



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Director's Office
1416 Ninth Street, 12th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.wildlife.ca.gov

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



Notice of Completion

Draft Environmental Document

Adding Section 250.1, Amending Sections 311, 353, 464, 465, 475, and 485, as well as Repealing Section 355 of Title 14 California Code of Regulations

Phasing of Nonlead Ammunition Requirement

Note to County Clerks: Pursuant to the Public Resources Code Section 21092.3 and Section 15087(d), Title 14, California Code of Regulations, the Notice of Completion must be posted within 24 hours of receipt and must remain posted for a period of at least 30 days

Project Location: Statewide

Lead Agency: California Fish and Game Commission

Review Period: January 7, 2015 – February 23, 2015

Project Description: AB 711, which became effective January 1, 2014 (Stats. 2013, ch 742, § 2, adding Fish & G. Code, § 3004.5) requires the use of nonlead ammunitions statewide not later than July 1, 2019 when taking any wildlife with a firearm. More specifically as to the advanced phasing that is a subject of the Proposed Program, Section 3004.5 requires that by July 1, 2015, the Commission must promulgate regulations that phase in the statute's requirements, and that, if any of the statutes requirements can be implemented practicably, in whole or in part, in advance of July 1, 2019, the Commission shall implement those requirements (Fish & G. Code § 3004.5(j)).

The Proposed Program is the phasing-in of the nonlead requirement not later than July 1, 2019. In the first phase, effective July 1, 2015, nonlead ammunition will be required when taking all wildlife on state Wildlife Areas and Ecological Reserves. In addition, nonlead ammunition will be required for hunters taking Nelson bighorn sheep in California's desert areas. In phase two, effective July 1, 2016, nonlead ammunition will be required when taking upland game birds with a shotgun, except for dove, quail, and snipe, and any game birds taken under the authority of a licensed game bird club as provided in sections 600 and 600.4, Title 14, California Code of Regulations. In addition, nonlead ammunition will be required for the take of resident small game mammals, furbearing mammals, nongame mammals, nongame birds, and any wildlife for depredation purposes, with a shotgun statewide. In the final phase, effective July 1, 2019, pursuant to Fish and Game Code 3004.5 only nonlead ammunition may be used when taking any wildlife with a firearm for any purpose in California.

Anticipated Environmental Effects: The Proposed Program is not anticipated to have any significant effects on the environment.

Submission of Comments: For those interested, written comments or questions concerning this Draft EA should be submitted within this review period and directed to the name and address

listed below. Submittal of written comments via e-mail (Microsoft Word format) would be greatly appreciated.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Attn: Craig Stowers
Phasing of Nonlead Ammunition Requirement
Draft ED Comments
1812 9th Street
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Phone: 916-445-3553
Email: Wildlifemgmt@wildlife.ca.gov

All documents mentioned herein or related to this Program can be reviewed online at the Program Website (<https://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/lead-free/>). Additionally, copies of the Draft ED along with all referenced documents are available for public review at the following location:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Resources Building
1416 9th Street, 12th Floor
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