



**GAINES & ASSOCIATES**  
**“GAINES REPORT”**

**CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
UPDATE**

**APRIL 12, 2021**

This *Gaines & Associates* “California Fish and Game Commission Update” is intended to provide our clients with the status of items of concern currently in front of the California Fish and Game Commission – including what to expect at this Wednesday’s meeting of the Commission, and a recap of what took place at the Commission’s February 2021 meeting.

This “*Gaines Report*” is client privileged and provided as a service to clients of *Gaines & Associates*.

For more information on any of the issues below, or more detail on our efforts to protect and promote our client’s interests, please contact us at [info@gainesandassociates.net](mailto:info@gainesandassociates.net)

**CALIFORNIA FISH & GAME COMMISSION – April 2021 Meeting Agenda**

The April 2021 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission is a one-day webinar/teleconference meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

For instructions on how watch or listen to the meeting, or how to provide public comment during the meeting, visit [FGC Meeting - Watch/Participate](#)

All agenda items of interest and concern to clients of *Gaines & Associates* are highlighted below:

To view the full agenda, click [FGC – April 2021 Mtg Agenda](#)

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021 – 9:00 AM**

**CONSENT**

***Agenda Item 9 – Mountain Lion***

Under this agenda item the Commission will consider granting a Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) request for a six-month extension to deliver its one-year status review report on the

petition to list six populations of mountain lion as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA).

To provide some background, in June 2019, the Commission received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity and the Mountain Lion Foundation to list six populations identified as the southern California/central coast evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) of mountain lion as threatened under CESA. In April 2020, the Commission determined that the petition provided sufficient information to indicate that the petitioned action may be warranted and established populations of mountain lions in those ESUs as a protected, candidate species. Pursuant to California Fish and Game Code (FGC), DFW has one year to complete a status review from the date of notice, unless the Commission grants an extension of time.

At this meeting, the Commission will consider DFW's request for a six-month extension to further analyze and evaluate the available science, to undergo the peer review process, and to complete its status review. Note that the Commission must receive the DFW status review report before they can make a final listing decision.

To view the full petition filed to the Commission by the Center for Biological Diversity and the Mountain Lion Foundation, click [CBD/MLF Petition to List](#)

To review the complete Commission staff summary for agenda item 9, click [FGC Staff Summary – Petition to List](#)

### **CONSENT**

#### ***Agenda Item 10 – California Bighorn Sheep***

Under this item the Commission will receive the DFW five-year status review of the listing of California bighorn sheep under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA).

To provide some background, California bighorn sheep (a.k.a. Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep) is a distinct subspecies of bighorn sheep that occurs in fourteen isolated subpopulations throughout the Sierra Nevada. Listed as a threatened species under CESA by the Commission in 1971, the Sierra Nevada bighorn was uplisted to endangered in 1999, and is currently included in the Commission's list of endangered animals. The subspecies has also been listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) since 2000.

Pursuant to the FGC, DFW is required to reevaluate threatened and endangered species every five years by developing a status review to determine whether conditions that led to the original listing are still present or have changed. When DFW undertakes a five-year review of species that are also listed under the federal ESA, FGC requires DFW's review to be conducted in conjunction with USFWS's five-year review process. The USFWS conducted its five-year status review of the Sierra Nevada bighorn in 2019.

At this meeting, DFW will provide the Commission with their 2021 status review of Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep and recommend that, although the distribution and abundance of the subspecies has improved with sustained conservation and management actions, there is sufficient scientific information to indicate that the Sierra Nevada bighorn should remain as listed as endangered under CESA.

Following formal receipt of DFW's status review at this meeting, the Commission is expected to schedule the Department to provide a full presentation on the results of their review for the June 2021 Commission meeting.

To review the Commission staff summary for agenda item 10 – including DFW's five-year status review document, click [FGC Staff Summary – CA Bighorn Sheep – 5 Year Status](#)

### ***Agenda Item 11 – Waterfowl Hunting (Annual)***

This item will serve as the final adoption hearing on changes to waterfowl regulations DFW is proposing for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season.

At this meeting, DFW Waterfowl Program Lead Melanie Weaver will provide an overview of on DFW's recommended seasons and bag limits for ducks and geese in all five of California's waterfowl hunting zones for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season.

