967 the population was increasing in size and in no danger of extinction.

Based on the current distribution of Roosevelt elk in California (Appendix 6), population growth and range expansion has continued since 1967. Public ownership (USFS and BLM) of large tracts of Roosevelt elk habitat and the associated Congressional mandates and directions to provide for and maintain wildlife habitats have resulted in significant Roosevelt elk population increases during the 20th century. Roosevelt elk herds in California are now healthy and viable. Populations of Roosevelt elk currently exist in the coastal areas of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties, in addition to the Cascade and Klamath mountain ranges in Siskiyou and Trinity counties. Some of these populations were established when the Department (in cooperation with other State and Federal agencies) relocated elk to suitable historic range. Other populations were established when elk moved into California from Oregon. Additionally, new populations have become established through the dispersal of elk from existing

populations to adjacent suitable areas. The Department currently estimates the statewide Roosevelt elk population at approximately 4,500 individuals. This estimate is based on field studies in which elk were captured, marked, released, and subsequently monitored. Based on professional judgment and experience obtained in studying elk throughout California, the Department has determined that this estimate of total population size is reasonable.

During recent years, the Department has worked in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, USFS, and BLM, to relocate Roosevelt elk to suitable unoccupied historic range. Capturing Roosevelt elk for relocation has been difficult, due to the dense vegetation used by Roosevelt elk and their generally smaller group size.

Tule elk generally exist in open habitat types and can be captured in large numbers (40 or more at a time) by herding them into large corral type traps with the aid of a helicopter. On the other hand, Roosevelt elk use forested habitat types, where they are often impossible to see from a helicopter because of the dense forest canopy. For this reason, helicopter-assisted capturing of Roosevelt elk is generally not effective in California. Nevertheless, successful Roosevelt elk translocations have occurred when large groups have been captured in Redwood National Park or on winter range in Oregon. Since 1985, the Department has translocated more than 280 Roosevelt elk to reestablish populations in portions of southern Humboldt, Mendocino, Siskiyou, and Trinity counties.

Historical Perspective of Rocky Mountain Elk Management

As discussed previously, it is unclear whether Rocky Mountain Elk occupied California when Europeans arrived in North America. There are currently four populations of Rocky Mountain elk in the State (Appendix 6), totaling approximately 1,500-2,000 animals. This estimate was developed using procedures similar to those used to estimate Roosevelt elk numbers.

One population of elk has recently become established in the Warner Mountains in Modoc County. This population was established by natural immigration of elk from southeastern Oregon and/or northern California. Two populations of Rocky Mountain elk exist in the southern part of the State. One population in southwestern Monterey and northwestern San Luis Obispo counties occurs on the Los Padres National Forest and the surrounding private lands. Another Rocky Mountain elk population exists in southern Kern County. Based on periodic ground and aerial surveys conducted by the Department, there are approximately 300-400 elk in these two southern populations, which were established through translocation efforts. The population of Rocky Mountain elk proposed for regulated public hunting is scattered throughout portions of Lassen, Modoc, Shasta and Siskiyou counties. A portion of this population was established in 1913 by the Redding Elks Club. Fifty elk were loaded on boxcars in Gardiner, Montana (near Yellowstone National Park), and released at the Bully Hill Mine in Shasta County. During subsequent years, animals dispersed from the release site (and from other locations in southeastern Oregon) to scattered locations throughout

northeastern California.

Historical Perspective of Tule Elk Management

Although smaller than Roosevelt elk, the tule elk is one of the largest land mammals endemic to California. Tule elk likely evolved from Rocky Mountain elk in California during the Pleistocene (McCullough 1969). Tule elk made a lasting impression on the first Europeans to arrive in California. Accounts in journals and diaries of these early explorers indicate that approximately 500,000 tule elk inhabited much of the oak-woodland and oak-grassland habitat types in the State (McCullough 1969). Appendix 7 depicts historic tule elk range.

The discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in 1848 brought about the greatest impact on the tule elk population, both in terms of immediate reduction of total elk numbers and permanent loss of habitat. The large influx of people into California during the gold rush era resulted in tremendous pressures placed on the State's wildlife resources. People needed clothing and food, which could be obtained from elk. Market hunters soon eliminated tule elk from large accessible areas of their range. The elk's large size, coupled with their social behavior (herding), increased their vulnerability to market shooting (McCullough 1969). However, more important than market hunting, competition with livestock, or the conversion of perennial grasslands to annual grasslands, was the conversion of large amounts of tule elk habitat to agricultural land uses. By the late 1860s, tule elk were extirpated from all but one small locale in the southern San Joaquin Valley (McCullough 1969).

In 1874, while draining a marsh on the Miller-Lux Cattle Ranch in what is now Kern County, workers observed a small group of tule elk. Henry Miller, an extremely wealthy and powerful landowner, ordered complete protection of tule elk on his land. This was to be the first in a series of cases where, under complete protection, tule elk numbers and distribution expanded, resulting in considerable damage to private property (Fowler 1985).

By the turn of the century, the elk on the Miller-Lux Ranch were causing extensive damage to fences, crops, and irrigated pasture. Miller requested the elk be relocated in an effort to reduce his damages. Over the next few years, the U.S. Biological Survey attempted to relocate tule elk via the "rodeo technique" (ropes and horseback). This technique did not provide positive results. In fact, the majority of the elk were killed during capture attempts or during transport to the release sites. A single relocation was considered partially successful when 21 elk were relocated to the Sequoia National Park. However, they died out by 1926 (McCullough 1969).

McCullough (1969) stated that by 1914 tule elk were causing \$5,000-\$10,000 damage per year on the Miller-Lux Ranch. At this time, the California Academy of Science took over the tule elk relocation effort. The Academy was much more successful in capturing tule elk because they baited elk into a corral trap instead of attempting to capture them from horseback. During the period from 1914 to 1934, the Academy relocated 235 tule

elk to 22 different locations, including Cache Creek and the Owens Valley. As was the case with the earlier relocation attempts by the U.S. Biological Survey, the majority of the relocation projects were unsuccessful.

Tule elk at Cache Creek were allowed to expand their range and, until the summer of 1986, did not cause significant damage to private property. At the Tupman Tule Elk Reserve, elk were confined to a 953-acre enclosure, no mechanisms for population control were used, and the herd expanded to a point where the habitat was essentially destroyed and artificial feeding was necessary. This situation was greatly improved as a result of reducing the population by moving tule elk to other sites. In addition, the California Department of Parks and Recreation has undertaken numerous habitat improvement projects. In an effort to reduce damage to the improved habitat, the Department of Fish and Game has held the herd size at 30-35 individuals by periodically relocating surplus elk.

In the Owens Valley, the Miller-Lux story repeated itself. Under total protection, elk numbers in the Valley increased rapidly, and local farmers and ranchers soon were experiencing serious depredation problems, including damage to fences, irrigation equipment, and alfalfa. In 1943, the Department attempted to provide depredation relief by recommending public hunting of tule elk in the Valley. From 1943 through 1969, the Commission approved a total of seven elk hunts. These hunts were not well received by farmers, who wanted all the elk removed, or animal preservationists, who objected to the rather drastic herd reductions.

By 1960, concern by tule elk preservationists resulted in the formation of the Committee for the Preservation of Tule Elk. The Committee and other interested groups opposed hunting of tule elk. After the adoption of the 1969 tule elk hunt by the Commission, the Committee for the Preservation of Tule Elk sought legislation to prohibit hunting of tule elk. In 1971, specific legislation (commonly referred to as the Behr Bill) was enacted into law. This law restricted the Commission's authority to authorize the take of tule elk until their statewide numbers exceeded 2,000 or until the Legislature determined that there were insufficient areas available to accommodate such a number in a healthy state. It also required the Department to relocate elk to suitable areas and to report to the Legislature every two years on the status of the State's tule elk herds. Additionally, the legislation stated the Owens Valley elk population should not exceed 490 individuals.

Tule Elk Management (1971 through Present)

In 1971, Section 332, Fish and Game Code, was amended to prohibit the Commission from authorizing the take of tule elk until the statewide population estimate exceeded 2,000 animals (Koch 1989). At that time, approximately 500 tule elk inhabited California. In 1971, upon amendment of Section 332, and addition of Section 3951, Fish and Game Code, the Department was required to identify suitable relocation sites for a species which was known to wander great distances (over and through fences) and for its potential to damage agricultural crops. There were very few individuals or

government agencies with suitable tule elk habitat which offered their lands for a tule elk relocation.

In 1976, the United States Congress passed Public Law (PL) 94-389, which concurred with the amended California law in recognizing that the establishment of tule elk populations totaling 2,000 animals was an appropriate national goal and in setting the ceiling of 490 tule elk for the Owens Valley. More important, however, PL 94-389 required the secretaries of Defense, Agriculture, and the Interior to cooperate with the State in making suitable Federal lands reasonably available for tule elk. Additionally, in 1977, the Secretary of the Interior recommended to Congress that an Interagency Task Force be established to carry out the provisions of Federal and State legislation. At the direction of Congress, the Tule Elk Interagency Task Force was established in 1977.

The Management Plan for the Conservation of Tule Elk was completed by the Task Force in 1977 and revised in 1985. In the plan, the Task Force provided specific criteria to be met for an area to be considered a suitable tule elk release site. These criteria are based on sound biological principles, and take into account land-use practices and the laws and regulations of the State (Appendix 8).

Since its preparation, the Management Plan for the Conservation of Tule Elk has served as the foundation for the Department's tule elk management activities. Total protection after 1971, coupled with an aggressive reintroduction program in which over 1,170 tule elk have been moved to new areas of the State, resulted in a dramatic increase in the statewide tule elk population.

However, as in the past, this increase in elk numbers and occupied range has resulted in a situation where at least 12 of the State's tule elk herds have caused or are continuing to cause damage to private property. In response to the increasing level of tule elk damage to property occurring in the State, Assemblyman Hauser introduced legislation (AB 998) in 1987 which amended sections 332 and 3951, Fish and Game Code. Assembly Bill 998 was approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 27, 1987. As amended, Section 332 of the Fish and Game Code allows the Commission to authorize tule elk hunting if the average of the Department's statewide tule elk population estimate exceeds 2,000 animals. Section 3951 specified that the maximum number of tule elk in the Owens Valley should not exceed 490 individuals, and directed the Department to relocate tule elk to suitable areas within the State and report to the Legislature every two years on their status in California (the last report to the Legislature was submitted in October, 2000 and legislation in 2001 eliminated the reporting requirement). The statute also requires that, where economic or environmental damage occurs, emphasis shall be placed on managing each tule elk herd at biologically sound levels through the use of relocation, hunting, or other appropriate means determined by the Department.

Section 3951, Fish and Game Code, also requires the Department to prepare management plans for "high priority areas, including, but not limited to Potter Valley and Mendocino County..." The Legislature only defined Potter Valley and Mendocino

County as high-priority areas and left the responsibility of determining other high-priority areas to the Department. In addition to Potter Valley and Mendocino County, the Department identified Grizzly Island, La Panza, Cache Creek, Lone Pine, Tinemaha, and Bishop as other high-priority areas. Management plans for these and eight other areas have been completed and approved by the Department.

In 1987, the statewide tule elk population exceeded 2,000 animals and the Commission established regulations under which a limited number of tule elk would be hunted in 1988 (Fish and Game Commission, Statement of Purpose for Regulatory Action, January 11, 1988). However, in September 1988, a citizens group obtained a court order preventing implementation of the regulations, based primarily on a finding that the Commission's decision did not comply with CEQA. In 1989, the Department prepared an environmental document regarding tule elk hunting, which was circulated for review as provided for by CEQA. The Commission certified the environmental document and adopted regulations providing for the take of up to 95 tule elk from specific areas in the State (the Bishop and Lone Pine subherds and a portion of the herd at Cache Creek). Eighty-four elk were taken by hunters during the 1989 tule elk hunting season.

Annually since 1989, the Department has prepared the appropriate environmental documentation to continue to provide for public hunting of tule elk from specific populations. In 1990, Assemblyman Hauser introduced legislation which was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor (AB 2848), amending Section 332, Fish and Game Code, to allow the Commission to authorize issuance of up to three elk tags for fund-raising purposes. All revenue generated by the "fund-raising" tags is to be used for elk management in California. Since 1990, the Commission has authorized public tule elk hunting at additional locations, including Grizzly Island, Fort Hunter Liggett, within the La Panza Tule Elk Management Unit and within the Independence and Tinemaha zones of the Owens Valley.

The dramatic increase in numbers and distribution has provided a substantial increase in opportunities for viewing, photographing, and natural history study of tule elk. Currently (January 2010), there are at least 3,900 tule elk in 22 separate herds throughout California (Appendix 6). Four herds (San Luis, Tupman, Point Reyes, and Grizzly Island) have formal interpretive programs where the public has the opportunity to view, photograph, and observe the natural history of tule elk with assistance provided by experienced State, Federal, or volunteer staff. A tule elk viewpoint along a major highway has been established for the Tinemaha subherd. There the public can view, photograph, and study the behavior of tule elk.

Additionally, major land acquisitions by the Department, The Nature Conservancy, and BLM in the La Panza Tule Elk Management Unit in San Luis Obispo County and in the Cache Creek Tule Elk Management Unit (Colusa, Lake, and Yolo counties) provide increased access to areas used by elk. The management plan for the La Panza Tule Elk Management Unit contains a specific element for developing formal interpretive programs. In addition to the herds which have established interpretive programs, approximately one-half of the State's tule elk exist on public lands where the public has

opportunities to observe and photograph tule elk.

Existing conditions regarding elk hunting

Regulated public hunting for Roosevelt elk has occurred annually in California since 1986, whereas annual hunting for Rocky Mountain began in 1987. Public tule elk hunting has been authorized by the Commission annually since 1989. Although additional public hunts for Roosevelt, Rocky Mountain and tule elk have been established subsequent to 1986, annual elk hunting has been part of the existing conditions in California for the last 23 years. Appendix 11 lists the verbatim for the current condition of elk hunting in California.

PLM Hunts

The PLM Program was authorized by the Legislature to protect and improve wildlife habitat by encouraging private landowners to manage their property to benefit fish and wildlife. Economic incentives are provided to landowners through biologically sound yet flexible seasons for game species, resulting in high-quality hunting opportunities which may be marketed by the landowner in the form of fee hunting and other forms of recreation. Section 601, Title 14, CCR, contains regulations adopted by the Commission pertaining to the program, and sections 3400-3409, Fish and Game Code, contain the subject statutes.

Landowners have the right to charge access fees for hunting, fishing, and other recreation on their property. The Department carefully reviews each plan to ensure that required habitat improvement efforts benefit many species of wildlife and that harvest strategies comply with accepted goals and objectives for management of the game species involved. The PLM Program further allows the Commission to authorize hunting and fishing seasons and bag limits specific to licensed PLM areas pursuant to approved management plans.

The PLM Program currently is an element of the Department's elk management program. During 2009, three landowners offered opportunities to hunt Rocky Mountain elk, 30 landowners offered opportunities to hunt tule elk, and one landowner offered opportunities to hunt Roosevelt elk through the PLM Program. One additional landowner has enrolled in the program and will hunt Roosevelt elk in 2010.

During 2009 PLM hunts for elk occurred at the following ranches: Alexander Ranch, Avenales Ranch, Bardin Ranch, Black Ranch, Carnaza Wildlife Management Area, Camp 5 Outfitters, Cedar Canyon, Connolly Ranch, Clark and White Ranch, Clouds Warner Mountain, DeFrancesco and Eaton, Eden Valley Ranch, Eng Ranch, Gabilan Ranch, Hartnell Ranch, Isabel Valley Ranch, Lewis Ranch, Lone Ranch, Mallison Ranch, Pintail Ranch, Potter Valley Wildlife Management Area, Rancho La Cuesta, Rooster Comb Ranch, R-R Ranch, Shamrock Ranch, Slick Rack Ranch, Spring Valley Ranch, Stover Ranch, Summer Camp Ranch, Sweetwater Ranch, Tejon Ranch, Temblor Wildlife Management Area, TG & C Carissa, Trincherio Ranch, and the Work

Ranch. During 2010, the Department does not expect major changes to the PLM participants identified in Appendix 2.

Cooperative Elk Hunting Area hunts (Section 555, Title 14, CCR).

The regulations also provided for up to 39 tags through the Cooperative Elk Hunting Program during 2009 (Section 555, Title 14, CCR), however only 26 tags were issued.

To encourage protection and enhancement of elk habitat and provide eligible landowners an opportunity for limited elk hunting on their lands, the department may establish cooperative elk hunting areas and issue license tags to allow the take of elk as specified in Section 364, and subject to the following conditions:

(a) Definition and Scope. A cooperative elk hunting area is an area of private land located within the boundary of an area open to public elk hunting (as identified in Section 364). Minimum size of a cooperative elk hunting area shall be 5,000 acres, except that contiguous parcels of at least 640 acres in size may be combined to comprise a cooperative elk hunting area. Within an area open to public elk hunting, the number of cooperative elk hunting license tags issued shall not exceed 20 percent of the number of public license tags for the corresponding public hunt and shall be of the same designation (i.e., antlerless, spike bull, bull or either-sex) as the public license tags. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of cooperative elk hunting license tags available, the department will issue license tags by random drawing from the pool of qualified applicants.

(b) Application Process. Application forms are available from the department's headquarters and regional offices. A person (as defined by Fish and Game Code Section 67) owning at least 640 acres within a cooperative elk hunting area shall be eligible to apply for a cooperative elk hunting area permit. Applicants shall designate one individual eligible to receive one elk license tag by the date indicated under subsection (3) below. Such individuals shall be California residents at least 12 years of age and possess a valid California hunting license. A person may annually submit a cooperative elk hunting area application where they own sufficient habitat as described in subsection (a) above, for each public hunt area in which their property occurs.

(1) Applications shall be submitted to the department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area.

