

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
**Big Game Management Account Funding
Proposal Solicitation Notice**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is soliciting grant proposals from qualified non-profit organizations in the following subject areas:

1. Restoration or Enhancement

Wildlife habitat restoration or enhancement projects on lands that are open to the public (excluding CDFW owned properties) for big-game hunting opportunities. Projects of this type include, but are not limited to, the following examples:¹

- a. Restoration of habitat(s) following wildfire events;
- b. Fencing projects to control/direct grazing or other land use activities;
- c. Conifer removal to enhance mountain meadow habitats;
- d. Maintenance of existing and/or construction of new water source (ie guzzlers, spring development) projects.

2. Research

Provide greater understanding of population dynamics, habitat use, and limiting factors that impact big-game species in California.²

Grant Information/Proposal Submittal Instructions:

A total of up to \$1,000,000 of Big Game Management Account (BGMA) funds will be available for grants under this proposal solicitation notice (PSN). Only those projects with annual budgets between \$10,000 and \$200,000 will be considered for funding. Multi-year projects will be considered but are subject to annual review and approval before each subsequent years work is implemented. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Craig Stowers, Environmental Program Manager, at 916-445-3553 or craig.stowers@wildlife.ca.gov

The submission date for proposals to receive funding for this grant cycle is Friday, **March 6, 2015**. Applications may be submitted by email with the subject line title of "BGMA Grant Proposal" to wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov. Hard copy applications shall be addressed to:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Chief, Wildlife Branch
ATTN: BGMA Grant Proposal
1812 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

¹ *Grant recipients will be responsible for all environmental compliance requirements necessary to implement and complete their proposal(s).*

² *Any proposals that require animal capture must be reviewed and approved by CDFW's Large Mammal Advisory Committee (LMAC). Final grant approval will be contingent upon review and approval of all animal handling procedures, data collection, and data analysis methodologies by this committee.*

All hard-copy applications for FY 15/16 funding must have a U.S. POSTAL SERVICE POSTMARK no later than **March 6, 2015**. Proposals delivered by any other means (FEDEX, U.P.S., etc.) including hand delivery must be delivered no later than **March 6, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** Incomplete applications, applications using other than the standard format provided, or those delivered after the identified deadline will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

If a proposal is funded, the grantee must submit additional information before a grant agreement is prepared and executed. The applicable forms described in this section are for informational purposes only. **Do not submit these forms with your proposal.** When applicants are notified that their project has been approved for funding, they shall be required to complete, sign, and return the forms provided if not already on file. These additional forms may include:

- Certification of Nonfederal Contributions: In-kind/Third Party (GMB Form D.)
- Payee Data Record form (STD. 204). This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std204.pdf>.
- Federal Taxpayer ID Number
- A Nondiscrimination Compliance Statement form (STD. 19) will be required for grants of \$5,000.00 or more per Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 8113.
This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std019.pdf>.
- A Drug-Free Workplace Certification (STD. 21) will be required for all grants regardless of grant dollar amount.
This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std021.pdf>.

C. FY1516 BGMA Grant time-line:

- a. Call for Proposals - February 6, 2015
- b. Grant Proposals due - March 6, 2015
- c. Internal/Advisory Committee Review - Completed by April 3, 2015
- d. Advisory Committee recommendations - Completed by April 22, 2015
- e. Executive Committee review and approval - Completed by April 29, 2015
- f. Award Notification and Grant Preparation - Completed by July 1, 2015

Scoring Procedure

Administrative Review

In all program areas, an administrative review will determine if the proposal package is complete and meets all the requirements for submission. If the proposal does not pass the administrative review, the proposal will not be considered further for funding in this cycle.

Program Review

Scoring Process

The CDFW Big-Game Technical Review Committee (BGTRC) will independently review each proposal submitted based on the criteria identified below. The grant application will be given a score based on the criteria below. Applications will also be reviewed by the Big Game Management Account Advisory Committee (BGMAAC) established under Section 3953(e) of the Fish and Game Code. The recommendations of both the BGTRC and BGMAAC will be forwarded to CDFW's Executive Team for review and final approval.

Evaluation Criteria

Individual proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria; scientific/research projects, use categories a through d; hunter opportunity and outreach and educational purposes use categories c through f.

a. Achievement of identified species goals and objectives (max. 25 pts)

Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Increasing efficiency of methods used to determine population demographics (abundance and distribution);
2. Increasing wildlife health/condition;
3. Alleviation of depredation and/or nuisance wildlife issues;
4. Increasing the quantity/quality of appropriate habitat types on public lands.

b. Scientific merit of proposed approach (max. 25 pts)

This includes, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Use of peer-reviewed techniques for data collection (study design);
2. Use of appropriate analytical design;
3. Literature search results.
4. Supporting scientific information, and/or demonstrated results for habitat-related activities.

c. Products (max. 25 pts)

Products include, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Publication in scientific journals;

2. Management recommendations;
3. More efficient data collection protocols;
4. Educational materials for public consumption.
5. Acres of habitat treated, manipulated, or improved by project.

d. **Organizational capacity to satisfactorily complete the grant (max. 25 pts)**

Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Demonstrated ability of proponent to successfully complete grant(s);
2. Sufficient staff available to complete the grant;
3. Existing equipment available for use on the grant project.

e. **Public hunting opportunity (max. 25 pts)**

Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Enhancing or increasing hunting opportunity for upland game birds on public lands;
2. Enhancing public hunting access on public and private lands.

f. **Hunting and wildlife conservation outreach & education (max. 25 pts)**

Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Creating and developing outreach and educational materials;
2. Developing and implementing various hunting and other wildlife related educational programs/activities.