Ms. Weaver will open her presentation by stating that, because waterfowl are migratory and cross international and state boundaries, the USFWS must first establish a season and bag limit "federal framework" within which the states may be more restrictive, but not more liberal. Ms. Weaver will note that the federal frameworks for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season are as follows:

#### **Federal Frameworks**

##### Ducks

*107-day season from the Saturday closest to September 24<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup> and which includes a 7-duck daily bag limit, including up to:*

- *7 Mallards (only 2 hens)*
- *1 Pintail*
- *2 Canvasback*
- *2 Redheads*
- *2 Scaup (during an 86-day Season)*

##### Goose

*Between 100 and 107 day season*

*Generally 30/day, including:*

- *20 white geese*
- *10 dark geese*
- *2 Brant/day*

*No changes to 2020/2021 regulations, except:*

- *Brant - Increased to 37-day season*

*(Based on 3-year average winter brant survey = 156,400*

*Liberal regulation package > 147,000)*

Ms. Weaver will then offer the below general summary of DFW's recommendations for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season:

- *Increase the duck season length in most zones to 101 days. (January 31, 2022 falls on a Monday)*
- *Two days of "falconry-only" season for the Balance of State Zone, Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone, and Southern California Zone*

Ms. Weaver will then provide a detailed overview of DFW's specific recommended waterfowl seasons for 2021/2022, by zone, as follows:

**DFW Recommended Duck Seasons**

- *Northeastern Zone Season:*
  - *Regular Season: October 2 – January 12 (103 days)*
  - *Scaup: October 2 – November 28 (58 days) and December 16 – January 12 (28 days)*
- *Balance of the State/Southern San Joaquin Valley/Southern California Zones:*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – January 31 (101 days)*
  - *Scaup: November 7 – January 31 (86 days)*
- *Colorado River Zone:*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – January 31 (101 days)*
  - *Scaup: November 7 – January 31 (86 days)*  
*(CA Must Match AZ Regulations)*

**DFW Recommended Goose Seasons & Bag Limits**

- *Northeastern Zone Goose Seasons:*
  - *Regular Season:*
    - *Canada Geese: October 2 – January 9 (100 days)*
    - *White Geese and Whitefronts Geese: October 2 – November 28 (58 days) and January 1 – January 14 (14 days)*
    - *Late Season: White Geese & Whitefronts: February 6 – March 10 (33 days)*
- *Northeastern Zone Goose Bag Limits:*
  - *30 Birds Total/Day:*
    - *20 White Geese*
    - *10 Dark Geese*
    - *No More Than 2 Large Canada Geese*
- *Balance of the State Zone Goose Seasons:*
  - *Early Canada Goose Season: October 2 – October 6 (5 days)*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – January 30 (100 days)*
  - *Late Season: White Geese & Whitefronts: February 19 – February 23 (5 days)*
- *Balance of the State Zone Goose Bag Limits:*
  - *30 Birds Total/Day:*
    - *20 White Geese*

- 10 Dark Geese
- *Southern San Joaquin and Southern California Zone Goose Season:*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – January 31 (101 days)*
- *Southern San Joaquin and Southern California Zone Goose Bag Limits:*
  - *30 Birds Total/Day:*
    - 20 White Geese
    - 10 Dark Geese (*Southern San Joaquin Zone*)
    - 3 Dark Geese (*Southern California Zone*)
- *Colorado River Zone Goose Season:*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – January 31 (101 days)*  
(CA Must Match AZ Regulations)
- *Colorado River Zone Goose Bag Limits:*
  - *20 Birds Total/Day:*
    - Up to 20 White Geese
    - 4 Dark Geese  
(CA Must Match AZ Regulations)
- *Black Brant*
  - *Northern Zone: November 8 – December 14 (37 Days)*
  - *Balance of the State Zone: November 8 – December 15 (37 Days)*
- *Black Brant Bag Limits*
  - 2 Birds/Day

*Special Management Areas*

- *North Coast*
  - *Regular Season: November 8 – January 31 (85 Days)*
  - *Late Season: February 19 – March 10 (20 Days)*
- *Klamath Basin*
  - *White Geese & Whitefronts: October 2 – January 14 (105 days)*
  - *Canada Geese: October 2 – January 9 (100 Days)*
- *Sacramento Valley*
  - *Regular Season: October 23 – December 21 (60 Days)*
- *Imperial Valley*
  - *Regular Season: November 6 – January 31 (87 Days)*
  - *Late Season: February 1 – 4, 7 – 11, 14 – 22 (18 Days)*