(2) Completed applications must be received by the first business day following July 1. Only those applications that are filled out completely will be accepted. The Department will evaluate applications to determine if the specified parcels are of sufficient size within the boundary of a public elk hunt area, and contain important elk habitat. Rejected applications and those that are incomplete will be returned within 15 days of receipt by the department. If the number of accepted applications exceeds the license tags available, the department will determine successful applicants and a list of alternates by conducting a random drawing from the pool of qualified applicants as soon as possible after the application deadline.

(3) Successful applicants will be notified by the department as soon as possible after the application deadline. Applicants shall submit the name, address, and valid California hunting license number of designated elk license tag recipients and payment of elk license tag fees by check, money order, or credit card authorization in the amount specified by subsection 708(d), to the department's regional office nearest the proposed cooperative elk hunting area, by the first business day following August 1.

(c) An elk license tag issued pursuant to the provisions of this section is valid only during the general elk season in which the cooperative elk hunting area occurs and shall only be used on land specified in the landowner's application. License tags are not transferable.

(d) All provisions of the Fish and Game Code and Title 14, CCR, relating to the take of birds and mammals shall be conditions of all license tags issued pursuant to this section.

(e) Any permit issued pursuant to Section 555 may be canceled or suspended at any time by the commission for cause after notice and opportunity to be heard, or without a hearing upon conviction of a violation of this regulation by a court of competent jurisdiction.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The Legislature formulates laws and policies regulating the management of fish and wildlife in California. The general wildlife conservation policy of the State is to encourage the conservation and maintenance of wildlife resources under the jurisdiction and influence of the State (Section 1801, Fish and Game Code). The policy includes several objectives, as follows:

1. To provide for the beneficial use and enjoyment of wildlife by all citizens of the State;
2. To perpetuate all species of wildlife for their intrinsic and ecological values, as well as for their direct benefits to man;
3. To provide for aesthetic, educational, and non-appropriative uses of the various wildlife species;
4. To maintain diversified recreational uses of wildlife, including hunting, as proper uses of certain designated species of wildlife, subject to regulations consistent with the maintenance of healthy, viable wildlife resources, the public safety, and a quality outdoor experience;
5. To provide for economic contributions to the citizens of the State through the recognition that wildlife is a renewable resource of the land by which economic return can accrue to the citizens of the State, individually and collectively, through regulated management. Such management shall be consistent with the maintenance of healthy and thriving wildlife resources and the public ownership status of the wildlife resource;
6. To alleviate economic losses or public health and safety problems caused by

- wildlife; and
7. To maintain sufficient populations of all species of wildlife and the habitat necessary to achieve the above-stated objectives.

With respect to tule elk, the Legislature has established the State's policy regarding management in sections 332, 3951 and 3952, Fish and Game Code. Section 332 provides that the Commission may determine and fix the area or areas, the season and hours, the bag and possession limit, procedures for making elk hunting tags available (including fund-raising tags), and the number of elk that may be taken under the rules and regulations of the Commission. This law also provides that the Commission may authorize the take of tule elk if the average of the Department's statewide tule elk population estimate exceeds 2,000 animals or the Legislature determines, pursuant to reports provided by the Department, that suitable areas cannot be found in California to accommodate such a number in a healthy condition. In addition to providing the Commission with the authority to authorize the take of tule elk pursuant to Section 332, Section 3951 requires that when relocating tule elk to suitable areas the Department shall cooperate to the maximum extent possible with Federal and local agencies, as well as private landowners. Sections 3951 and 3952 require that, when economic or environmental damage occurs, the Department shall manage tule elk herds at sound biological levels through the use of relocation, hunting, or other appropriate means, as determined by the Department. Section 3951 establishes a maximum tule elk population level of 490 animals in the Owens Valley.

The Department has concluded that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. No mitigation measures or alternatives to the proposed project are needed.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate changes caused by increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases are expected to result in marked changes in climate throughout the world (deVos, J.C. and T. McKinney, 2007). Although many wildlife habitats in North America have become progressively warmer and drier in the last 12,000 years, the greatest rate of change has occurred during the last 150 years (Fredrickson et al. 1998). Predicted changes due to continued warming include increased frequency and severity of wildfires, increased frequency of extreme weather events, regional variation in precipitation, northward and upward shifts in vegetative communities, and replacements of biotic communities. These changes are expected to affect abundance, distribution, and structure of animal and vegetative communities.

Local and specific regional changes in climate and associated changes in vegetative communities will be the determining factors regarding the distribution and abundance of elk in California. Although research specific to elk responses to climate change is limited, what information does exist indicates that both adverse and beneficial effects - depending on a variety of local/regional factors such as latitude, elevation, topography, and aspect – can be expected to result. For example, in the Rocky Mountain National

Park where snow accumulation currently limits elk winter range, computer simulations suggest a reduction in future snow accumulations of up to 25-40%. An expansion of winter range would serve to increase over-winter survival and recruitment of juveniles into the adult population, leading to an increase of the overall elk population in that area (Hobbs et al. 2006). Conversely, research in Banff National Park, Canada indicates climate change will result in colder winter temperatures, increased snowfall, and a higher frequency of winter storms (Hebblewhite, 2005). These factors would result in a decrease in over-winter survival and recruitment, leading to an overall reduction of the elk population for that area.

Elk hunting in California is regulated by the State Fish and Game Commission. Hunting seasons and tag quotas are proposed to the Commission for adoption on an annual basis. These seasons and quotas are based on annual population and harvest data, annual population model results, and area-specific population/harvest objectives. Although the impact of climate change on California's elk population is difficult to predict and warrants continued study, the Department and the Commission have the ability to quickly respond to population fluctuations (positive or negative) by increasing or decreasing hunter opportunity in accordance with current and future management objectives for this species. However, reducing one mortality factor (sport hunting) will not alone mitigate for impacts associated with global climate change; the ability to manage and provide adequate amounts of required habitats is the ultimate deciding factor in wildlife populations.

POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

The potential for significant effects include impacts on the gene pool, impacts on social structure, effects on habitat, effects on recreational opportunities, effects on other wildlife species, effects on economics, effects on public safety, growth inducing impacts, short-term uses and long term productivity, significant irreversible environmental changes, welfare to the individual animal, and cumulative impacts. The results of these effects can be referenced in the 2004 Environmental Document for Elk Hunting in California. No significant effects were found.

Elk hunting will result in the death of individual animals. The removal of individual animals from selected herds which are relatively large and healthy will not significantly reduce herd size on a long-term basis. Production and survival of young animals within each herd will replace the animals removed by hunting (Fowler 1985, Racine et al. 1988). Since public elk hunting will affect no more than 20 of the State's elk herds under the proposed project and all alternatives considered, removal of individuals will have little influence on the statewide elk population. The herds where hunting is proposed are geographically separated and widely distributed. The proposed project will result in maintaining the statewide tule elk population well above the legislative limit of 2,000 elk. Therefore, the proposed action of removing no more than approximately 380 elk by public hunting and 239 elk through the PLM Program will not have a significant adverse impact on either local or statewide elk populations.

Appendix 9 describes the modifications from the 2009 elk hunting regulations the Department is proposing to incorporate in the 2010 elk hunting regulations. Appendix 10 describes the impacts these modifications will have on the twelve (12) factors examined in each of the prior eighteen (18) environmental documents (1988 through 2007 – Department files) certified by the Fish and Game Commission regarding elk hunting. The modifications proposed are eight (8) new hunt boundaries, modify five (5) hunt boundaries, one (1) new muzzleloader only hunt, one (1) new military hunt period, modify season dates in three (3) hunt areas, and add combination muzzleloader/archery only tags in one hunt area.

CHAPTER 3 - ALTERNATIVES

NO PROJECT

Other than annual tag quota modifications proposed in response to herd productivity, implementation of the No Project alternative would result in no change from the 2009 elk hunting regulations described in the “Existing Condition” Appendix 11.

ALTERNATIVE 2 – INCREASED HARVEST

Alternative 2 represents management options within each hunt zone that will achieve an increased harvest (IH) from the herd(s). IH refers to a harvest strategy that maximizes the number of animals that can be harvested from a population, commensurate with the goals and objectives stated for that herd, for at least the next year. A potential problem with an IH management strategy is the risk of overharvesting. If, under an IH program, an overharvest occurred, more conservative management strategies would have to be implemented the following year to correct the situation.

ALTERNATIVE 3 – REDUCED HARVEST

Alternative 3 represents management options within a particular hunt zone that will produce a relatively small harvest. This reduced harvest (RH) is a harvest strategy that provides hunting opportunities at reduced levels from those proposed under either IH or the proposed project strategies.

ALTERNATIVE 4 – ZONE SPLITTING

Alternative 4 represents management options to split some hunt zones into smaller units. This zone splitting (ZS) strategy could potentially slightly increase harvest if overall tag numbers were increased to obtain desired harvest within each area. ZS would limit the amount of area available to hunters within each zone while at the same time distributing hunters more evenly across the landscape.

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APPENDIX 1

Title 14 Language of the Proposed Change to Section 364, Title 14 (CCR)

Appendix 1 – Title 14 language of the Proposed Change to Section 364, Title 14 (CCR)

§364. Elk.

(a) Siskiyou Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In that portion of Siskiyou County beginning at the junction of Interstate Highway 5 with the California-Oregon state line; east along the state line to Hill Road at Ainsworth Corner; south along Hill Road to Lava Beds National Monument Road; south along Lava Beds National Monument Road to USDA Forest Service Road 49; south along USDA Forest Service Road 49 to USDA Forest Service Road 77; west along USDA Forest Service Road 77 to USDA Forest Service Road 15 (Harris Spring Road); south along USDA Forest Service Road 15 to USDA Forest Service Road 13 (Pilgrim Creek Road); southwest along USDA Forest Service Road 13 to Highway 89; northwest along Highway 89 to Interstate Highway 5; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The season shall open on Wednesday preceding the second Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 19 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: ~~45 either-sex~~ 0-30 bull tags and ~~45~~ 0-30 antlerless tags.

(b) Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Siskiyou, Modoc, Lassen, and Shasta counties within a line beginning in Siskiyou County at the junction of the California-Oregon state line and Hill Road at Ainsworth Corner; east along the California-Oregon state line to the California-Nevada state line; south along the California-Nevada state line to the Tuledad-Red Rock-Clarks Valley Road (Lassen County Roads 506, 512 and 510); west along the Tuledad-Red Rock-Clarks Valley Road to Highway 395 at Madeline; west on USDA Forest Service Road 39N08 to to the intersection of Highway 139/299 in Adin; west on Highway 299 to Interstate 5 south on Highway 139 to the intersection of Highway 36 in Susanville; west on Highway 36 to the intersection of Interstate 5 in Red Bluff; north on Interstate 5 to Highway 89; southeast along Highway 89 to USDA Forest Service Road 13 (Pilgrim Creek Road); northeast along USDA Forest Service Road 13 to USDA Forest Service Road 15 (Harris Spring Road); north along USDA Forest Service Road to USDA Forest Service Road 77; east along USDA Forest Service Road 77 to USDA Forest Service Road 49; north along USDA Forest Service Road 49 to Lava Beds National Monument Road; north along Lava Beds National Monument Road to Hill Road; north along Hill Road to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the third Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Archery Only Season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(C) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the last Saturday in August and continue for ~~34~~ 33 consecutive days.

- (3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.
- (4) Number of License Tags:
- (A) General Season: ~~15 either-sex~~ 0-30 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.
- (B) Archery Only Season: ~~40 0-20~~ either-sex tags.
- (C) Apprentice Hunt: ~~2 0-4~~ either-sex tags.
- (5) Special Conditions: Elk may be taken during the Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season, with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt License tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.
- (c) Del Norte Roosevelt Elk Hunt:
- (1) Area: Those portions of Del Norte County owned or leased by the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the California-Oregon state line; south along Highway 101 to North Bank Road; southeast along North Bank Road to High Divide Road; northeast along High Divide Road to North Fork Smith River/Wimer Road; north along North Fork Smith River/Wimer Road to the California Oregon state line; west along the California-Oregon state line to the point of beginning.
- (2) Season: The season shall open on the last Wednesday in August and continue for 10 consecutive days.
- (3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.
- (4) Number of License Tags: ~~5 0-15~~ bull tags and ~~40 0-20~~ antlerless tags.
- (5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.
- (d) Marble Mountains Roosevelt Elk Hunt
- (1) Area: In those portions of Humboldt, Tehama, Trinity, Shasta, and Siskiyou counties beginning at the intersection of Interstate Highway 5 and the California-Oregon state line; west along the state line to the Del Norte County line; south along the Del Norte County line to the intersection of the Siskiyou-Humboldt county lines; east along the Siskiyou-Humboldt county lines to Highway 96; south along Highway 96 to Highway 299; east along Highway 299 to Interstate Highway 5 south along Highway 299 to the Intersection of the Humboldt/Trinity County line; south along the Humboldt Trinity County Line to the intersection of Highway 36; east along Highway 36 to the intersection of Interstate 5;north on Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.
- (2) Season:
- (A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the second Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.
- (B) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 19 consecutive days.
- (C) The combination archery/muzzleloader only season shall open on the last Saturday in October and extend for 9 consecutive days.
- (3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.
- (4) Number of License Tags:
- (A) General Hunt: ~~40 either-sex~~ 0-70 bull and 0-30 antlerless tags.
- (B) Apprentice Hunt: ~~2 0-4~~ either-sex tags.

(C) Archery/Muzzleloader Hunt: 0-10 either-sex tags.

(GD) Special Conditions: Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(E) Elk may be taken during the Archery/Muzzleloader hunt using archery and muzzleloading equipment only, as specified in Section 353 and 354.

(e) Klamath Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Humboldt and Del Norte counties owned or leased by the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the Klamath River; south on Highway 101 to South Klamath Beach Road; west on South Klamath Beach Road to the Redwood National Park boundary; southwest and south along the Redwood National Park boundary to Highway 101; south on Highway 101 to the Redwood National Park boundary; southeast along the Redwood National Park boundary to the Bald Hills Road; southeast along the Bald Hills Road to the Klamath River; northwest along the Klamath River to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the first Wednesday in September and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: ~~40~~ 0-20 bull tags and ~~40~~ 0-20 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(f) Big Lagoon Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In that portion of Humboldt County owned or leased by the California Redwood Company and the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and Hiltons Road; south on Hiltons Road to the western boundary of Redwood National Park; south and east along the western boundary to its southern tip; north and east along the eastern boundary of Redwood National Park to Redwood Creek; south along Redwood Creek to Highway 299; east along Highway 299 to Forest Service Road 1; south along Forest Service Road 1 to Roddiscraft Road; west along Roddiscraft Road to the intersection of Snow Camp Road and the power line road within the right-of-way of the Humboldt-Trinity 115 Line and Trinity-Maple Creek 60 Line ~~power line right-of-way~~; west along the power line road within the right-of-way of the Humboldt-Trinity 115 Line and Trinity-Maple Creek 60 Line ~~power line right-of-way~~ to Maple Creek Road; south along Maple Creek Road to Butler Valley Road; west along Butler Valley Road to Fickle Hill Road; north along Fickle Hill Road to Bayside Road; west along Bayside Road and 7th Street to Highway 101; north along Highway 101 to point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open the last Wednesday in August and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: ~~40 either-sex~~ 0-10 bull and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(g) Owens Valley Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area:

(A) Bishop Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 6 in the town of Bishop; north and east along Highway 6 to the junction of Silver Canyon Road; east along Silver Canyon Road to the White Mountain Road (Forest Service Road 4S01); south along the White Mountain Road to Highway 168 at Westgard Pass; south and west along Highway 168 to the junction of Highway 395; north on Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(B) Lone Pine Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Mazourka Canyon Road; east and then north on Mazourka Canyon Road to the Inyo National Forest Boundary at the junction of the southern boundary of Township 12S and the northern boundary of Township 13S; east along the southern boundary of Township 12S to Saline Valley Road; south on Saline Valley Road to Highway 190; north and then southwest on Highway 190 to the junction of Highway 395 at Olancha; north on Highway 395 to the point of beginning. ~~intersection of Whitney Portal Road; west along Whitney Portal Road to the northern boundary of Section 36, Township 15S, Range 34E; west along the northern boundary of sections 36, 35, 34 and 33 Township 15S, Range 34 E to the Inyo County Line; north along the Inyo County Line to the intersection of Section 27 Township 13S, range 33E; east along the southern boundary of sections 27, 26 and 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; north along the eastern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the intersection of Onion Valley Road; east along Onion Valley Road to the point of beginning.~~

(C) Independence Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Aberdeen Station Road; east on Aberdeen Station Road to its terminus at the southern boundary of Section 5, Township 11S, Range 35E; east along the southern boundary of sections 5, 4, 3, and 2, Township 11S, Range 35E to the Papoose Flat Road at Papoose Flat; south and east on Papoose Flat Road to Mazourka Canyon Road; south and then west on Mazourka Canyon Road to Highway 395; west along Onion Valley Road to the intersection of the Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; south along the eastern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the southern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; west along the southern boundary of sections 27, 26, 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the Inyo County line; North along the Inyo County Line to Taboose Creek; east along Taboose Creek to the intersection of Highway 395; south along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(D) Tinemaha Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 168 in the town of Big Pine; north and east along Highway 168 to the junction of the Death Valley Road; south and east along the Death Valley Road to the junction of the Papoose Flat Road; south along the Papoose Flat Road to the southern boundary of Section 2, Township 11S, Range 35E; west along the southern boundaries of sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 to the terminus of the Aberdeen Station Road in Section 5, Township 11S, Range 35E; south and west along the Aberdeen Station Road to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(E) West Tinemaha Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 168 in the town of Big Pine; south along Highway 395 to the north junction of Fish Springs Road; south along Fish Springs Road to the junction of Highway 395; south along Highway 395 to Taboose Creek in Section 14, Township

11S, Range 34E; west along Taboose Creek to the Inyo County line; north and west along the Inyo County line to the intersection of Tinemaha Creek; east along Tinemaha Creek to the intersection of McMurray Meadow Road; north on McMurray Meadow Road to the intersection of Glacier Lodge Road; north and east on Glacier Lodge Road the southeast corner of Section 23, Township 10S, Range 32E; north along the eastern boundaries of sections 23, 14, 11, 2, Township 10S, Range 32E, and the eastern boundary of Section 36, Township 9S, Range 32E to Glacier Lodge Road; east along Glacier Lodge Road to Crocker Avenue; east along Crocker Avenue to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(F) Tinemaha Mountain Zone: In that portion of Inyo County with a line beginning at the intersection of Glacier Lodge Road (9S21) and McMurray Meadow Road (9S03); south on McMurray Meadow Road to Tinemaha Creek; west along Tinemaha Creek to the Inyo County line; north and west along the Inyo County line to the southeast corner of Section 23, Township 10S, Range 32E; north along the eastern boundaries of sections 23, 14, 11, 2, Township 10S, Range 32E, and the eastern boundary of Section 36, Township 9S, Range 32E to Glacier Lodge Road; east along Glacier Lodge Road to the beginning.

