California Fish and Game Commission

DRAFT Initial Study and Negative Declaration for Proposed Regulatory Amendments for Mammal Trapping Consistency with Statute

Amend Sections 251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478 and 479, and Repeal Section 696 of Title 14, California Code of Regulations

Prepared by:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch

July 2026

This document has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970

State Clearinghouse #

Project Description and Background Information

Introduction

Unless otherwise specified, all section references in this document are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) proposes to amend sections 251.5, 465.5, 467, 474, 478 and 479, and repeal Section 696 of Title 14, CCR.

The proposed regulations are necessary to maintain consistency with recent statutory changes in California Fish and Game Code Section 4001 (pursuant to Assembly Bill 273; Chapter 216, Statutes of 2019) which makes it unlawful to trap any furbearing mammal or nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur and prohibits the sale of the raw fur of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal otherwise lawfully taken. The bill eliminated the fur dealer and fur agent licenses that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) previously sold. Current regulations in sections 251.5, 465.5, 467, 474 and 696 are out of date with respect to these requirements.

Fish and Game Code Sections 4157 and 4158 (as amended by Assembly Bill 1254; Chapter 766, Statutes of 2019) makes it unlawful to hunt, trap, or otherwise take a bobcat, except under specified circumstances, including under a depredation permit. The bill's specified appropriation has been made by the California State Legislature to the Department to develop a bobcat management plan to inform and coordinate management decisions regarding bobcat populations. Current regulations in CCR Title 14, Section 478 are out of date with respect to current requirements for depredation of bobcats.

Fish and Game Code Section 2023 (as amended by Assembly Bill 44; Chapter 764, Statutes of 2019) became fully operative on January 1, 2023, making it unlawful to sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur product, as defined, in the state. The statute also makes it unlawful to manufacture a fur product in the state for sale. The statute exempts used fur products, as defined, fur products used for specified purposes, and any activity expressly authorized by federal law. The statute requires a person that sells or trades any fur product exempt from this prohibition to maintain records of each sale or trade of an exempt fur product for at least one year, except as provided. Current regulations in CCR Title 14, Section 479 are out of date with respect to these requirements.

Project Goals and Objectives

The amendments to the trapping regulations are designed to provide consistency and conformity to current statutes, and to make minor conforming changes to increase the clarity and consistency of these regulations and make other relatively minor improvements.

Project Location

California-Statewide

Schedule

The proposed regulatory amendments described in this document are requested to go into effect on or around July 1, 2027.

Project Summary

Amend Title 14, Section 251.5, Possession of Game Birds, Game Mammals, Exotic Game Mammals, Furbearers, Nongame Birds and Nongame Mammals

Revise section title, remove reference to an outdated permit for the possession of a mountain lion, remove reference to the recreational trapping of mammals and update terms for consistency with statute.

Amend Title 14, Section 465.5, Use of Traps

Remove conditional reference to body gripping traps and update to state that no traps, body gripping or otherwise, are lawful for recreational use. Remove stipulation for trap type when stating the prohibition on purchase, barter or exchange of raw fur. Make minor clarifying changes to the language referencing a tenant or designee, who will accomplish depredation trapping. Reference to a new form “DFW 1389e” is added, to aid individuals in obtaining the referenced “trap number issued by and registered with the department” in new subsection (f).

Amend Title 14, Section 467, Annual Statement of Licensee, Trapping Reports

Update to state that trappers shall report their take of furbearing and nongame mammals rather than their take of fur. Specify that trapping reports shall specify whether “take” was lethal or nonlethal and document instances when injured or orphaned wildlife is transferred to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Update the stated discipline for non-reporting.

Amend Title 14, Section 474, Hours for Taking of Nongame Mammals

Revise section title to clarify that these provisions are relevant to the taking of ‘nongame mammals’ and that take on private property is only allowed for the owner, tenant, or a person in possession of written permission.