**Youth Hunt Weekend**

- *Northeastern Zone: September 18 and 19*
- *All Other Zones: February 5 and 6*

### **Veterans and Active Military Personnel (VAMP) Hunt Weekend**

- *Northeastern Zone: January 15 and 16*
- *All Other Zones: February 12 and 13*
- *Colorado River Zone: None*

#### *Falconry-Only*

- *Northeastern Zone: None*
- *Balance of State Zone, Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone, and Southern California Zone: February 26 – 27 (2 days)*
- *Colorado River Zone: February 1 – 4 (4 days)*

\*\*Note that Veterans (as defined in Section 101 of Title 38, United States Code) and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than training), may participate in the VAMP Days. Persons participating in this special hunt must possess and present upon demand verification of eligibility to participate in this hunt. Verification includes: Veteran's ID Card and/or Military ID Card for active duty, or a State issued driver's license or Identification Card with Veteran Designation.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda item 11 regarding 2021/2022 waterfowl regulations – including DFW's presentation, click [FGC Staff Summary – 2021/2022 Waterfowl](#)

### ***Agenda Item 12 – Central Valley Sport Fishing***

This item served as the second, or “discussion” hearing on proposed changes to 2021 Central Valley sport fishing regulations for Sacramento River fall-run Chinook salmon (SRFC) on the Sacramento, Feather, Mokelumne and Lower American Rivers. The Commission adopts Central Valley sport fishing regulations on an annual basis to align state regulations with federal fishery management goals set by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC). Specific bag and possession limits for Central Valley fall-run Chinook salmon will not be adopted until after the PFMC has reviewed the status of West Coast salmon stocks and final fishery allocation recommendations have been adopted.

At this meeting, DFW is expected to recommend specific size, bag, and possession limits for SRFC based on PFMC's final recommendations. Final changes to the regulations are expected to be adopted at the Commission's May 11, 2021 meeting.

The three options presented for consideration for 2021 include:

*Option 1: Allowing for take of any salmon up to the daily bag and possession limits*

*Option 2: Allowing for take of a limited number of adult (3- to 5-year-old) Chinook salmon, with grilse (2-year-old) salmon making up the remainder of the daily bag and possession limit*

*Option 3: Allowing for take of only grilse Chinook salmon*

Note that to balance angling harvest opportunity for male grilse versus preserving the limited number of females available to spawn, DFW recommends a grilse salmon size limit of less than or equal to 27 inches total length.

To this point, the range of possible proposed limits DFW is considering for SRFC in all four Central Valley rivers is a bag limit of 0 – 4 fish, and a possession limit of 0 – 12 fish.

Final adoption of Central Valley sport fishing regulations for 2021 will take place at the Commission’s May 11, 2021 meeting.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda item 12 regarding 2021 Central Valley salmon regulations, click [FGC Staff Summary – 2021 Central Valley Salmon](#)

### ***Agenda Item 13 – Klamath River Basin Sport Fishing***

This item served as the second, or “discussion” hearing on proposed changes to the 2021 Klamath River Basin salmon regulations. Like with Central Valley salmon sport fishing regulations, the Commission adopts Klamath River Basin salmon sport fishing regulations on an annual basis to align state regulations with federal fishery management goals set by the PFMC.

PFMC released its pre-season stock projection of 181,500 adult KRFC in March 2021, and the 2021 basin allocation will be recommended by PFMC at its April 6 – 15, 2021 meeting. At this meeting, DFW is expected to recommend a specific in-river sport harvest quota based on the PFMC allocation.

To this point, the range of possible proposed limits DFW is considering for KRFC are:

- *Bag limit of 0 – 4 Chinook salmon, of which no more than 0 – 4 fish over 23 inches total length may be retained until the subquota is met, then 0 fish over 23 inches total length.*
- *Possession limit of 0 – 12 Chinook salmon, of which no more than 0 – 4 fish over 23 inches total length may be retained when take of salmon over 23 inches total length is allowed.*

Final adoption of Klamath River Basin salmon regulations for 2021 will take place at the Commission’s May 11, 2021 meeting.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda Item 13 regarding 2021 Klamath River Basin sport fishing regulations, click [FGC Staff Summary – 2021 Klamath River Sport Fish](#)

### ***Agenda Item 17 – Wildlife Resources Committee***

#### ***(A) Previous Committee Meeting Report***

#### ***(B) Committee Work Plan***

Because the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) serves as a subcommittee of the Commission, its topic areas, meeting agendas and Work Plan are subject to Commission approval.