(G) Whitney Zone: In that portion of Inyo County with a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 395 and Onion Valley Road; south on Highway 395 to the intersection of Whitney Portal Road; west along Whitney Portal Road to the northern boundary of Section 36, Township 15S, Range 34E; west along the northern boundary of sections 36, 35, 34 and 33 Township 15S, Range 34 E to the Inyo County Line; north along the Inyo County Line to the intersection of Section 27 Township 13S, range 33E; east along the southern boundary of sections 27, 26 and 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; north along the eastern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the intersection of Onion Valley Road; east along Onion Valley Road to the point of beginning.

(FH) The Owens Valley fund-raising license tag shall be valid in any zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D), and (E), (F), and (G).

(GI) The Owens Valley archery only license tags shall be valid in any zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D), (E) and (G).

(HJ) The Bishop Muzzleloader Only license tags shall be valid in the Bishop zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(A) only during periods listed in (2)(A). The Lone Pine Independence Muzzleloader Only license tags shall be valid in the Lone Pine Independence zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(B) only during periods listed in (2)(A).

(IK) The Tinemaha and West Tinemaha Archery Only license tags shall be valid in the Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones described in subsections 364(g)(1)(D) and (E) only during periods listed in (2)(A). The Independence Lone Pine Archery Only license tags shall be valid in the Independence Lone Pine zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(G) only during periods listed in (2)(A). The Whitney Archery Only license tags shall be valid in the Whitney zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(G) only during periods listed in (2)(A).

(JL) The apprentice hunt license tags shall be valid in the Bishop zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A) only during periods listed in (2)(B).

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, Tinemaha Mountain, ~~and~~ West Tinemaha, and Whitney zones shall open on the second Saturday in September and extend for 16 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, Tinemaha Mountain, ~~and~~ West Tinemaha, and Whitney zones shall open on the first Saturday in October and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, Tinemaha Mountain, ~~and~~ West Tinemaha, and Whitney zones shall open on the third Saturday in October and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(D) For Period Four, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, Tinemaha Mountain, ~~and~~ West Tinemaha, and Whitney zones shall open on the first Saturday in November and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(E) For Period Five, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, Tinemaha Mountain, ~~and~~ West Tinemaha, and Whitney zones shall open on the first Saturday in December and continue for 9 consecutive days.

(F) The Owens Valley Multiple Zone Archery Only season shall open on the second Saturday in August and extend for 9 consecutive days

(G) Fund-raising Hunt: The Owens Valley Fund-raising Hunt shall open on the last Saturday in July and extend for 30 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: Bishop Zone - 4 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 4 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Independence Zone - 4 0-10 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. ~~and~~ West Tinemaha Zones - 4 0-10 bull tags and 6 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Mountain Zone 0-8 bull tags. Whitney Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags.

(B) Period Two: Bishop Zone - 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Independence Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 2 0-10 bull tags and 2 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. ~~and~~ West Tinemaha Zones - 9 0-30 antlerless tags and 0-10 bull tags. Tinemaha Mountain Zone 0-8 bull tags. Whitney Zone 0-4 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(C) Period Three: Bishop Zone - 4 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Independence Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 0-10 bull tags and 2 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. ~~and~~ West Tinemaha Zones - 2 0-10 bull tags and 9 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Mountain Zone 0-8 bull tags. Whitney Zone 0-4 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(D) Period Four: Bishop Zone - 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Independence Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 1 0-10 bull tags and 2 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. ~~and~~ West Tinemaha Zones - 0-10 bull tags and 9 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Mountain Zone 0-8 bull tags. Whitney Zone 0-4 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(E) Period Five: Bishop Zone - 0-10 bull tags and 4 0-30 antlerless tags. Independence Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 0-10 bull tags and 2 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Zone 0-10 bull tags and 0-30 antlerless tags. ~~and~~ West Tinemaha Zones - 2 0-10 bull tags and 9 0-30 antlerless tags. Tinemaha Mountain Zone 0-8 bull tags. Whitney Zone 0-4 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(F) Archery Only Season: ~~5 either-sex tags~~ 0-10 bull tags and 0-10 antlerless tags.

(G) Fund-raising Hunt: 1 bull tag.

(5) Special Conditions:

(A) Elk may be taken during the Owens Valley Tule Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354.

(B) Elk may be taken during Period 1 within the ~~Independence~~ Lone Pine, Tinemaha and ~~West Tinemaha~~ Whitney zones using Archery Equipment only, as specified in Section 354.

(C) Elk may be taken during Period 1 within the Bishop and ~~Lone Pine~~ Independence zones using Muzzleloader equipment only, as specified in Section 353.

(D) Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(h) Cache Creek Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Lake, Colusa and Yolo counties within the following line: beginning at the junction of Highway 20 and Highway 16; south on Highway 16 to Reiff-Rayhouse Road; west on Reiff-Rayhouse Road to Morgan Valley Road; west on Morgan Valley Road to Highway 53; north on Highway 53 to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to the fork of Cache Creek; north on the north fork of Cache Creek to Indian Valley Reservoir; east on the south shore of Indian Valley Reservoir to Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road; east on Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road to Walker Ridge Road; south on Walker Ridge Road to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.

(B) The season for antlerless elk shall open on the third Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags: ~~2 0-4~~ bull tags and ~~2 0-4~~ antlerless tags.

A. Period One Apprentice Hunt: ~~4 0-2~~ bull tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(i) Grizzly Island Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those lands owned and managed by the department as the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the second Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas the season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the second Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the third Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the third Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the fourth Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas the season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the first Monday in September and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(D) The season for the Fund-raising Hunt shall open on the first Saturday in August and continue for 30 consecutive days, with advance reservations required by contacting the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area by telephone at (707) 425-3828.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 0-2 bull tags, 0-6 spike bull tags, and ~~2~~ 0-12 antlerless tags.

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 4 0-2 spike bull tags and 0-2 antlerless tags.

(B) Period Two: 2 0-3 bull tags, 4 0-6 spike bull tags, and 2 0-12 antlerless tags.

1. Period Two Apprentice Hunt: 0-2 spike bull tags.

(C) Period Three: 4 0-3 bull tags, 0-4 spike bull tags, and 0-12 antlerless tags.

(D) Fund raising Hunt: 1 bull tag.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(j) La Panza Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of San Luis Obispo, Kern, Monterey, Kings, Fresno, San Benito, and Santa Barbara counties within a line beginning in San Benito County at the junction of Highway 25 and County Highway J1 near the town Pacines, south along Highway 25 to La Gloria road, west along La Gloria rd, La Gloria road becomes Gloria road, west along Gloria road to Highway 101 near Gonzales, south along Highway 101 to Highway 166 in San Luis Obispo County; east along Highway 166 to Highway 33 at Maricopa in Kern County; north and west along Highway 33 to Highway 198 at Coalinga in Fresno County, north along Highway 33 to Interstate 5 in Fresno County, north along Interstate 5 to Little Panoche road/County Highway J1, southwest along Little Panoche road/County Highway J1 to the intersection of Little Panoche road/County Highway J1 and Panoche road/County Highway J1 in San Benito County, northwest along Panoche road/County Highway J1 to the point of beginning.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One the season shall open on the second Saturday in October and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two the season shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) The Fund Raising season shall open on the first Saturday in October and extend for 65 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: ~~6~~ 0-12 bull tags and ~~5~~ 0-10 antlerless tags.

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 0-2 bull tags and 4 0-2 antlerless tags.

(B) Period Two: ~~6~~ 0-12 bull tags and ~~6~~ 0-12 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunter tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(k) Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: That portion of Monterey County lying within the exterior boundaries of Fort Hunter Liggett, except as restricted by the Commanding Officer.

(2) Seasons: Due to military operations, season dates for the following periods are subject to further restriction, or may be rescheduled between September 1 and December 31 by the Commanding Officer.

(A) For Period One, the season shall open on the ~~second Thursday~~ third Saturday in October and continue for ~~5~~ 9 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season shall open on the ~~fourth Wednesday~~ third Saturday in November and continue for ~~5~~ 9 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season shall open on the ~~last fourth~~ Wednesday in December and continue for ~~5~~ 12 consecutive days.

(D) Archery Only Either-Sex Season shall be open the first ~~Thursday~~ Saturday in September and continue for ~~5~~ 9 consecutive days.

(E) Archery Only Antlerless Season shall open on the ~~second Thursday~~ fourth Saturday in ~~October~~ September and continue for ~~5~~ 9 consecutive days.

(F) Muzzleloader Only Bull Season shall open on the first Saturday in November and continue for 9 consecutive days.

(G) Early Bull Season shall open on the second Tuesday in September and continue for 6 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per person.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: ~~14~~ 0-28 antlerless tags (~~7~~ 0-14 military and ~~7~~ 0-14 general public).

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: ~~4~~ 0-8 antlerless tags (~~2~~ 0-4 military and ~~2~~ 0-4 general public).

(B) Period Two: ~~16~~ 0-32 antlerless tags (~~8~~ 0-16 military and ~~8~~ 0-16 general public).

(C) Period Three: ~~14~~ 0-28 bull tags (~~7~~ 0-14 military and ~~7~~ 0-14 general public).

1. Period Three Apprentice Hunt: ~~2~~ 0-4 bull tags (~~1~~ 0-2 military and ~~1~~ 0-2 general public).

(D) Archery Only Season: ~~6~~ 0-12 either-sex tags and ~~10~~ 0-20 antlerless tags (~~3~~ 0-6 either-sex tags military, ~~3~~ 0-6 either-sex tags general public, ~~5~~ 0-10 antlerless tags military and ~~5~~ 0-10 antlerless tags general public).

(E) Muzzleloader Only Bull Season: 0-12 bull tags (0-6 military and 0-6 general public).

(F) Early Bull Season: 0-2 military bull tags.

(5) Special Conditions:

(A) All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory hunter orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(B) Tagholders shall be required to purchase an annual hunting pass available from Fort Hunter Liggett.

(C) Season dates and hunt areas are subject to restriction by the Commanding Officer of Fort Hunter Liggett based on military training.

(D) Elk may be taken during the Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season, with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354.

(E) Elk may be taken during the Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt, Muzzleloader Only Season, with Muzzleloading Equipment only as specified in Section 353.

(EF) Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(I) East Park Reservoir Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: in those portions of Glenn and Colusa counties within a line beginning in Glenn County at the junction of Interstate Highway 5 and Highway 162 at Willows; west along Highway 162 (Highway 162 becomes Alder Springs Road) to the Glenn-Mendocino County line; south along the Glenn-Mendocino County line to the Glenn-Lake County line; east and then south along the Glenn-Lake County line to the Colusa-Lake County line; west, and then southeast along the Colusa-Lake County line to Goat Mountain Road; north and east along Goat Mountain Road to the Lodoga-Stonyford Road; east along the Lodoga-Stonyford Road to the Sites-Lodoga Road at Lodoga; east along the Sites-Lodoga Road to the Maxwell-Sites Road at Sites; east along the Maxwell-Sites Road to Interstate Highway 5 at Maxwell; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season shall open the first Saturday in September and continue for 27 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Three, the season shall open on the first Saturday in September and continue for 27 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 2 0-4 bull tags.

(B) Period Three: 4 0-8 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions:

(A) All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(B) Access to private land may be restricted or require payment of an access fee.

(C) A Colusa County ordinance prohibits firearms on land administered by the USDI Bureau of Reclamation in the vicinity of East Park Reservoir. A variance has been requested to allow use of muzzleloaders (as defined in Section 353) on Bureau of Reclamation land within the hunt zone.

(m) Northwestern California Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of Humboldt and Del Norte counties not owned or leased by the California Redwood Company and the Green Diamond Resource Company within existing elk hunt boundaries as described in subsections 364(c)(1), (e)(1) and (f)(1), within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 299 and Highway 96, north along Highway 96 to the Del Norte-Siskiyou county line, north along the Del Norte-Siskiyou county line to the California-Oregon state line, west along the state line to the Pacific Coastline, south along the Pacific coastline to the Humboldt-Mendocino county line, east along the Humboldt-Mendocino county line to the Humboldt-Trinity county line, north along the Humboldt-Trinity county line to Highway 299, west along Highway 299 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The season shall open on the first Wednesday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Fund Raising season shall open on last Wednesday in August and continue for ~~17~~ 19 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: ~~20~~ 0-30 either-sex tags.

(n) San Luis Reservoir Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of Merced, Fresno, San Benito, and Santa Clara counties within a line beginning in Merced County at the junction of Highway 152 and Interstate 5 near the town of Santa Nella, west along Highway 152 to Highway 156 in Santa Clara County, southwest along Highway 156 to Highway 25 near the town of Hollister in San Benito County, south along Highway 25 to the town of Paicine, south and east along J1 to Little Panoche Road, North and east along Little Panoche Road to Interstate 5 in Fresno County, north along Interstate 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the first Saturday in October and continue for 23 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: ~~3~~ 0-6 either-sex tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(o) Multi-zone Fund Raising License Tag.

(1) Area: The multi-zone tag shall be valid in the areas described in section 364(a)(b)(d)(j)(m).

(2) Season: The multi-zone tag shall be valid during the authorized seasons described in section 364(a)(b)(d)(j)(m).

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 bull elk as described in subsection 364(p)(1) per tag.

(4) Number of tags 1.

(p) Alameda Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Alameda and San Joaquin Counties within the following line: beginning at the intersection of the Interstate 5 and the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line; southwest along the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line to the intersection of the San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Alameda, Santa Clara County lines; west along the Alameda/Santa Clara County Line to the intersection of Interstate 680; north along

Interstate 680 to the intersection of Interstate 580; east and south along Interstate 580 to the intersection of Interstate 5; south along Interstate 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 0-4 bull tags.

(g) Santa Clara Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Merced, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties within the following line: beginning at the intersection of the Interstate 5 and the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line; southeast along Interstate 5 to the intersection of Highway 152; west along Highway 152 to the intersection of Highway 101 near the town of Gilroy; north along Highway 101 to the intersection of Interstate 680 near San Jose; north along Interstate 680 to the intersection of the Alameda/Santa Clara County line; east along the Alameda/Santa Clara County line to the intersection of the San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Alameda, Santa Clara County lines; northeast along the San Joaquin/Stanislaus County line to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 0-4 bull tags.

(r) Bear Valley Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: in those portions of Colusa, Lake, and Yolo counties within a line beginning in Colusa County at the junction of Interstate Highway 5 and Maxwell Sites Road at Maxwell; west along Maxwell Sites Road to the Sites Lodoga Road; west along the Sites Lodoga Road to Lodoga Stonyford Road; west along Lodoga Stonyford Road to Goat Mountain Road; west and south along Goat Mountain Road to the Colusa-Lake County line; south and west along the Colusa-Lake County line to Forest Route M5; south along Forest Route M5 to Bartlett Springs Road; west along Bartlett Springs Road to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to the fork of Cache Creek; north on the north fork of Cache Creek to Indian Valley Reservoir to Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road; east on Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road to Walker Ridge Road; south on Walker Ridge Road to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to Highway 16; south on Highway 16 to Rayhouse Road; south and west on Rayhouse Road to the Yolo-Napa County line; east and south along the Yolo-Napa County line to Road 8053; east on Road 8053 to County Road 78A; east on County Road 78A to Highway 16; east on Highway 16 to Route E4 at Capay; north and east on Route E4 to Interstate Highway 5; north on Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 9 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 0-4 bull tags and 0-2 antlerless tags.

(s) Lake Pillsbury Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: in those portions of Lake County within a line beginning at the junction of the Glenn-Lake County line and the Mendocino County line; south and west along the Mendocino-Lake County line to Highway 20; southeast on Highway 20 to the intersection of Bartlett Springs Road; north and east along Bartlett Springs Road to the

intersection of Forest Route M5; northwest on Forest Route M5 to the Colusa-Lake County Line; northwest and east on the Colusa-Lake County Line to the junction of the Glenn-Colusa County Line and the Lake-Glenn County Line; north and west on the Lake-Glenn County Line to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the second Wednesday in September and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 0-4 bull tags and 0-4 antlerless tags.

(t) Mendocino Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions Mendocino County within a line beginning at the Pacific Coastline and the Mendocino/Humboldt County line south of Shelter Cove; east along the Mendocino/Humboldt County line to the intersection of the Humboldt, Mendocino, and Trinity County lines; south and east along the Mendocino/Trinity County line to the intersection of the Mendocino, Trinity, and Tehama County lines; south along the Mendocino County line to the intersection of Highway 20; north and west along Highway 20 to the intersection of Highway 101 near Calpella; south along Highway 101 to the intersection of Highway 253; southwest along Highway 253 to the intersection of Highway 128; north along Highway 128 to the intersection of Mountain View Road near the town of Boonville; west along Mountain View Road to the intersection of Highway 1; south along Highway 1 to the intersection of the Garcia River; west along the Garcia River to the Pacific Coastline; north along the Pacific Coastline to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the fourth Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 0-4 bull tags and 0-4 antlerless tags.

(pu) Definitions:

(1) Bull elk: Any elk having an antler or antlers at least four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(2) Spike bull: A bull elk having no more than one point on each antler. An antler point is a projection of the antler at least one inch long and longer than the width of its base.

