California Fish and Game Commission Official Notice of Determination

The executive director of the California Fish and Game Commission certifies that on April 18, 2024, the Commission found the actions listed below were taken in compliance with Section 781.5, Article 3, Chapter 4, Subdivision 3, Division 1, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, and Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code and, therefore, has posted this notice of determination (decision) with the Secretary for Natural Resources.

Copies of the environmental document, related documents, and action taken are available for inspection during normal office hours by appointment at the Commission's office at 715 P Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento 95814, (916) 653-4899, or electronically by request to FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

Project Title: Mammal Hunting - Bighorn Sheep, Pronghorn Antelope, Elk Hunting, Cooperative Hunting Regulations, and Preference Points (Addendum to the 2019 Environmental Document Regarding Bighorn Sheep Hunting) (Addendum to the 2004 Final Environmental Document Regarding Pronghorn Antelope Hunting) (Addendum to the 2019 Supplemental Environmental Document to the 2010 Final Environmental Document Regarding Elk Hunting)

Project

- Submitted by: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Location: Statewide

Description: Amendments to existing hunting regulations for various species and programs in the state, including:

- Modifying hunt tag quotas for Nelson bighorn sheep.
- Modifying hunt tag quotas for Pronghorn antelope.
- Modifying hunt tag quotas and increasing Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) tag allocations with the modifications to Section 555, for Elk and SHARE.
- Clarifying the application process and limit the number of tags per landowner for zones x2a, x5a, and x5b in Cooperative deer hunting areas.
- Modifying qualifying criteria and tag allocation with "conflict zones" in existing section 555, Cooperative elk hunting areas, and define conflict zones, increase hunting opportunity, and address chronically elevated levels of human-elk conflict on private property in a new Section 555.1.

• Require junior hunters to return all first-choice tags to be eligible for preference points reinstatement, require the carcass portion of tags to be included with harvest reports for point reinstatement, and clarify how tag-holder-return requirements apply within the context of a hunting party.

Determination: Adopted April 18, 2024 – The Commission has determined that this project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

Melissa A. Miller + tensor

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director California Fish and Game Commission <u>May 17, 2024</u> Date