Commission staff Wildlife Advisor Ari Cornman should open this item by noting and providing a brief update on the following seven topics proposed for discussion at the next meeting of the WRC:

- *Upland (resident) game bird hunting*
- *Inland sport fishing*

- *Mammal hunting*
- *Waterfowl hunting*
- *Central Valley sport fishing*
- *Klamath River basin sport fishing*
- *American Bullfrog and Non-Native Turtle Stakeholder Engagement Project*

Mr. Cornman should then note that the next meeting of the WRC is scheduled for May 11, 2021 and will be held via webinar/teleconference.

To review the complete Commission staff summary for agenda item 17 – including detail on the WRC Work Plan – click [FGC Staff Summary – WRC](#)

### **CALIFORNIA FISH & GAME COMMISSION – February 10, 2021 Meeting Recap**

The February 2021 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission was a one-day webinar/teleconference meeting held on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

All agenda items of interest and concern to clients of *Gaines & Associates* are highlighted below:

To view the full February 2021 meeting agenda, click [FGC – February 2021 Mtg Agenda](#)

#### **Wednesday, February 10, 2021 – 8:30 AM**

The February 10, 2021 meeting of the Commission was gaveled open by Commission President Eric Sklar with Commission Vice-President Samantha Murray and Commissioners Peter S. Silva and Jacque Hostler-Carmesin all present. One Commission seat was vacant at that time.

#### ***Agenda Item 2 – Election of Commission President and Vice-President***

Under this agenda item the Commissioners elected their President and Vice-President for 2021. In 2020, Commissioner Eric Sklar served as President and Commissioner Samantha Murray served as Vice-President.

This agenda item was opened by Commission President Eric Sklar who nominated Commissioner Peter S. Silva for President and Commissioner Samantha Murray to serve another year as Vice-President. Commissioner Jacque Hostler-Carmesin seconded the motion. Commission President Sklar then called for public comment and there was none. After some comments from the Commissioners thanking President Sklar for his service as President over the past few years the Commission passed the slate passed unanimously.

To review the Commission staff summary for agenda item 2, click [FGC Staff Summary – Elections](#)

#### ***Agenda Item 3 – Committee Assignments***

Newly elected Commission President Peter S. Silva opened this item by noting that the Commission has three standing committees – the Marine Resources Committee (MRC), the Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) and the Tribal Committee (TC).



Each committee meets three times per year. MRC is charged with providing recommendations to the Commission regarding marine issues. The WRC is tasked with providing recommendations to the Commission regarding wildlife related/sport fish related issues. The TC provides the Commission with recommendations relative to matters associated with California's Native American tribes and tribal communities. No more than two Commissioners may attend each committee meeting. In the past, each committee had two Commissioners serve as co-chairs.

President Silva noted that, because the Commission only has four Commissioners at the present time, he would recommend that each committee only have one chair, and that other commissioners were welcome to "visit" committee meetings as they chose, as long as no more than one Commissioner joined the committee chair at a time. Following some comments by Commissioners confirming their preferences, President Silva recommended the below committee assignments for 2021:

- *WRC Chair: Commissioner Eric Sklar*
- *MRC Chair: Commissioner Samantha Murray*
- *TC Chair: Commissioner Jacque Hostler-Carmesin*

Commissioner Sklar then made the motion to formalize President Silva's recommendations and it was seconded by Commissioner Hostler-Carmesin. The Commission then passed the slate unanimously.

President Silva closed the item by noting that once we again have a full Commission, they would revisit standing committee assignments.

To review the Commission staff summary for agenda item 3, click [FGC Staff Summary – Committee Assign](#)

### **CONSENT ITEM**

#### ***Agenda Item 7 – California Bighorn Sheep***

Under this item the Commission was to receive from DFW the five-year status review of the listing of California bighorn sheep (a.k.a. Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep) under CESA. However, because the DFW report was not yet ready for Commission consideration, staff recommended, and the Commission approved the item being continued to a future meeting.