(3) Antlerless elk: Any elk, with the exception of spotted calves, with antlers less than four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(4) Either-sex elk: For the purposes of these regulations, either-sex is defined as bull elk, as described in Section 364(o)(1), or antlerless elk as, described in Section 364(o)(3).

(qv) Method of Take: Only methods for taking elk as defined in sections 353 and 354 may be used.

(fw) Tagholder Responsibilities:

(1) No tagholder shall take or possess any elk or parts thereof governed by the regulations except herein provided.

(2) The department reserves the right to use any part of the tagholder's elk for biological analysis as long as the amount of edible meat is not appreciably decreased.

(3) Any person taking an elk which has a collar or other marking device attached to it shall provide the department with such marking device within 10 days of taking the elk.

(sx) The use of dogs to take or attempt to take elk is prohibited.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203, 332, 1050 and 1572, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 203, 203.1, 332, 713, 1050, 1570-1572, and 3951, Fish and Game Code.

APPENDIX 2

2009 Elk Tags Issued and Harvested on PLM Ranches

Appendix 2 - 2009 Elk Tags Issued and Harvested on PLM Ranches

2009 PLM Allocation and Harvest

PLM Name	Authorized Bull Harvest	Bulls Harvested	Authorized Antlerless Harvest	Antlerless Harvest
ALEXANDER RANCH	1	1	2	2
AVENALES RANCH	4	4	-	-
BARDIN RANCH	2	0	2	1
BLACK RANCH	1	1	1	1
CAMP 5 OUTFITTERS	1	1	1	1
CARNAZA WILDLIFE MGT AREA	6	6	6	6
CEDAR CANYON	3	1	2	1
CLARK AND WHITE RANCH	5	5	3	3
CLOUDS WARNER MOUNTAIN	1	1	-	-
CONNOLLY/CORRAL HOLLOW RANCH	4	2	3	0
DEFRANCESCO AND EATON	2	2	-	-
EDEN VALLEY RANCH	5	4	5	5
ENG RANCH	5	5	4	2
GABILAN RANCH	1	0	1	0
HARTNELL RANCH	1	1	2	2
ISABEL VALLEY RANCH	3	3	3	3
LEWIS RANCH	0	0	1	1
LONE RANCH	3	1	2	1
MALLISON RANCH L.L.C.	1	0	1	1
PINTAIL RANCH	0	0	0	0
POTTER VALLEY WMA	6	2	6	6
RANCHO LA CUESTA	3	2	-	-
ROOSTER COMB RANCH	1	1	-	-
R-R RANCH	2	1	2	0
SHAMROCK RANCH	7	5	4	3
SLICK RACK RANCH	1	1	1	1
SPRING VALLEY RANCH	2	1	-	-
STOVER RANCH	2	2	1	1
SUMMER CAMP RANCH	1	0	-	-
SWEETWATER RANCH	1	1	1	1
TEJON RANCH	7	3	-	-
TEMBLOR WMA	7	6	12	8
TG & C CARISSA	1	1	3	1
TRINCHERO RANCH	3	2	1	0
WORK RANCH	3	1	6	2
TOTALS	96	67	76	53

APPENDIX 3

2010 Proposed Elk Tag Allocation Ranges

Appendix 3 – 2010 Proposed Elk Tag Allocation Ranges

2010 Proposed Elk Tag Allocation										
Hunt Name	Antler-less	Either-Sex	Bull	Spike	Muzzle-loader Bull	Muzzle-loader Antler-less	Muzzle-loader either-sex	Archery Either-Sex	Archery Antler-less	Archery Bull
Roosevelt Elk										
Siskiyou	0-30		0-30							
Del Norte	0-20		0-15							
Marble Mountains	0-30		0-70							
Marble Mtns Apprentice		0-4								
Marble Mtns Muzzleloader/ Archery		0-10								
Klamath	0-20		0-20							
Big Lagoon	0-10		0-10							
Northwestern California		0-30								
Rocky Mountain Elk										
Northeastern	0-10		0-30					0-20		
Northeastern Apprentice		0-4								
Tule Elk										
Cache Creek	0-4		0-4							
Cache Creek Apprentice			0-2							
La Panza										
Period 1	0-10		0-12							
Period 1 (Apprentice)	0-2		0-2							
Period 2	0-12		0-12							
Owens Valley										
Multiple-Zone									0-10	0-10
Bishop										
Period 1 Muzzleloader					0-10	0-30				
Period 2 Apprentice	0-30		0-10							
Period 3	0-30		0-10							
Period 4	0-30		0-10							
Period 5	0-30		0-10							
Independence										
Period 1 Muzzleloader (New)					0-10	0-10				
Period 2	0-30		0-10							
Period 3	0-30		0-10							
Period 4	0-30		0-10							

2010 Proposed Elk Tag Allocation

Hunt Name	Antler-less	Either-Sex	Bull	Spike	Muzzle-loader Bull	Muzzle-loader Antler-less	Muzzle-loader either-sex	Archery Either-Sex	Archery Antler-less	Archery Bull
Period 5	0-30		0-10							
Lone Pine										
Period 1 Archery (New)									0-30	0-10
Period 2	0-30		0-10							
Period 3	0-30		0-10							
Period 4	0-30		0-10							
Period 5	0-30		0-10							
Tinemaha										
Period 1 Archery									0-30	0-10
Period 2	0-30		0-10							
Period 3	0-30		0-10							
Period 4	0-30		0-10							
Period 5	0-30		0-10							
West Tinemaha										
Period 1	0-30		0-10							
Period 2	0-30		0-10							
Period 3	0-30		0-10							
Period 4	0-30		0-10							
Period 5	0-30		0-10							
Tinemaha Mountain (New)										
Period 1			0-8							
Period 2			0-8							
Period 3			0-8							
Period 4			0-8							
Period 5			0-8							
Whitney (New)										
Period 1 Archery									0-30	0-10
Period 2	0-10		0-4							
Period 3	0-10		0-4							
Period 4	0-10		0-4							
Period 5	0-10		0-4							
Grizzly Island										
Period 1	0-12		0-2	0-6						
Period 1 Apprentice	0-2			0-2						
Period 2	0-12		0-3	0-6						
Period 2 Apprentice				0-2						
Period 3	0-12		0-3	0-4						

2010 Proposed Elk Tag Allocation

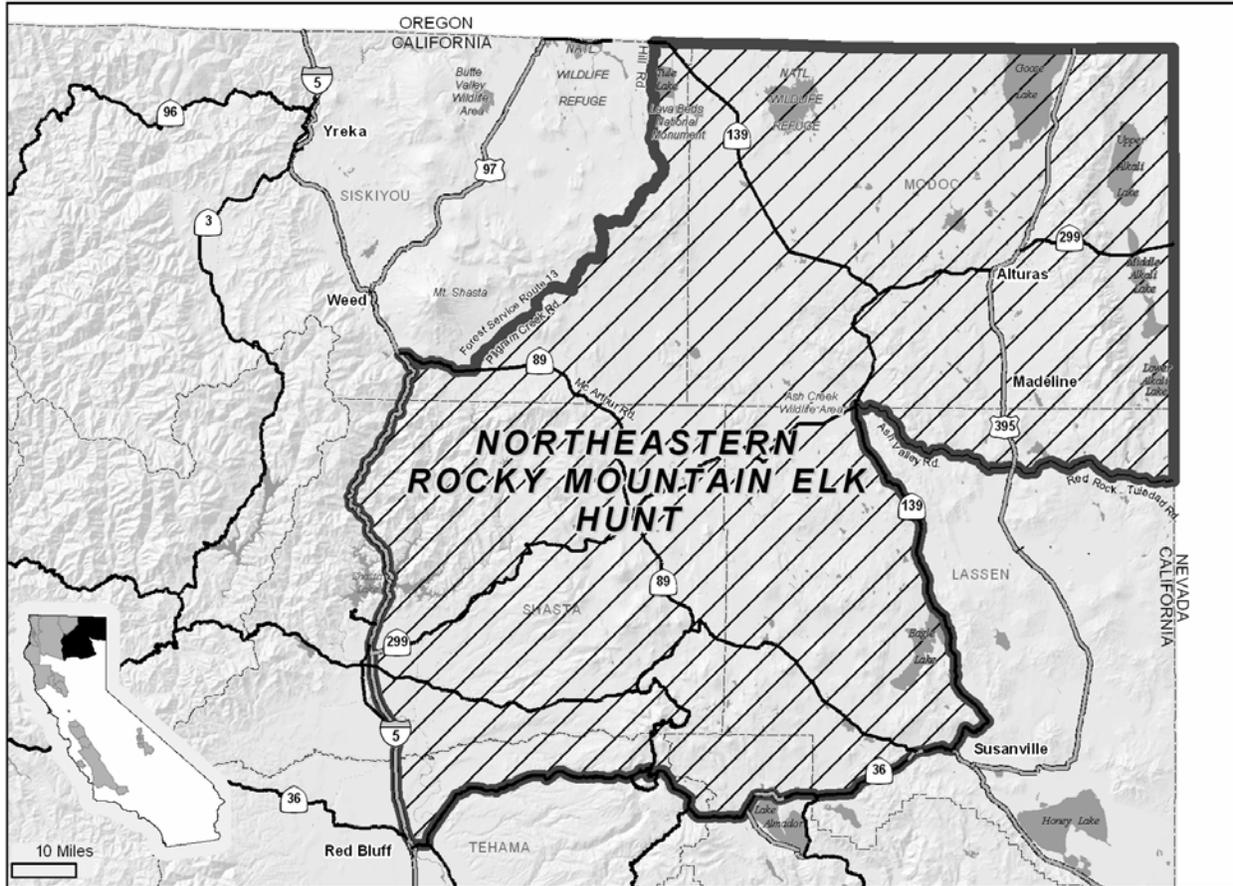
Hunt Name	Antler-less	Either-Sex	Bull	Spike	Muzzle-loader Bull	Muzzle-loader Antler-less	Muzzle-loader either-sex	Archery Either-Sex	Archery Antler-less	Archery Bull
Fort Hunter Liggett										
Archery Only								0-12	0-20	
Period 1	0-28									
Period 1 Apprentice	0-8									
Period 2	0-32									
Period 3			0-28							
Period 3 Apprentice			0-4							
Muzzleloader Bull (new)					0-12					
Early Season Bull (new)			0-4							
East Park Reservoir										
Period 1			0-4							
Period 3	0-8									
San Luis Reservoir	0-5	0-10	0-10							
Mendocino (New)	0-4		0-4							
Bear Valley (new)	0-2		0-4							
Lake Pillsbury (New)	0-4		0-4							
Alameda (New)			0-4							
Santa Clara (New)			0-4							

APPENDIX 4

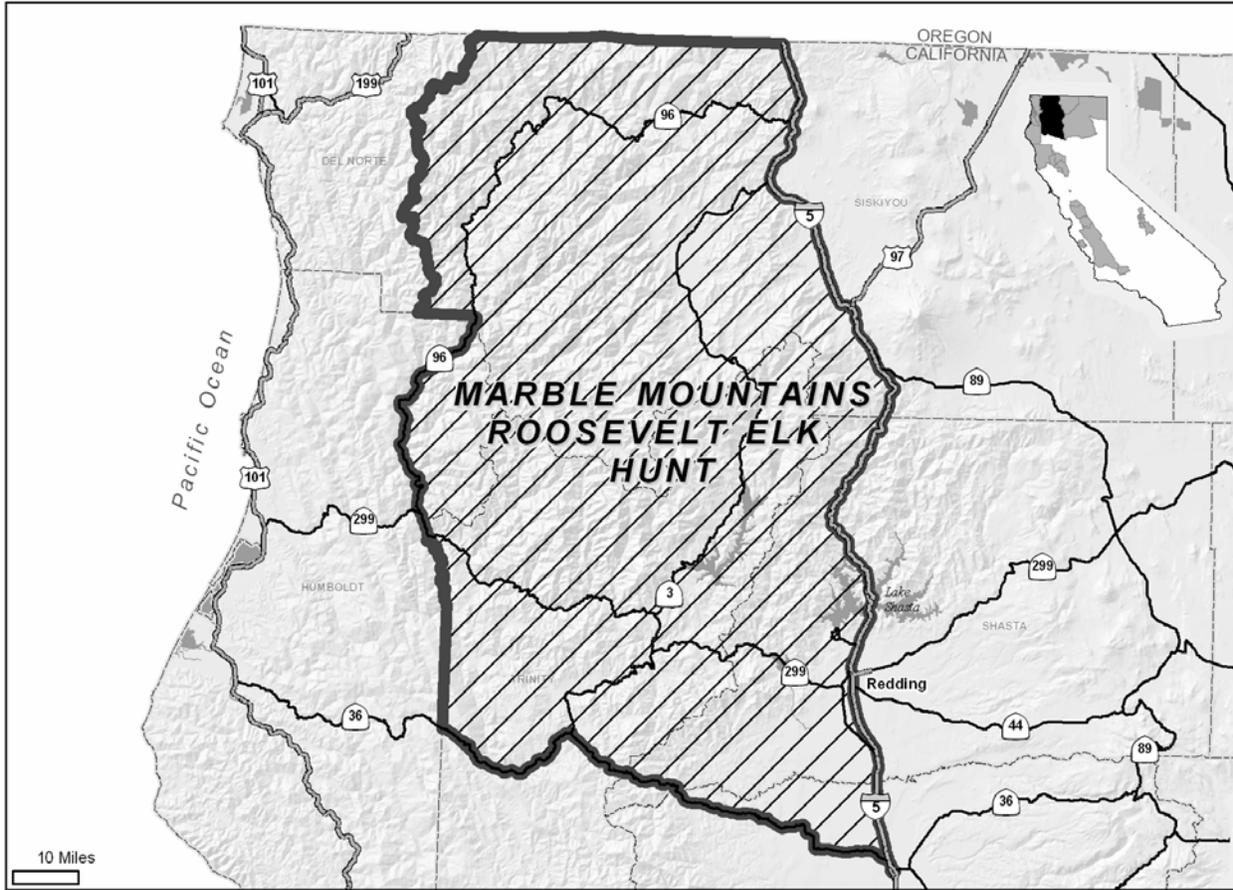
Modified Elk Hunt Boundary Maps (Northeastern California, Marble Mountain, Big Lagoon, West Tinemaha, Lone Pine and Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only)

Appendix 4 – Modified Elk Hunt Boundary Maps

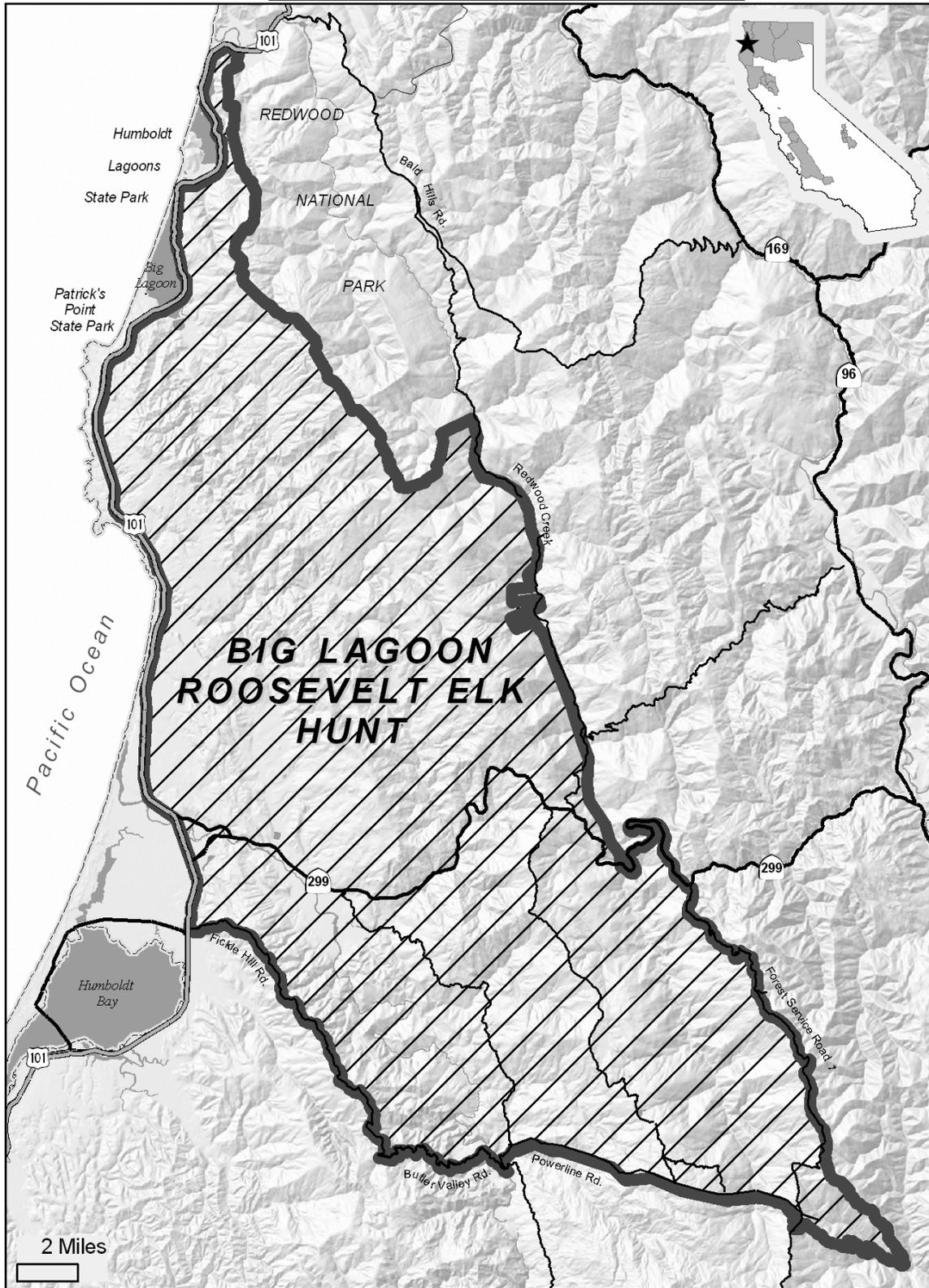
Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt Boundary