To review the Commission staff summary for agenda item 7, click [FGC Staff Summary – CA Bighorn Sheep – 5 Year Status](#)

#### ***Agenda Item 13 – Wildlife Resources Committee***

##### ***(A) Previous Committee Meeting Report***

##### ***(B) Committee Work Plan***

Commission staff Wildlife Advisor Ari Cornman opened this item by stating that the WRC met on January 12, 2021 with WRC chair Commissioner Sklar and visiting Commissioner Hostler-Carmesin present. Mr. Cornman then noted that the meeting covered the following five topic areas:

- *Inland boat limits*
- *Striped bass slot limits and management issues*

- *Restricted species rulemaking*
- *Human-wildlife conflict*
- *Bullfrog and non-native turtle project*

Mr. Cornman stated that a written summary of the meeting was provided to Commissioners in the meeting materials (see link below). Mr. Cornman then noted that because all the topic areas covered during the meeting were for “discussion only” there were no recommendations being brought forward at this meeting from the WRC to the full Commission.

Mr. Cornman then stated that topics discussed at the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting would remain on the WRC Work Plan for further consideration at the next meeting of the WRC. Mr. Cornman closed his comments by stating that the next meeting of the WRC was scheduled for May 11, 2021 and would be held in webinar/teleconference format.

Following very brief public comment, the item was closed. No action was required by the Commission.

To review the complete Commission staff summary for agenda item 13 – including the written summary of the January 12, 2021 WRC meeting – click [FGC Staff Summary – WRC](#)

#### ***Agenda Item 14 – Waterfowl Hunting (Annual)***

This item served as the second, or “discussion” hearing on changes to waterfowl regulations DFW is recommending for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season. Since this was the discussion hearing and there was no presentation provided by DFW staff, Commission President Silva quickly called for public comment.

For the record, DFW is bringing forward for Commission consideration the following recommended changes for the 2021/2022 waterfowl season:

- *Increase the duck season length to 101 days for the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone, Southern California Zone, and Balance of State Zone*
- *Increase the goose season length to 101 days for the Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone and Southern California Zone*
- *Allow up to two days of “falconry-only” season for the Balance of State Zone, Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone, and Southern California Zone.*

*Gaines & Associates* was pleased to testify in support of the DFW recommendations to maximize hunting opportunity by, among other things, running the 2021/2022 general waterfowl season until January 31, 2022. *Gaines & Associates* also took time to thank DFW for working with *Gaines & Associates* and the *California Hawking Club* to recommend the two “falconry only” days after the close of the general waterfowl season, as well as the opportunity for falconers to also hunt during the post season VAMP Weekend or Youth Waterfowl Weekend.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda item 14 regarding DFW’s recommended changes in waterfowl regulations for the 2021/2022 season, click [FGC Staff Summary – 2021/2022 Waterfowl](#)

### ***Agenda Item 15 – Mammal Hunting***

This item served as the final adoption hearing on DFW's proposed changes to mammal hunting regulations for the 2021 season, and DFW's recommendation to approve temporary regulations which would provide the authority to refund tag fees, reinstate preference points, and award one preference point for the license year for specified elk, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep hunts for hunters who endured a significant loss of opportunity due to forest closures and/or fire in specified hunt zones.

Because DFW staff provided a detailed presentation of their recommended changes to 2021 mammal regulations at the December 2020 Commission meeting, there was no presentation provided by DFW at this meeting. Given that, Commission President Silva quickly called for public comment.

For the record, in addition to standard season adjustments to account for the annual calendar shift and other minor changes, DFW was recommending the following regulatory changes for the 2021 mammal hunting seasons:

- *Amend the number of deer tags in zone X-3b to 500 tags*
- *Modify the deer season dates for Fort Hunter Liggett hunts (G-8 and J-10)*
- *Adjust the number of Pronghorn antelope tags available for Zone 3 Likely Tables to 25 tags each for Period 1 and 2 buck hunts*
- *Authorize DFW to refund tag fees, reinstate preference points, and award one preference point for the license year for specified elk, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope hunts for hunters who endured a significant loss of opportunity due to forest closures or fire in specified hunt zones. This section would remain in effect only until June 30, 2021. The impacted hunts are as follows:*