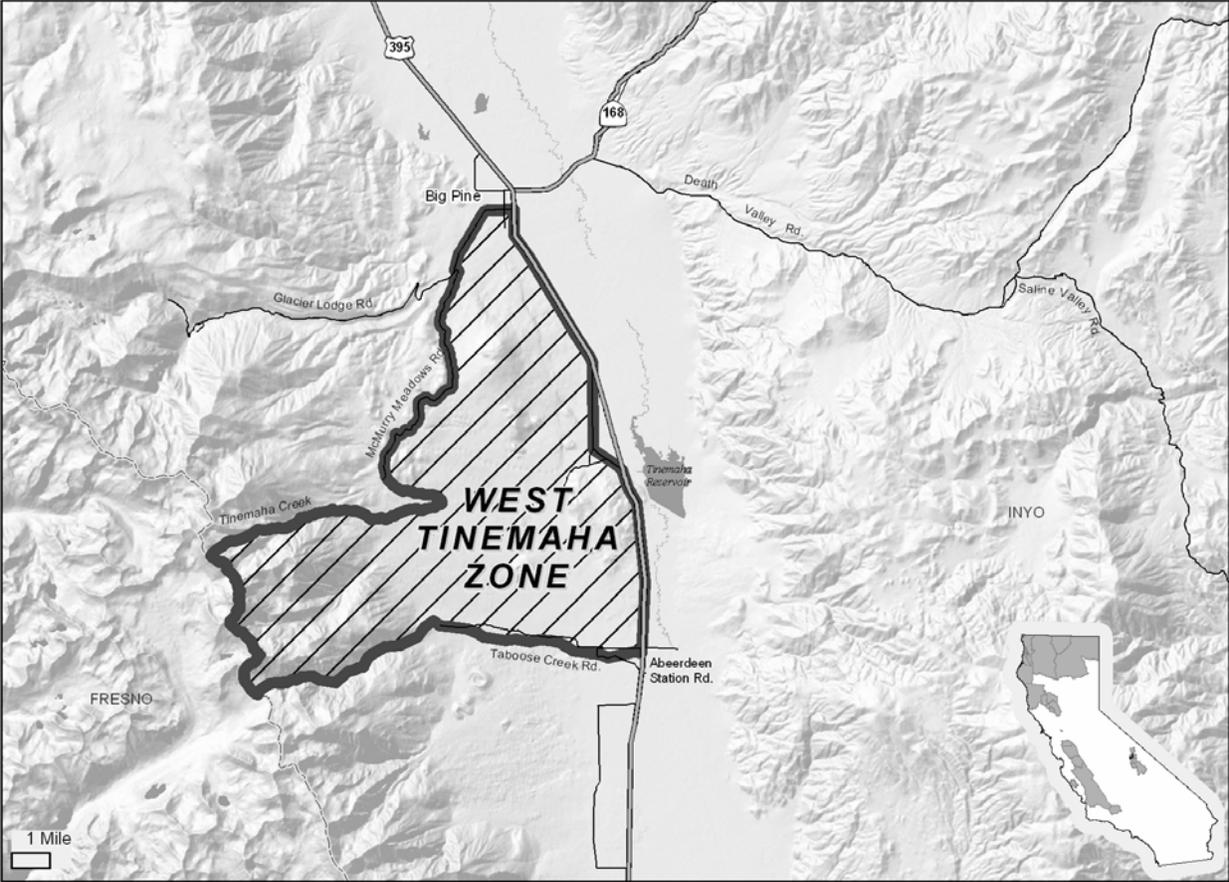
Marble Mountain Roosevelt Elk Hunt Boundary



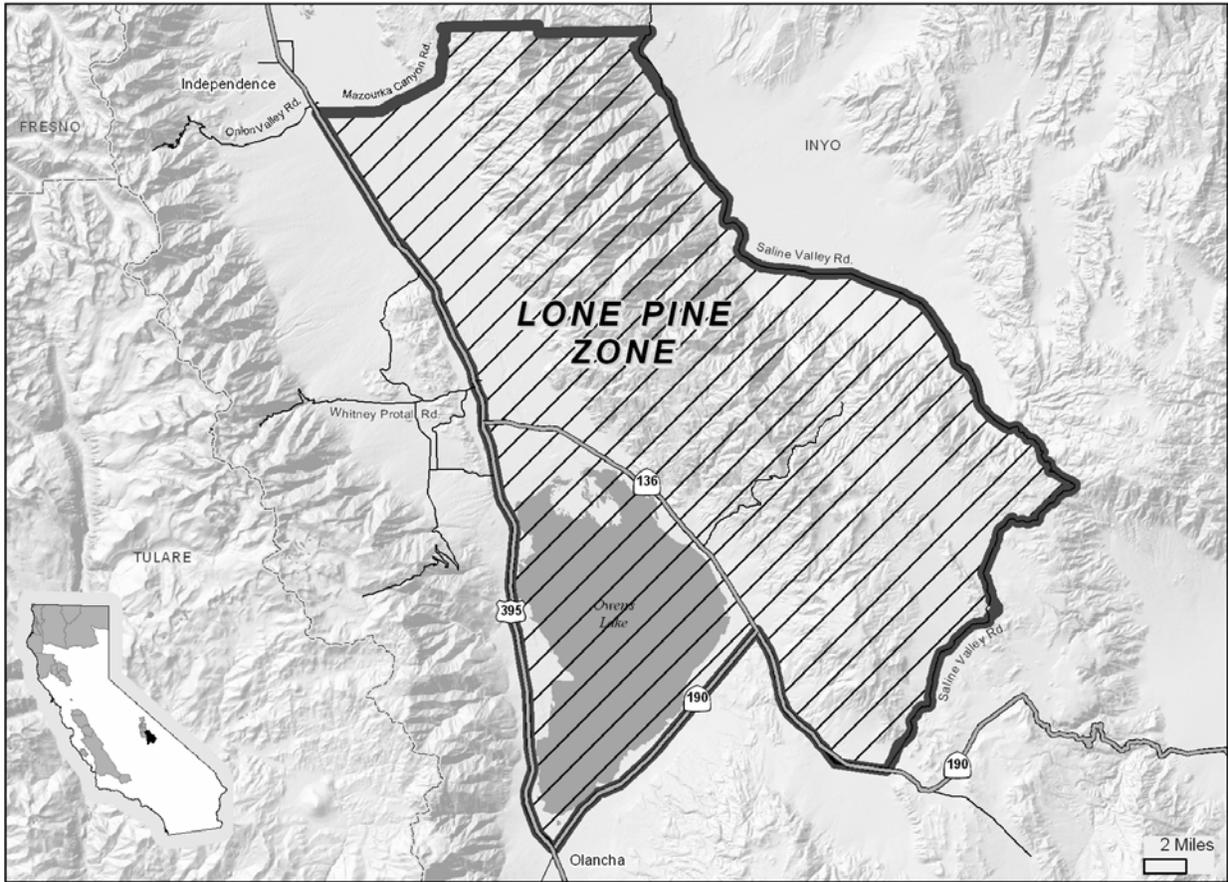
Big Lagoon Roosevelt Elk Hunt Boundary



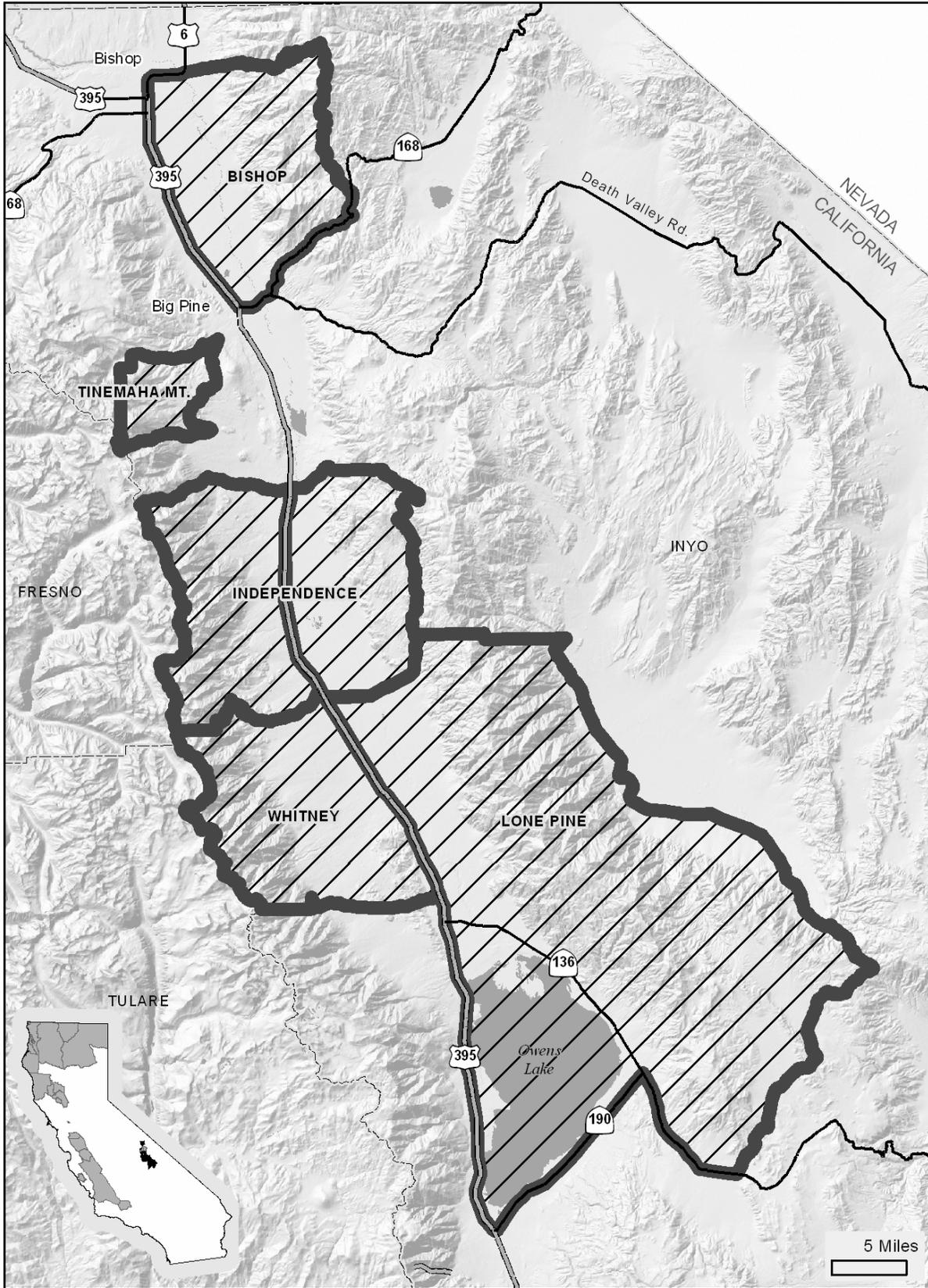
West Tinemaha Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



Lone Pine Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only Tule Elk Hunt Boundary

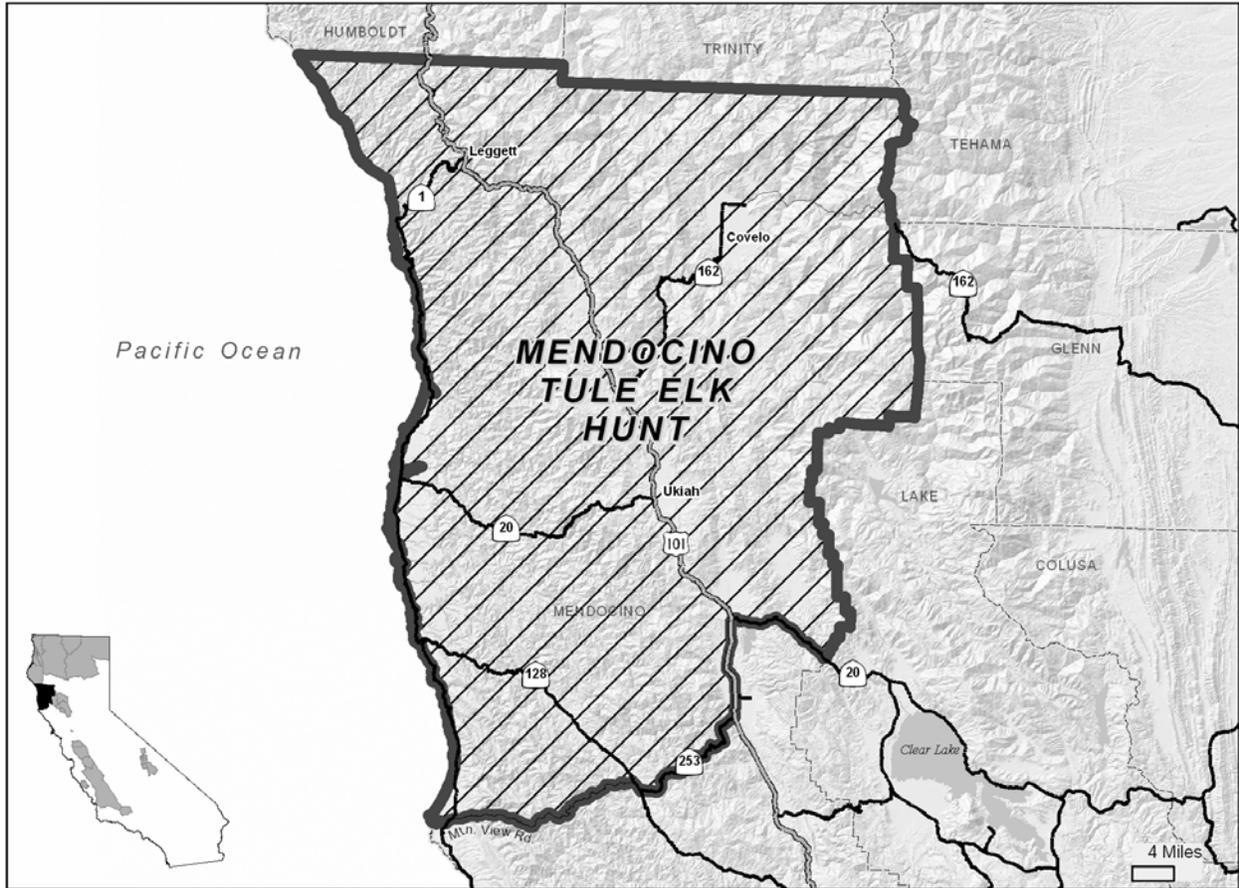


APPENDIX 5

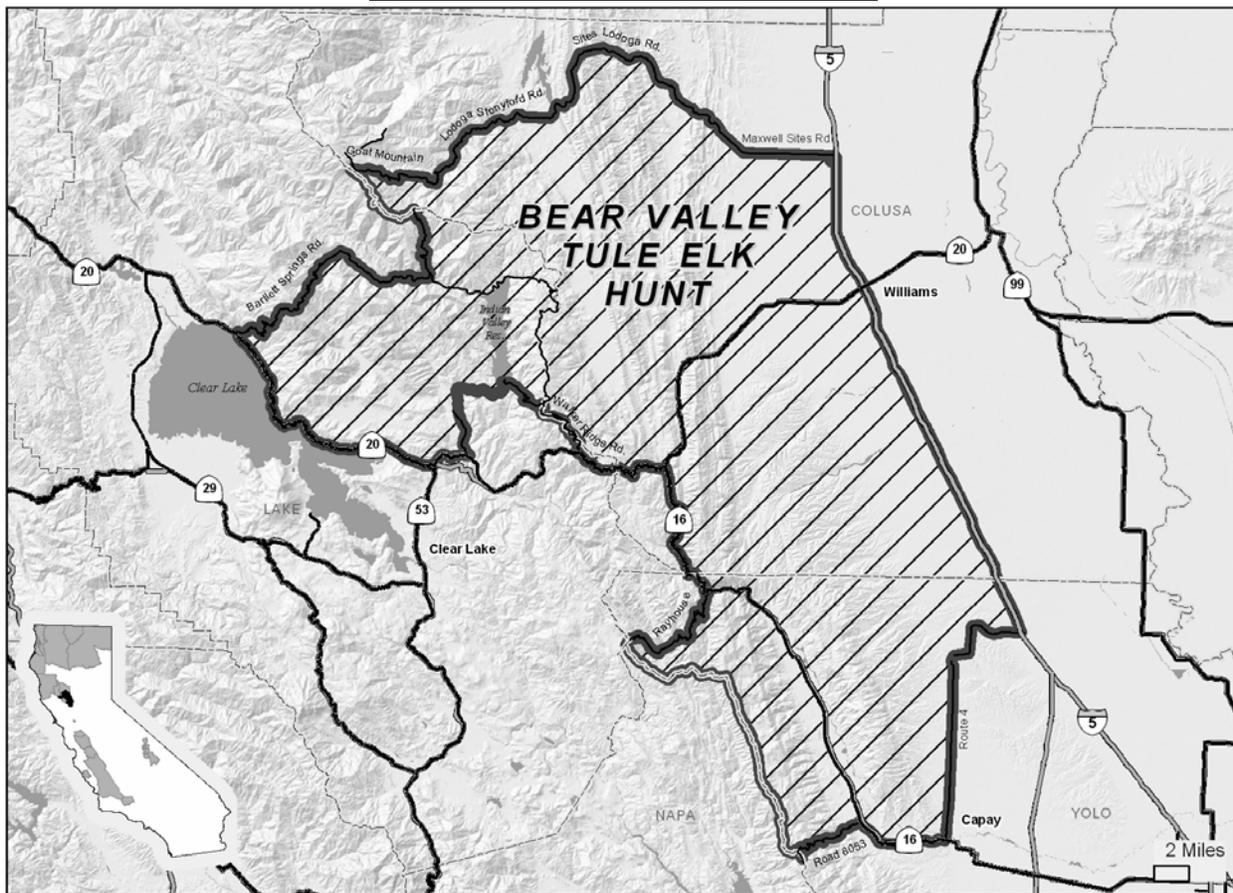
New Hunt Boundary Maps (Mendocino, Bear Valley, Lake Pillsbury, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Emigdio Mountains, Tinemaha Mountain, and Whitney)

Appendix 5 – New Hunt Boundary Maps

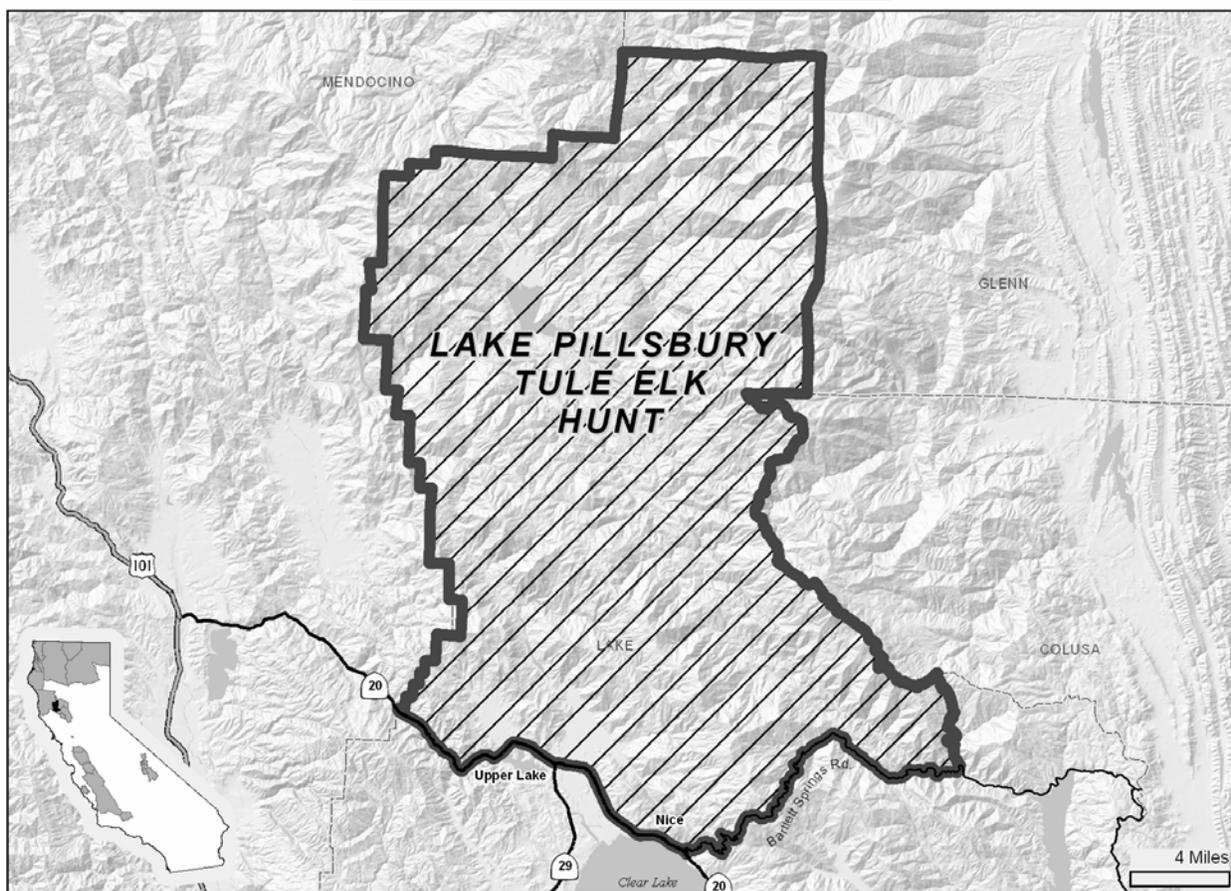
Mendocino Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



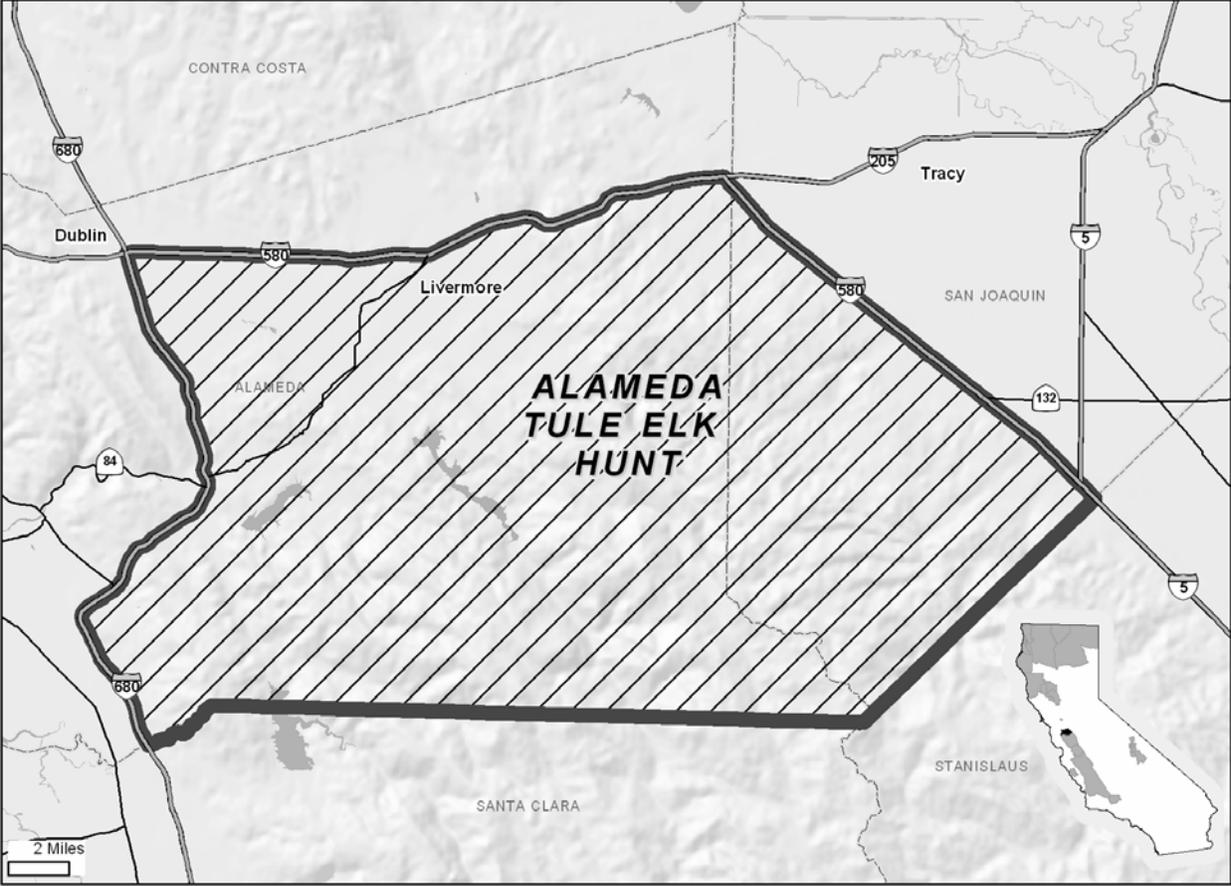
Bear Valley Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



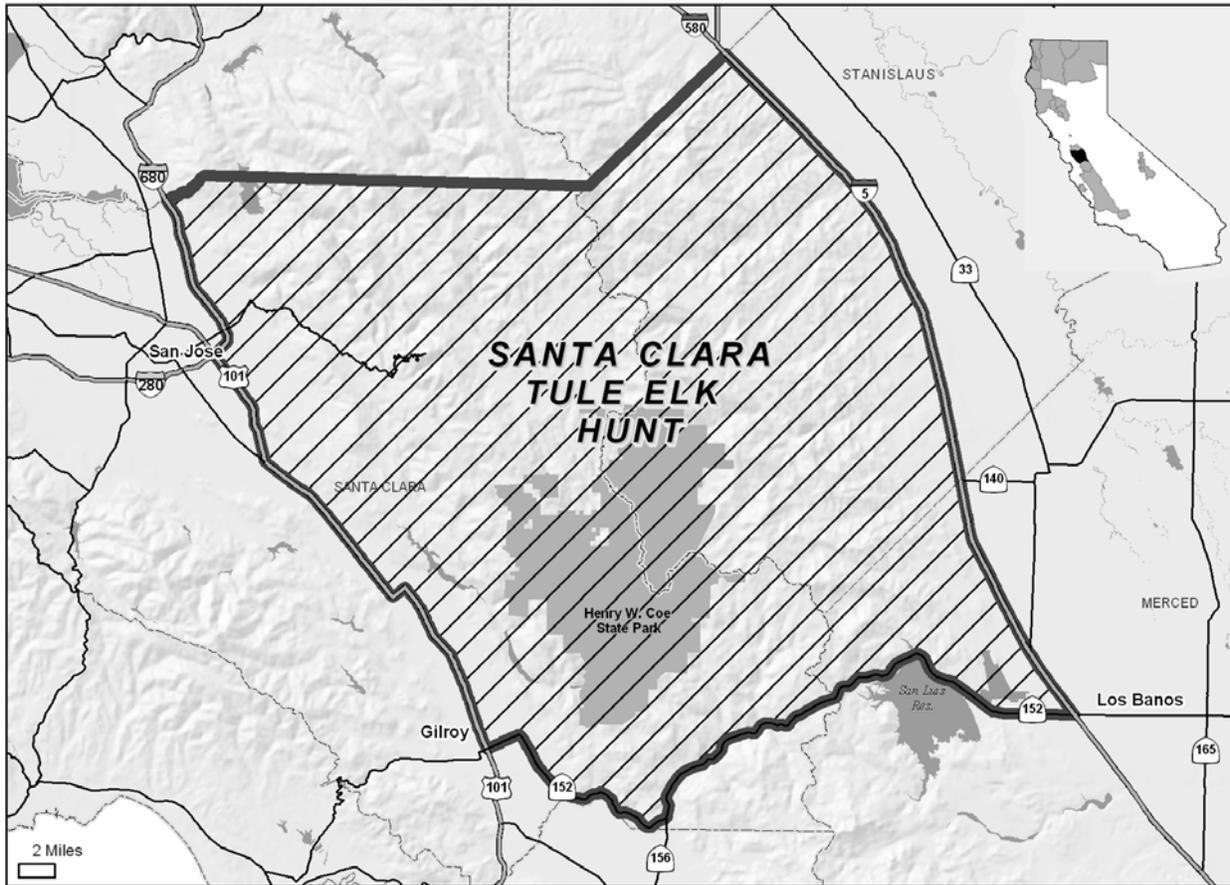
Lake Pillsbury Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



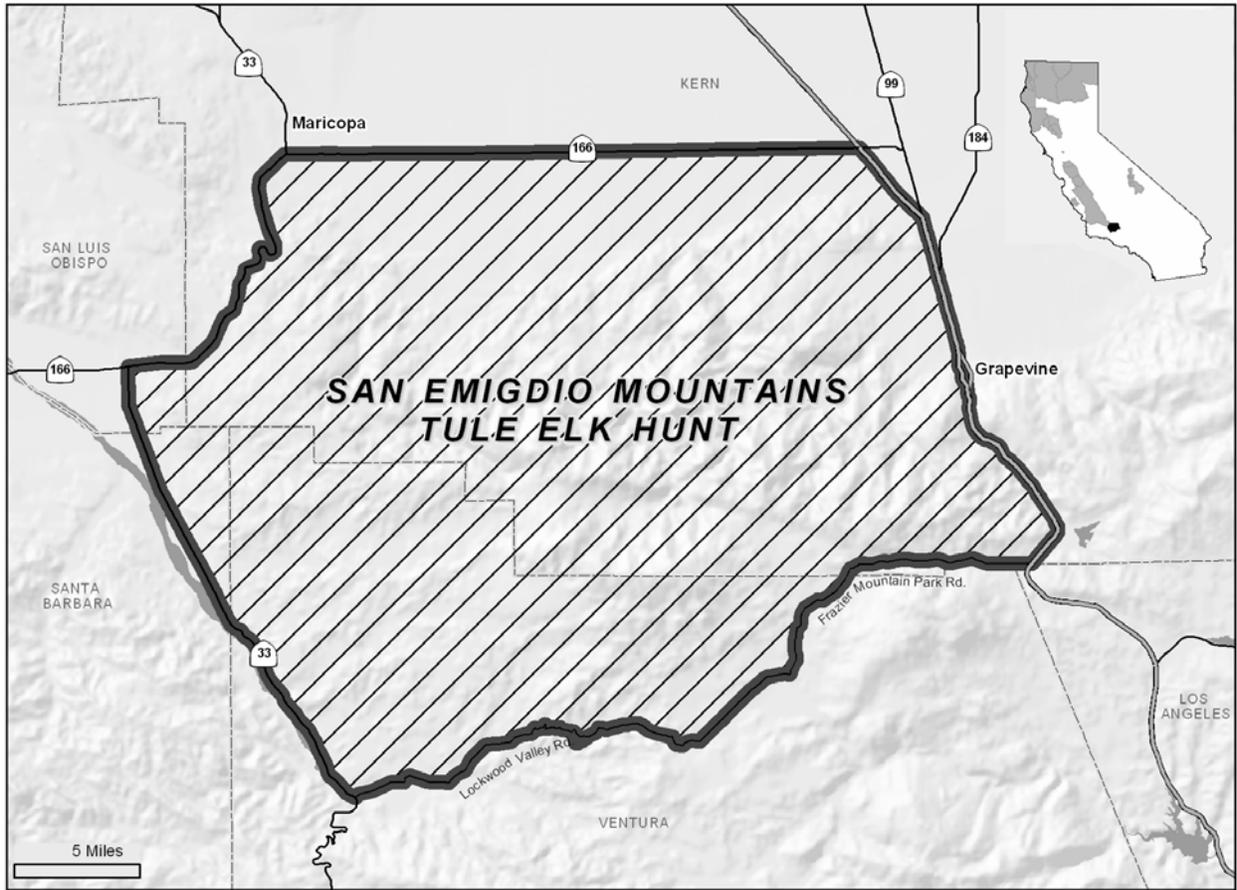
Alameda Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



Santa Clara Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



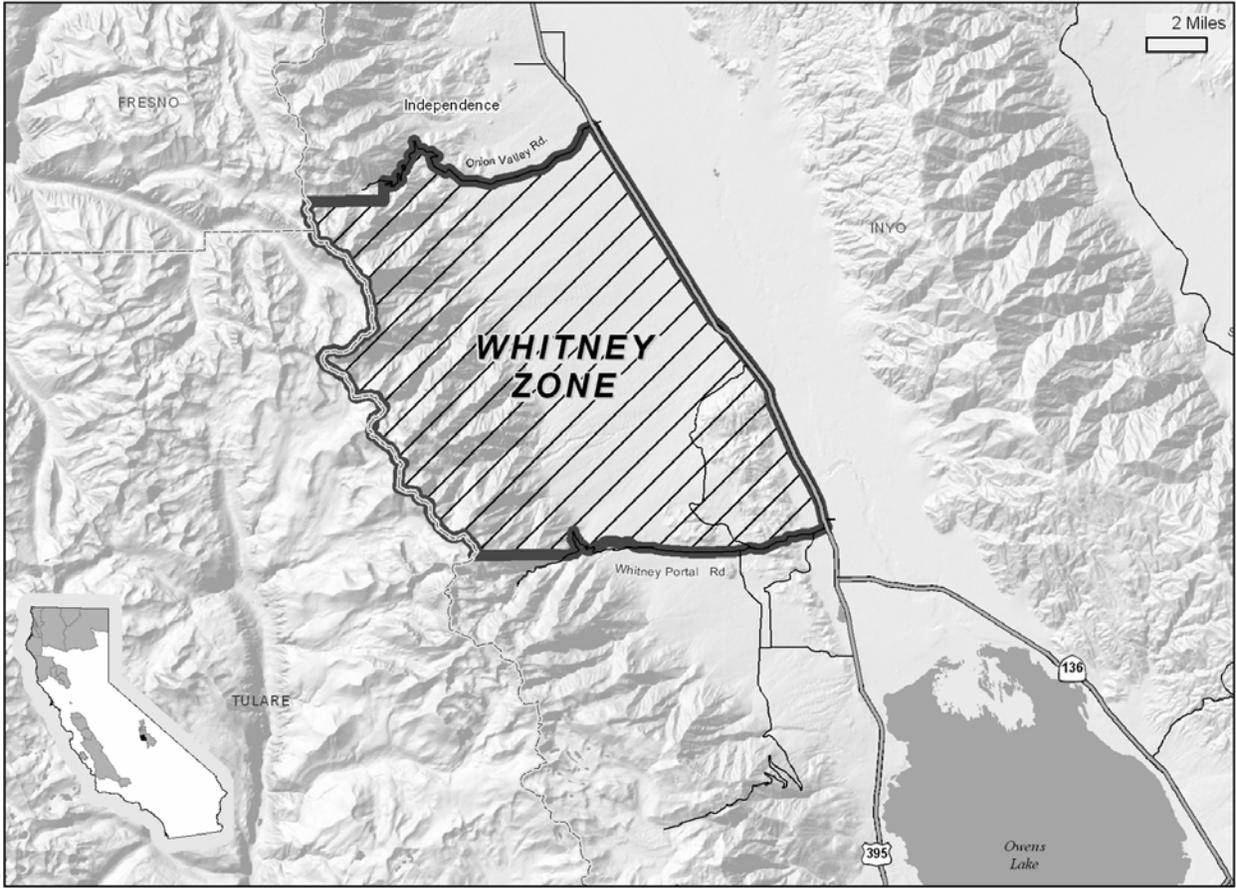
San Emigdio Mountains Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