*Elk hunts recommended for tag and point refunds are:*

- *Marble Mountains Either-Sex Apprentice (Roosevelt), Sept. 9-20*
- *Northeastern California Archery Either Sex (Rocky Mountain), Sept. 2-13*
- *Marble Mountains Antlerless (Roosevelt), Sept. 9-20*
- *Marble Mountain Bull (Roosevelt), Sept. 9-20*
- *Northwestern California Antlerless (Roosevelt), Sept. 2-24*
- *Northwestern California Bull (Roosevelt), Sept. 2-24*
- *Siskiyou Antlerless (Roosevelt), Sept. 9-20*
- *Siskiyou Bull (Roosevelt), Sept. 9-20*
- *East Park Reservoir Antlerless (Tule), Sept. 5-Oct. 1*
- *East Park Reservoir Bull (Tule), Sept. 5-Oct. 1*
- *Lake Pillsbury Period 1 Antlerless (Tule), Sept.9-1*
- *Northeastern California Either-Sex Apprentice (Rocky Mountain), Sept. 16-27*
- *Northeastern California Bull (Rocky Mountain), Sept. 16-27*
- *Northwestern California Either-Sex (Roosevelt), Sept. 2-24*

*Pronghorn hunts recommended for tag and point refunds are:*

- *Zone 4 Lassen Period 2 General Buck, Sept. 5-13*
- *Zone 3 Likely Tables Period 2 General Buck, Sept. 5-13*

*Gaines & Associates* provided testimony that included noting our strong support for the DFW recommendation to refund tag fees, reinstate preference points, and award one preference point for the license year to hunters who drew an elk, pronghorn antelope, or bighorn sheep tag, but lost the opportunity to hunt due to land closures. *Gaines & Associates* closed our testimony by thanking DFW staff for working with us and putting forth the urgent effort necessary to expedite bringing this unprecedented proposal forward to the Commission, and for the Commission for scrambling their schedule to allow for this recommendation to be considered and adopted at this meeting, which will allow it to go into effect prior to the 2021 draw.

Following public testimony, and some brief comments from the dais, Commissioner Hostler-Carmesin motioned that, having considered the Commission staff analysis and the underlying environmental documents, the Commission adopt the DFW proposed changes to mammal regulations for the 2021 season. Commissioner Sklar seconded the motion and the Commission unanimously approved the DFW recommendations for 2021 mammal regulations.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda Item 15 regarding 2021 mammal hunting regulations, click [FGC Staff Summary – 2021 Mammal](#)

***Agenda Item 21 – Petitions for Regulation Change Received at Previous Meetings***

***(A) Petitions Received at Previous Meetings***

***II. Petition #2020-016 AM1: Request to Allow Use of a Crossbow Scope by Visually-Disabled Archers***

Under this agenda item, new petitions for regulation change received by the Commission at prior meetings were scheduled for consideration. Petitions for Commission consideration at this meeting included Petition #2020-016 AM1, which requests a change in regulation to allow visually-disabled hunters to use a scope on a crossbow.

*Gaines & Associates* was pleased to testify on behalf of the *California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association* in strong support of the Commission staff recommendation that Petition #2020-016 AM1 be referred to the DFW for review and recommendation. In our testimony, *Gaines & Associates* also advocated that, in determining their recommendation, DFW consider using the same language used for muzzle loaders which limit scopes used to 1x power.

Following the completion of public comment, Commissioner Hostler-Carmesin motioned that the Commission adopt the Commission staff recommendations for this item – including the staff recommendation that Petition #2020-016 AM1 be referred to DFW for review and recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commission Murray and passed unanimously, with Commissioner Sklar abstaining due to him missing some of the item discussion.

To review the Commission staff summary on agenda item 21 – including detail on Petition #2020-016 AM 1, click [FGC Staff Summary – Petition #2020-016 AM 1](#)

## ***PLAN AHEAD!!!***

### **BELOW ARE THE DATES/LOCATIONS OF UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETINGS!**

For more information on any of the below Commission related meetings, click  
<https://fgc.ca.gov/Meetings>

#### **CALIFORNIA FISH & GAME COMMISSION – May 2021 Meeting**

*The May 2021 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission is scheduled for May 11, 2021 will be held via webinar and teleconference.  
How individuals can “attend” this meeting is yet to be determined.*

#### **WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMITTEE – May 11, 2021 Meeting**

*The May 11, 2021 meeting of the WRC will be held via webinar and teleconference.  
How individuals can “attend” this meeting is yet to be determined.*

#### **CALIFORNIA FISH & GAME COMMISSION – June 2021 Meeting**

*The June 2021 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and will be held via webinar and teleconference.  
How individuals can “attend” this meeting is yet to be determined.*

#### **CALIFORNIA FISH & GAME COMMISSION – August 2021 Meeting**

*The August 2021 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. How individuals can “attend” this meeting is yet to be determined.*

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