Tinemaha Mountain Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



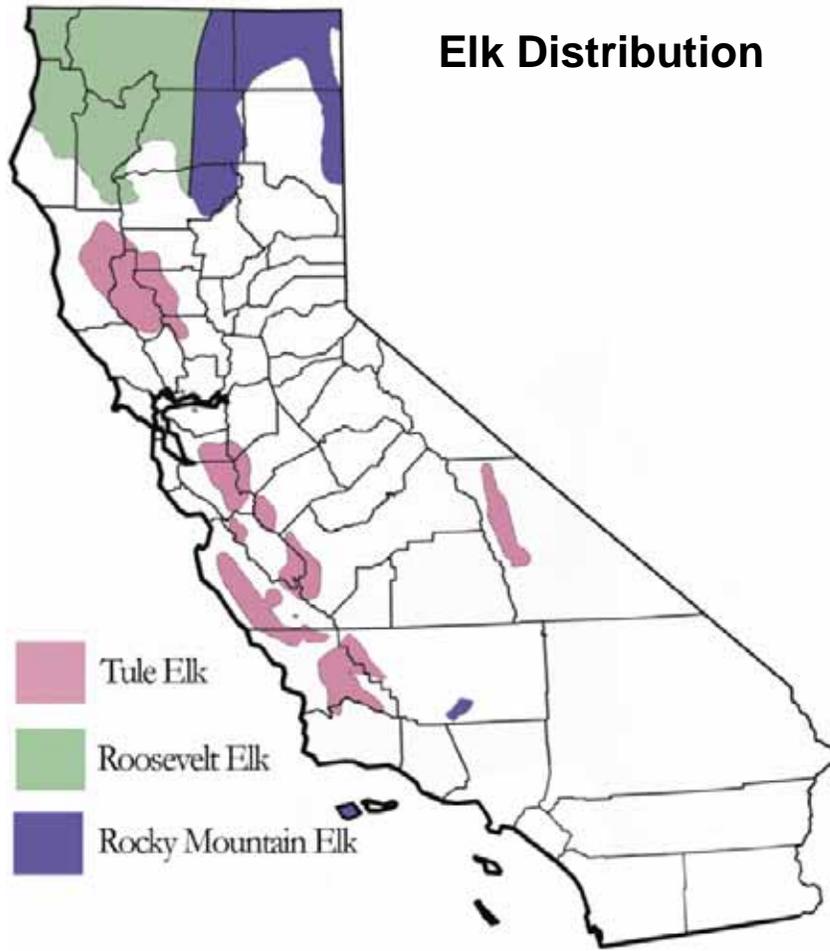
Whitney Tule Elk Hunt Boundary



APPENDIX 6

Current Elk Distribution Within California

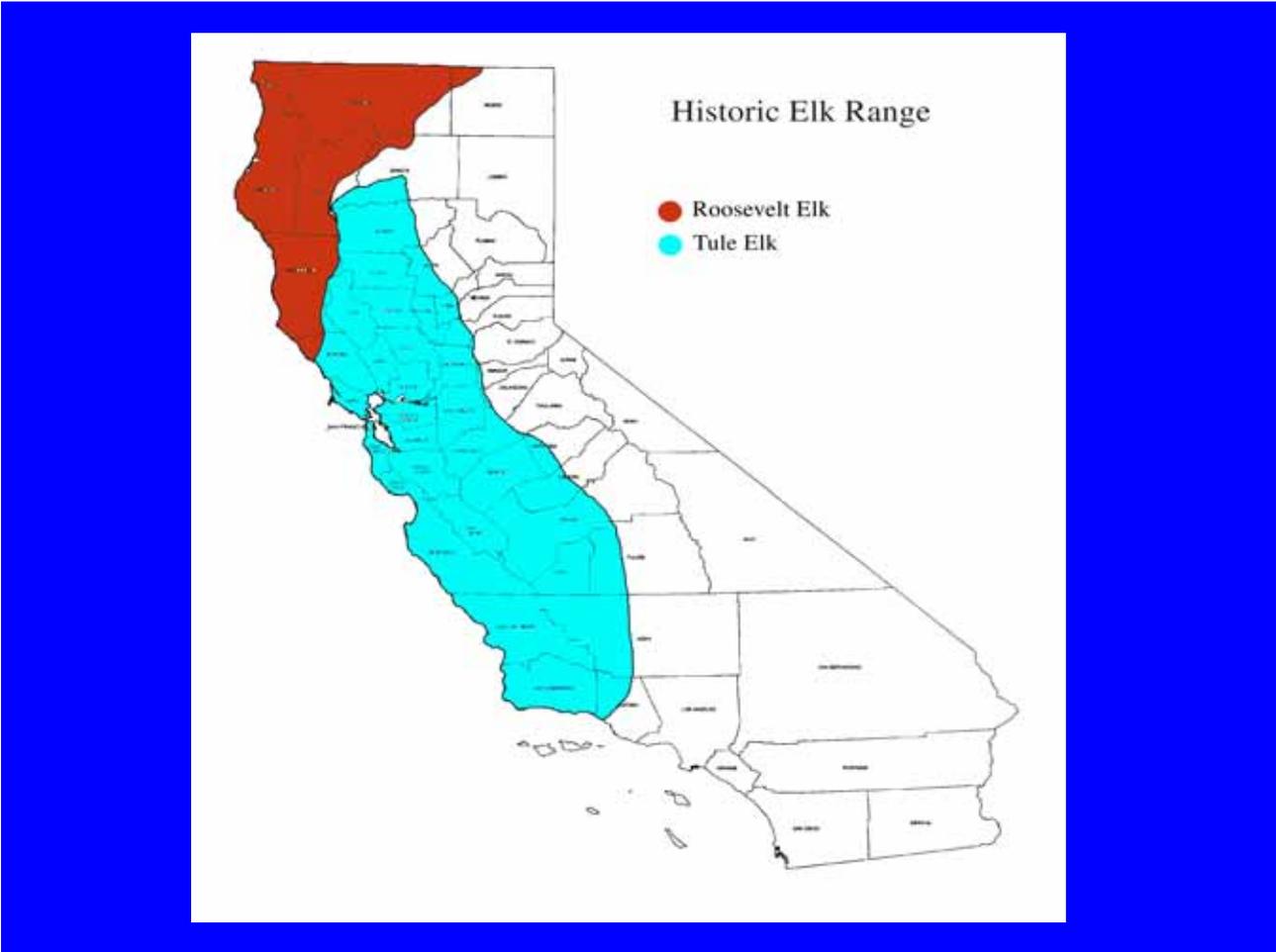
Appendix 6 - Current Elk Distribution Within California



APPENDIX 7

Historic Elk Range Within California

Appendix 7 – Historic Elk Range Within California



APPENDIX 8

Tule Elk Relocation Criteria

Appendix 8 – Tule Elk Relocation Criteria

1. Free-roaming - Herds will be free-roaming and managed as part of the ecosystem.
2. Historical Range - Translocations are limited to historic range (Figure 20).
3. Habitat Quality - The site must contain suitable conditions for providing year-long elk habitat. This includes natural vegetation capable of providing forage and cover, adequate perennial water and relatively moderate climatic conditions receiving only moderate snow.
4. Hybridization with Other Elk - The site should provide no chance of contact with other subspecies of elk.
5. Potential for Public Use - Preference shall be given to sites which increase opportunities for public use of tule elk, including hunting. Preferred sites will be on or adjacent to accessible public lands.
6. Conflicts with Humans - Tule elk will not be translocated to areas with a potential for significant conflicts with humans (agriculture, highways, and subdivisions); the rights of private landowners must be respected. A site should have low potential for elk damage to private property. This includes livestock competition and damage to agricultural and silvicultural crops as well as other property such as fences and irrigation systems. Adjacent landowners should understand and support the proposed relocation of tule elk. Private landownership is dynamic, and acceptable conditions may become depredation problems with a change in land use or the sale of neighboring parcel. Written agreements with neighboring landowners are recommended.
7. Population Management - Practical means of regulating population size should be available for translocated tule elk herds.
8. Competition with Other Wildlife - The status of other native ungulates and threatened and endangered species in the area of a proposed tule elk translocation should be considered as well as the potential for adverse impacts from competition.
9. Disease - Elk should not be relocated from or to areas with a chronic disease history where disease may affect elk or other ungulates.
10. Existing Populations - Tule elk will not be relocated to sites with or immediately adjacent to existing populations, unless additional elk are needed to improve the status of a population.

APPENDIX 9

Modifications to Existing Regulations

Appendix 9 – Modifications to Existing Regulations

NEW OR MODIFIED ELK HUNTS	Proposed Tag Range	Proposed Season Dates	2009 Tag Quota	2009 Season Dates	Change in number of Hunt Days
New Whitney tule elk hunt	0-30 archery antlerless 0-10 archery bull 0-10 antlerless 0-4 bull	Period 1 Sept. 11-26 Period 2 Oct. 2-10 Period 3 Oct. 16-24 Period 4 Nov. 6-14 Period 5 Dec. 4-12	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Tinemaha Mountain tule elk hunt	0-8 bull (for each period)	See Whitney tule hunt	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Mendocino tule elk hunt	0-4 bull 0-4 antlerless	Sept. 22- Oct. 3	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Lake Pillsbury tule elk hunt	0-4 bull 0-4 antlerless	Sept. 8-17	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Bear Valley tule elk hunt	0-4 bull 0-2 antlerless	Oct. 9-17	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Alameda tule elk hunt	0-4 bull	Oct. 9-24	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Santa Clara tule elk hunt	0-4 bull	Oct. 9-24	N/A	N/A	N/A
New San Emigdio Mountains tule elk hunt	0-2 bull 0-2 antlerless	Nov. 13-26	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify season dates Fort Hunter Liggett	Archery only 0-6 either-sex 0-10 antlerless Period one 0-14 antlerless 0-4 appr. antlerless Period two 0-16 antlerless Period 3 0-14 bull 0-2 appr. bull Muzzleloader Only 0-12 bull Early Season 0-4 bull	Period 1 Oct. 16-24 Period 2 Nov.20-28 Period 3 Dec.22-Jan.2 Archery Only either-sex Sept. 4-12 Archery Only antlerless Sept.25-Oct.3 Muzzleloader Only bull Nov.6-14 Early Season Sept. 14-19	Archery Only 3 either-sex 5 antlerless General Method Period 1 7 antlerless Period 2 8 antlerless Period 3 7 bull	Period 1 Oct. 8-12 Period 2 Nov. 25-29 Period 3 Dec. 30- Jan. 3 Archery Only Either-sex Sept. 3-7 Archery Only Antlerless Oct. 8-12	Period 1 +4 Period 2 +4 Period 3 +7 Archery Only either-sex +4 Archery Only antlerless +4 Muzzleloader Only bull N/A Early Season N/A
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northwestern Roosevelt elk hunt		Aug. 25-Sept. 12	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt		Aug. 25-Sept. 26	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt boundary	0-10 antlerless 0-30 bull 0-4 appr. either-sex 0-20 archery either-sex	General Season Sept. 15-26 Archery Sept. 1-12	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	0-30 antlerless 0-70 bull 0-4 appr. either-sex	General & appr. Sept. 8-19 Archery/Muzzleloader Oct. 30-Nov. 7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	0-10 antlerless 0-10 bull	Aug. 25-Sept. 3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify West Tinemaha tule elk hunt boundary	0-30 antlerless 0-10 bull	See Whitney tule hunt	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt boundary	General & Archery 0-30 antlerless 0-10 bull	See Whitney tule hunt	N/A	N/A	N/A
Add muzzle loader and archery only hunt in Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt	0-10 either-sex	Oct. 30-Nov. 7	N/A	N/A	N/A

Add muzzle loader only hunt in the Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	0-12 bull	Nov. 6-14	N/A	N/A	N/A
Add bull military hunt for Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	0-4 bull	Sept. 14-19	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify the Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only hunt (Bishop, Independence, Lone Pine, Tinemaha Mountain, & Whitney)	0-10 antlerless 0-10 bull	Aug. 14-22	5 either-sex	Aug. 8-16	0
Modify Independence tule elk hunt period one (1) from archery to muzzle loader only	0-10 antlerless 0-10 bull	Sept. 11-26	1 bull	Sept. 12-27	0
Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt from muzzle loader to archery only	0-30 antlerless 0-10 bull	Sept. 11-26	1 bull 1 antlerless	Sept. 12-27	0
Modify tag allocations for Tinemaha and West Tinemaha tule elk hunts separately	0-30 antlerless 0-10 bull	See Whitney tule hunt	N/A	N/A	N/A
Modify Siskiyou Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	0-30 antlerless 0-30 bull	Sept. 8-19	15 either-sex	Sept. 9-20	0
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	0-30 antlerless 0-70 bull 0-4 appr. either-sex	General & Appr. Sept. 8-19 Archery/Muzzleloader Oct. 30-Nov. 7	40 either-sex	Sept. 9-20	0
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt tag allocation	0-10 antlerless 0-30 bull	General Sept. 15-26 Archery Sept. 1-12	General 15 either-sex	Sept. 16-27	0
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	0-10 antlerless 0-10 bull	Aug. 25-Sept. 3	10 either-sex	Aug. 26- Sept. 4	0

APPENDIX 10

Impacts of Proposed Regulation Modification

Appendix 10 Impacts of Proposed Regulation Modification

	Impacts of Hunting Elk						
	Impacts on the gene pool	Impacts on social structure	Effects on habitat	Effects on Recreational Opportunities	Effects on other wildlife species	Effects on economics	Effects on public safety
New Whitney tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Tinemaha Mountain tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Mendocino tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Lake Pillsbury tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Bear Valley tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Alameda tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Santa Clara tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New San Emigdio Mountains tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates Fort Hunter Liggett	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northwestern Roosevelt elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify West Tinemaha tule elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant

Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt boundary	Not Significant						
Add muzzle loader and archery only hunt in Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt	Not Significant						
Add muzzle loader only hunt in the Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	Not Significant						
Add bull military hunt for Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	Not Significant						
Modify the Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only hunt (Bishop, Independence, Lone Pine, Tinemaha Mountain, & Whitney)	Not Significant						
Modify Independence tule elk hunt period one (1) from archery to muzzle loader only	Not Significant						
Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt period one (1) from muzzle loader to archery only	Not Significant						
Modify tag allocations for Tinemaha and West Tinemaha tule elk hunts separately	Not Significant						
Modify Siskiyou Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant						
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant						
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant						
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant						

	Impacts of Hunting Elk				
	Growth-Inducing impacts	Short-term uses and long term productivity	Significant irreversible environmental changes	Welfare of Individual animal	Cumulative Impacts
New Whitney tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Tinemaha Mountain tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Mendocino tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Lake Pillsbury tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Bear Valley tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Alameda tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New Santa Clara tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
New San Emigdio Mountains tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates Fort Hunter Liggett	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northwestern Roosevelt elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify season dates for the fund raising tag in the Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify West Tinemaha tule elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt boundary	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Add muzzle loader and archery only hunt in Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Add muzzle loader only hunt in the Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Add bull military hunt for Fort Hunter Liggett tule elk hunt	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify the Owens Valley Region Wide Archery Only hunt (Bishop, Independence, Lone Pine, Tinemaha Mountain, & Whitney)	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Independence tule elk hunt period one (1) from archery to muzzle loader only	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant
Modify Lone Pine tule elk hunt period one (1) from muzzle loader to archery only	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant	Not Significant

Modify tag allocations for Tinemaha and West Tinemaha tule elk hunts separately	Not Significant				
Modify Siskiyou Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant				
Modify Marble Mountain Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant				
Modify Northeastern Rocky Mountain elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant				
Modify Big Lagoon Roosevelt elk hunt tag allocation	Not Significant				

APPENDIX 11

Existing Conditions Regarding Elk Hunting

Appendix 11 - Existing Conditions Regarding Elk Hunting

§364. Elk.

(a) Siskiyou Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In that portion of Siskiyou County beginning at the junction of Interstate Highway 5 with the California-Oregon state line; east along the state line to Hill Road at Ainsworth Corner; south along Hill Road to Lava Beds National Monument Road; south along Lava Beds National Monument Road to USDA Forest Service Road 49; south along USDA Forest Service Road 49 to USDA Forest Service Road 77; west along USDA Forest Service Road 77 to USDA Forest Service Road 15 (Harris Spring Road); south along USDA Forest Service Road 15 to USDA Forest Service Road 13 (Pilgrim Creek Road); southwest along USDA Forest Service Road 13 to Highway 89; northwest along Highway 89 to Interstate Highway 5; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The season shall open on Wednesday preceding the second Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 19 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 15 either-sex tags and 15 antlerless tags.

(b) Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Siskiyou, Modoc, Lassen, and Shasta counties within a line beginning in Siskiyou County at the junction of the California-Oregon state line and Hill Road at Ainsworth Corner; east along the California-Oregon state line to the California-Nevada state line; south along the California-Nevada state line to the Tuledad-Red Rock-Clarks Valley Road (Lassen County Roads 506, 512 and 510); west along the Tuledad-Red Rock-Clarks Valley Road to Highway 395 at Madeline; west on USDA Forest Service Road 39N08 to Adin; west on Highway 299 to Interstate 5; north on Interstate 5 to Highway 89; southeast along Highway 89 to USDA Forest Service Road 13 (Pilgrim Creek Road); northeast along USDA Forest Service Road 13 to USDA Forest Service Road 15 (Harris Spring Road); north along USDA Forest Service Road to USDA Forest Service Road 77; east along USDA Forest Service Road 77 to USDA Forest Service Road 49; north along USDA Forest Service Road 49 to Lava Beds National Monument Road; north along Lava Beds National Monument Road to Hill Road; north along Hill Road to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the third Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Archery Only Season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(C) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the last Saturday in August and continue for 31 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags:

(A) General Season: 15 either-sex tags.

(B) Archery Only Season: 10 either-sex tags.

(C) Apprentice Hunt: 2 either-sex tags.

(5) Special Conditions: Elk may be taken during the Northeastern California Rocky Mountain Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season, with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt License tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(c) Del Norte Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Del Norte County owned or leased by the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the California-Oregon state line; south along Highway 101 to North Bank Road; southeast along North Bank Road to High Divide Road; northeast along High Divide Road to North Fork Smith River/Wimer Road; north along North Fork Smith River/Wimer Road to the California Oregon state line; west along the California-Oregon state line to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the last Wednesday in August and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 5 bull tags and 10 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(d) Marble Mountains Roosevelt Elk Hunt

(1) Area: In those portions of Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta and Siskiyou counties beginning at the intersection of Interstate Highway 5 and the California-Oregon state line; west along the state line to the Del Norte County line; south along the Del Norte County line to the intersection of the Siskiyou-Humboldt county lines; east along the Siskiyou-Humboldt county lines to Highway 96; south along Highway 96 to Highway 299; east along Highway 299 to Interstate Highway 5; north on Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the second Saturday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Fund Raising season shall open on the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in September and continue for 19 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags:

(A) General Hunt: 40 either-sex tags.

(B) Apprentice Hunt: 2 either-sex tags.

(C) Special Conditions: Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(e) Klamath Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those portions of Humboldt and Del Norte counties owned or leased by the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the Klamath River; south on Highway 101 to South Klamath Beach Road; west on South Klamath Beach Road to the Redwood National Park boundary; southwest and south along the Redwood National Park boundary to Highway 101; south on Highway 101 to the Redwood National Park boundary; southeast along the Redwood National Park boundary to the Bald Hills Road; southeast along the Bald Hills Road to the Klamath River; northwest along the Klamath River to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the first Wednesday in September and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 10 bull tags and 10 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(f) Big Lagoon Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In that portion of Humboldt County owned or leased by the California Redwood Company and the Green Diamond Resource Company within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and Hiltons Road; south on Hiltons Road to the western boundary of Redwood National Park; south and east along the western to its southern tip; north and east along the eastern boundary of Redwood National Park to Redwood Creek; south along Redwood Creek to Highway 299; east along Highway 299 to Forest Service Road 1; south along Forest Service Road 1 to Roddiscraft Road; west along Roddiscraft Road to the intersection of Snow Camp Road and the Humboldt-Trinity 115 Line and Trinity-Maple Creek 60 Line power line right-of-way; west along the Humboldt-Trinity 115 Line and Trinity-Maple Creek 60 Line power line right-of-way to Maple Creek Road; south along Maple Creek Road to Butler Valley Road; west along Butler Valley Road to Fickle Hill Road; north along Fickle Hill Road to Bayside Road; west along Bayside Road and 7th Street to Highway 101; north along Highway 101 to point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open the last Wednesday in August and continue for 10 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 10 either-sex tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(g) Owens Valley Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area:

(A) Bishop Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 6 in the town of Bishop; north and east along Highway 6 to the junction of Silver Canyon Road; east along Silver Canyon Road to the White Mountain Road (Forest Service Road 4S01); south along the White Mountain Road to Highway 168 at Westgard Pass; south and west along Highway 168 to the junction of Highway 395; north on Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(B) Lone Pine Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Mazourka Canyon Road; east and then north on Mazourka Canyon Road to the Inyo National Forest Boundary at the junction of the southern boundary of Township 12S and the northern boundary of Township 13S; east along the southern boundary of Township 12S to Saline Valley Road; south on Saline Valley Road to Highway 190; north and then southwest on Highway 190 to the junction of Highway 395 at Olancho; north on Highway 395 to the intersection of Whitney Portal Road; west along Whitney Portal Road to the northern boundary of Section 36, Township 15S, Range 34E; west along the northern boundary of sections 36, 35, 34 and 33 Township 15S, Range 34 E to the Inyo County Line; north along the Inyo County Line to the intersection of Section 27 Township 13S, range 33E; east along the southern boundary of sections 27, 26 and 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; north along the eastern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the intersection of Onion Valley Road; east along Onion Valley Road to the point of beginning.

(C) Independence Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Aberdeen Station Road; east on Aberdeen Station Road to its terminus at the southern boundary of Section 5, Township 11S, Range 35E; east along the southern boundary of sections 5, 4, 3, and 2, Township 11S, Range 35E to the Papoose Flat Road at Papoose Flat; south and east on Papoose Flat Road to Mazourka Canyon Road; south and then west on Mazourka Canyon Road to Highway 395; west along Onion Valley Road to the intersection of the Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; south along the eastern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the southern boundary of Section 25 Township 13S, Range 33E; west along the southern boundary of sections 27, 26, 25 Township 13S, Range 33E to the Inyo County line; North along the Inyo County Line to Taboose Creek; east along Taboose Creek to the intersection of Highway 395; south along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(D) Tinemaha Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 168 in the town of Big Pine; north and east along Highway 168 to the junction of the Death Valley Road; south and east along the Death Valley Road to the junction of the Papoose Flat Road; south along the Papoose Flat Road to the southern boundary of Section 2, Township 11S, Range 35E; west along the southern boundaries of sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 to the terminus of the Aberdeen Station Road in Section 5, Township 11S, Range 35E; south and west along the Aberdeen Station Road to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(E) West Tinemaha Zone: In that portion of Inyo County beginning at the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 168 in the town of Big Pine; south along Highway 395 to the north junction of Fish Springs Road; south along Fish Springs Road to the junction of Highway 395; south along Highway 395 to Taboose Creek in Section 14, Township 11S, Range 34E; west along Taboose Creek to the Inyo County line; north and west along the Inyo County line to the southeast corner of Section 23, Township 10S, Range 32E; north along the eastern boundaries of sections 23, 14, 11, 2, Township 10S, Range 32E, and the eastern boundary of Section 36, Township 9S, Range 32E to Glacier Lodge Road; east along Glacier Lodge Road to Crocker Avenue; east along Crocker Avenue to Highway 395; north along Highway 395 to the point of beginning.

(F) The Owens Valley fund-raising license tag shall be valid in any zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D) and (E).

(G) The Owens Valley archery only license tags shall be valid in any zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A), (B), (C), (D) and (E).

(H) The Bishop Muzzleloader Only license tags shall be valid in the Bishop zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(A) only during periods listed in (2)(A). The Lone Pine Muzzleloader Only license tags shall be valid in the Lone Pine zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(B) only during periods listed in (2)(A).

(I) The Tinemaha and West Tinemaha Archery Only license tags shall be valid in the Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones described in subsections 364(g)(1)(D) and (E) only during periods listed in (2)(A). The Independence Archery Only license tags shall be valid in the Independence zone described in subsection 364(g)(1)(C) only during periods listed in (2)(A).

(J) The apprentice hunt license tags shall be valid in the Bishop zone described in subsections 364(g)(1)(A) only during periods listed in (2)(B).

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, and West Tinemaha zones shall open on the second Saturday in September and extend for 16 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, and West Tinemaha zones shall open on the first Saturday in October and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha, and West Tinemaha zones shall open on the third Saturday in October and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(D) For Period Four, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones shall open on the first Saturday in November and extend for 9 consecutive days.

(E) For Period Five, the season for the Bishop, Lone Pine, Independence, Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones shall open on the first Saturday in December and continue for 9 consecutive days.

(F) The Owens Valley Archery Only season shall open on the second Saturday in August and extend for 9 consecutive days

- (G) Fund-raising Hunt: The Owens Valley Fund-raising Hunt shall open on the last Saturday in July and extend for 30 consecutive days.
- (3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.
- (4) Number of Tags:
- (A) Period One: Bishop Zone - 1 bull tag and 4 antlerless. Lone Pine Zone - 1 bull tag and 1 antlerless tag. Independence Zone - 1 bull tag. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones - 1 bull tag and 6 antlerless tags.
- (B) Period Two: Bishop Zone - 4 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 2 bull tags and 2 antlerless tags. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones - 9 antlerless tags.
- (C) Period Three: Bishop Zone - 1 bull tag and 4 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 2 antlerless tags. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones - 2 bull tags and 9 antlerless tags.
- (D) Period Four: Bishop Zone - 4 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 1 bull tag and 2 antlerless tags. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones - 9 antlerless tags.
- (E) Period Five: Bishop Zone - 4 antlerless tags. Lone Pine Zone - 2 antlerless tags. Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones - 2 bull tags and 9 antlerless tags.
- (F) Archery Only Season: 5 either-sex tags.
- (G) Fund-raising Hunt: 1 bull tag.
- (5) Special Conditions:
- (A) Elk may be taken during the Owens Valley Tule Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354.
- (B) Elk may be taken during Period 1 within the Independence, Tinemaha and West Tinemaha zones using Archery Equipment only, as specified in Section 354.
- (C) Elk may be taken during Period 1 within the Bishop and Lone Pine zones using Muzzleloader equipment only, as specified in Section 353.
- (D) Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.
- (h) Cache Creek Tule Elk Hunt:
- (1) Area: Those portions of Lake, Colusa and Yolo counties within the following line: beginning at the junction of Highway 20 and Highway 16; south on Highway 16 to Reiff-Rayhouse Road; west on Reiff-Rayhouse Road to Morgan Valley Road; west on Morgan Valley Road to Highway 53; north on Highway 53 to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to the fork of Cache Creek; north on the north fork of Cache Creek to Indian Valley Reservoir; east on the south shore of Indian Valley Reservoir to Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road; east on Walker Ridge-Indian Valley Reservoir Access Road to Walker Ridge Road; south on Walker Ridge Road to Highway 20; east on Highway 20 to the point of beginning.
- (2) Season:
- (A) The General and Apprentice Hunt season shall open on the second Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.
- (B) The season for antlerless elk shall open on the third Saturday in October and continue for 16 consecutive days.
- (3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags: 2 bull tags and 2 antlerless tags.

A. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 1 bull tag.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(i) Grizzly Island Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: Those lands owned and managed by the department as the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the second Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas the season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the second Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the third Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the third Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season for antlerless elk shall open on the Tuesday after the fourth Saturday in August and continue for 4 consecutive days, whereas the season for bulls and spike bulls shall open on the Thursday after the first Monday in September and continue for 4 consecutive days.

(D) The season for the Fund-raising Hunt shall open on the first Saturday in August and continue for 30 consecutive days, with advance reservations required by contacting the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area by telephone at (707) 425-3828.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 2 antlerless tags.

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 1 spike bull tag.

(B) Period Two: 2 bull tags, 1 spike bull tag, and 2 antlerless tags.

(C) Period Three: 1 bull tag

(D) Fund raising Hunt: 1 bull tag.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(j) La Panza Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of San Luis Obispo, Kern, Monterey, Kings, Fresno, San Benito, and Santa Barbara counties within a line beginning in San Benito County at the

junction of Highway 25 and County Highway J1 near the town Pacines, south along Highway 25 to La Gloria road, west along La Gloria rd, La Gloria road becomes Gloria road, west along Gloria road to Highway 101 near Gonzales, south along Highway 101 to Highway 166 in San Luis Obispo County; east along Highway 166 to Highway 33 at Maricopa in Kern County; north and west along Highway 33 to Highway 198 at Coalinga in Fresno County, north along Highway 33 to Interstate 5 in Fresno County, north along Interstate 5 to Little Panoche road/County Highway J1, southwest along Little Panoche road/County Highway J1 to the intersection of Little Panoche road/County Highway J1 and Panoche road/County Highway J1 in San Benito County, northwest along Panoche road/County Highway J1 to the point of beginning.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One the season shall open on the second Saturday in October and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two the season shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for 23 consecutive days.

(C) The Fund Raising season shall open on the first Saturday in October and extend for 65 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 6 bull tags and 5 antlerless tags.

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 1 antlerless tag.

(B) Period Two: 6 bull tags and 6 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunter tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(k) Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: That portion of Monterey County lying within the exterior boundaries of Fort Hunter Liggett, except as restricted by the Commanding Officer.

(2) Seasons: Due to military operations, season dates for the following periods are subject to further restriction, or may be rescheduled between September 1 and December 31 by the Commanding Officer.

(A) For Period One, the season shall open on the second Thursday in October and continue for 5 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Two, the season shall open on the fourth Wednesday in November and continue for 5 consecutive days.

(C) For Period Three, the season shall open on the last Wednesday in December and continue for 5 consecutive days.

(D) Archery Only Either-Sex Season shall be open the first Thursday in September and continue for 5 consecutive days.

(E) Archery Only Antlerless Season shall open on the second Thursday in October and continue for 5 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per person.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 14 antlerless tags (7 military and 7 general public).

1. Period One Apprentice Hunt: 4 antlerless tags (2 military and 2 general public).

(B) Period Two: 16 antlerless tags (8 military and 8 general public).

(C) Period Three: 14 bull tags (7 military and 7 general public).

1. Period Three Apprentice Hunt: 2 bull tags (1 military and 1 general public).

(D) Archery Only Season: 6 either-sex tags and 10 antlerless tags (3 either-sex tags military, 3 either-sex tags general public, 5 antlerless tags military and 5 antlerless tags general public).

(5) Special Conditions:

(A) All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory hunter orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(B) Tagholders shall be required to purchase an annual hunting pass available from Fort Hunter Liggett.

(C) Season dates and hunt areas are subject to restriction by the Commanding Officer of Fort Hunter Liggett based on military training.

(D) Elk may be taken during the Fort Hunter Liggett Tule Elk Hunt, Archery Only Season, with Archery Equipment only as specified in Section 354.

(E) Only persons possessing valid junior hunting licenses may apply for Apprentice Hunt license tags. Apprentice Hunt tagholders shall be accompanied by a nonhunting, licensed adult chaperon 18 years of age or older while hunting.

(I) East Park Reservoir Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: in those portions of Glenn and Colusa counties within a line beginning in Glenn County at the junction of Interstate Highway 5 and Highway 162 at Willows; west along Highway 162 (Highway 162 becomes Alder Springs Road) to the Glenn-Mendocino County line; south along the Glenn-Mendocino County line to the Glenn-Lake County line; east and then south along the Glenn-Lake County line to the Colusa-Lake County line; west, and then southeast along the Colusa-Lake County line to Goat Mountain Road; north and east along Goat Mountain Road to the Lodoga-Stonyford Road; east along the Lodoga-Stonyford Road to the Sites-Lodoga Road at Lodoga; east along the Sites-Lodoga Road to the Maxwell-Sites Road at Sites; east along the Maxwell-Sites Road to Interstate Highway 5 at Maxwell; north along Interstate Highway 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Seasons:

(A) For Period One, the season shall open the first Saturday in September and continue for 27 consecutive days.

(B) For Period Three, the season shall open on the first Saturday in September and continue for 27 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of Tags:

(A) Period One: 2 bull tags.

(B) Period Three: 4 antlerless tags.

(5) Special Conditions:

(A) All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(B) Access to private land may be restricted or require payment of an access fee.

(C) A Colusa County ordinance prohibits firearms on land administered by the USDI Bureau of Reclamation in the vicinity of East Park Reservoir. A variance has been requested to allow use of muzzleloaders (as defined in Section 353) on Bureau of Reclamation land within the hunt zone.

(m) Northwestern California Roosevelt Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of Humboldt and Del Norte counties not owned or leased by the California Redwood Company and the Green Diamond Resource Company within existing elk hunt boundaries as described in subsections 364(c)(1), (e)(1) and (f)(1), within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 299 and Highway 96, north along Highway 96 to the Del Norte-Siskiyou county line, north along the Del Norte-Siskiyou county line to the California-Oregon state line, west along the state line to the Pacific Coastline, south along the Pacific coastline to the Humboldt-Mendocino county line, east along the Humboldt-Mendocino county line to the Humboldt-Trinity county line, north along the Humboldt-Trinity county line to Highway 299, west along Highway 299 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season:

(A) The season shall open on the first Wednesday in September and continue for 12 consecutive days.

(B) The Fund Raising season shall open on last Wednesday in August and continue for 17 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 20 either-sex tags.

(n) San Luis Reservoir Tule Elk Hunt:

(1) Area: In those portions of Merced, Fresno, San Benito, and Santa Clara counties within a line beginning in Merced County at the junction of Highway 152 and Interstate 5 near the town of Santa Nella, west along Highway 152 to Highway 156 in Santa Clara County, southwest along Highway 156 to Highway 25 near the town of Holister in San Benito County, south along Highway 25 to the town of Paicine, south and east along J1 to Little Panoche Road, North and east along Little Panoche Road to Interstate 5 in Fresno County, north along Interstate 5 to the point of beginning.

(2) Season: The season shall open on the first Saturday in October and continue for 23 consecutive days.

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 elk per season.

(4) Number of License Tags: 3 either-sex tags.

(5) Special Conditions: All tagholders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Tagholders will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags.

(o) Multi-zone Fund Raising License Tag.

(1) Area: The multi-zone tag shall be valid in the areas described in section 364(a)(b)(d)(j)(m).

(2) Season: The multi-zone tag shall be valid during the authorized seasons described in section 364(a)(b)(d)(j)(m).

(3) Bag and Possession Limit: 1 bull elk as described in subsection 364(p)(1) per tag.

(4) Number of tags 1.

(p) Definitions:

(1) Bull elk: Any elk having an antler or antlers at least four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(2) Spike bull: A bull elk having no more than one point on each antler. An antler point is a projection of the antler at least one inch long and longer than the width of its base. (3)

Antlerless elk: Any elk, with the exception of spotted calves, with antlers less than four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

(4) Either-sex elk: For the purposes of these regulations, either-sex is defined as bull elk, as described in Section 364(o)(1), or antlerless elk as, described in Section 364(o)(3).

(q) Method of Take: Only methods for taking elk as defined in sections 353 and 354 may be used.

(r) Tagholder Responsibilities:

(1) No tagholder shall take or possess any elk or parts thereof governed by the regulations except herein provided.

(2) The department reserves the right to use any part of the tagholder's elk for biological analysis as long as the amount of edible meat is not appreciably decreased.

(3) Any person taking an elk which has a collar or other marking device attached to it shall provide the department with such marking device within 10 days of taking the elk.

(s) The use of dogs to take or attempt to take elk is prohibited.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203, 332, 1050 and 1572, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 203, 203.1, 332, 713, 1050, 1570-1572, and 3951, Fish and Game Code.