Amend Title 14, Section 478, Bobcat

Revise section to state that depredation of bobcat is unlawful unless under authority of a depredation permit (a bobcat in the act of injuring or killing livestock may be taken immediately provided the property owner or tenant applies for a permit from the Department the next working day following the take). Revise to strike the indicated hunting season dates, as hunting of bobcat is lawful only under the conditions of a bobcat hunting tag. The Commission does not currently authorize any hunting tag for bobcats pursuant to the requirement in FGC 4157(a).

Amend Title 14, Section 479, Bobcat Pelts and Fur Products

Revise section to state that it is unlawful to possess any pelt or part without a Department mark or shipping tag not legally taken prior to 2020. Revise to state that if the bobcat or parts are imported from outside California, the pelt must have a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) tag or be accompanied by a declaration of importation with proof of lawful take.

Revise section to state that it is unlawful for the pelt of any other furbearing mammal imported to California to be possessed without a declaration of importation form. Revise to state that persons who sell or trade “used fur product” must maintain complete records of each item. The sale and trade of fur products for religious purposes among Native American tribes is exempt from the prohibition on sale or trade but is subject to the required bill of sale to be documented and maintained for a period of one year.

Repeal Section 696 Fur Dealer and Fur Agent Licenses

Repeal Section 696.

Findings

The Commission’s review of the project showed that the project will not have any significant or potentially significant effects on the environment, and therefore no alternatives or mitigation measures are proposed to avoid or reduce any significant effects on the environment. The project will not have a significant effect on aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities and service systems, and wildfire.

Basis of the Findings

Based on the initial study, implementing the project will not have any significant or potentially significant effects on the environment. Therefore, the Commission is filing this negative declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21080, subdivision (c).

This initial study and draft negative declaration consists of:

- Introduction – Project Description and Background Information
- Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form
- Explanation of the Response to the Initial Study Environmental Checklist Form

Environmental Checklist Form

1. **Project Title:**
   Proposed Amendments to Title 14, CCR: Mammal Trapping Consistency with Statute

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**
   California Fish and Game Commission
   715 P Street, 16th Floor, or
   P.O. Box 944209
   Sacramento, CA 94244-0002

3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:**
   Melissa Miller-Henson, (916) 653-7229

4. **Project Location:** Statewide, California

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**
   California Department of Fish and Wildlife
   Law Enforcement Division
   P.O. Box 944209
   Sacramento, CA 94244-0002

6. **General Plan designation:** N/A (statewide)

7. **Zoning:** N/A (statewide)

8. **Description of Project:**
   The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) proposes to amend Title 14 sections maintain consistency with recent statutory changes for recreational and commercial trapping. The amendments to the trapping regulations are designed to 1) provide consistency and conformity to current statutes as it is now unlawful to trap any furbearing mammal or nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur or sell the raw fur of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal otherwise lawfully taken, and 2) make minor conforming changes to increase the clarity and consistency of these regulations.

9. **Surrounding land uses and setting:** N/A

10. **Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required:** None.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.31?
    On March 31, 2026, the Commission mailed a tribal notification to Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area.

    No tribes have requested consultation.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology/Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population/ Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

This project will not have a “Potential Significant Impact” on any of the environmental factors listed above; therefore, no boxes are checked.

Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☒ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director	**Date**

Responses to the Initial Study Environmental Checklist

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
I. Aesthetics. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) In nonurbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	NI
II. Agriculture and Forestry Resources. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	NI
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	NI
III. Air Quality. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Result in any other emissions (such as those leading to odors) affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	NI
IV. Biological Resources. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	NI
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	NI
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI
V. Cultural Resources. Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	NI
VI. Energy. Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operations?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☐	NI
VII. Geology and Soils. Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				NI
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☐	NI
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	NI
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	NI
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	NI
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	NI
VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	NI
IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Would the project:				
i) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	NI
ii) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	NI
iii) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	NI
iv) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
v) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	NI
vi) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI
vii) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	NI
X. Hydrology and Water Quality. Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	☐	☐	☐	NI
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	NI
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☐	NI
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of pollution runoff; or	☐	☐	☐	NI
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☐	NI
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
XI. Land Use and Planning. Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XII. Mineral Resources. Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XIII. Noise. Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XIV. Population and Housing. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
XV. Public Services. Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				NI
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	NI
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	NI
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	NI
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	NI
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XVI. Recreation.				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XVII. Transportation. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources.				
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:	☐	☐	☐	NI
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	☐	☐	☐	NI
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	NI
XIX. Utilities and Service Systems. Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☐	NI
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	NI

	Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Less Than Significant with Mitigation (LTSM)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTS)	No Impact (NI)
XX. Wildfire. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.	☐	☐	☐	NI
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	NI
XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance.				
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	NI
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☐	☐	☐	NI
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	NI

Explanation of Responses to Initial Study Environmental Checklist

I. Aesthetics

a) The project will not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or modification of any buildings or structures.

b) The project will not damage scenic resources such as trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or modification of any buildings or structures.

c) The project will not substantially degrade, in nonurbanized areas, the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or modification of any buildings or structures.

d) The project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

II. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

a) The project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

b) The project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

c) The project will not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timber zoned Timberland Production. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

d) There will be no loss of forest land, and the project will not result in the conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

e) The project will not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. While commercial and recreational trapping will no longer be permitted after the adoption of these regulations, the possible loss of farm animals due to depredation is offset by the owner and tenant's ability to continue to trap depredators.

III. Air Quality

a) The project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

b) The project will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. Such an impact will not occur because the project involves no ongoing sources of air pollution.

c) The project will not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not increase pollutant concentrations.

d) The project will not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.

IV. Biological Resources

a) The project will not have an adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on certain species identified as candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

b) The project will not have an adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies and regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the USFWS. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

c) The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

d) The project will not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

e) The implementation of the regulations will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

f) The project will not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

V. Cultural Resources

a) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. The project does not involve ground disturbing work or work permanently modifying any existing structure or resource and thus has no potential to affect historical resources.

b) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. The project does not involve ground disturbing work and thus has no potential to affect archaeological resources.

c) The project will not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. The project does not involve ground disturbing work and thus has no potential to affect human remains.

VI. Energy

a) The project would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operations. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not use energy resources.

b) The project will not affect nor obstruct any state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

VII. Geology and Soils

a.i) The project will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not create any structures for human habitation.

a.ii) The project will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not create any structures for human habitation.

a.iii) The project will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not create any structures for human habitation.

a.iv) The project will not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not create any structures for human habitation.

b) The project will not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve ground disturbing work.

c) The project will not be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable and potentially result in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve ground disturbing work.

d) The project will not be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve ground disturbing work.

e) The project will not create any sources of wastewater requiring a septic system.

f) The project will not indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

a) The project will not generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. The project will not involve construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

b) The project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. The project would result in the production of very low greenhouse gas emissions.

IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

a) The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. The project will not involve the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

b) The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. The project will not involve the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

c) The project will not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. The project will not involve the transport, use, or emission of any hazardous materials.

d) The project will not be located on any site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

e) The project will not be located within an airport land use plan area.

f) The project will not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

g) The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

X. Hydrology and Water Quality

a) The project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, water use, or water discharge.

b) The project will not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or groundwater use.

c.i) The project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the

addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site because the project will not involve any construction or land alteration.

c.ii) The project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site because the project will not involve any construction or land alteration.

c.iii) The project will not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm-water drainage systems, or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff because the project will not involve any construction or land alteration.

c.iv) The project will not impede or redirect flood flows because the project will not involve any construction or land alteration.

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, the project would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation because the project would not involve any construction or land alteration.

e) The project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or groundwater use.

XI. Land Use and Planning

a) The project will not physically divide an established community. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

b) The project will not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

XII. Mineral Resources

a) The project will not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

b) The project will not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

XIII. Noise

a) The project will not result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. The project will not involve construction or physical alteration of land, and its implementation will not generate noise levels in excess of agency standards.

b) The project will not result in generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels. The project will not involve construction or physical alteration of land.

c) The project will not be located within the vicinity of a private airstrip, or an airport use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport.

XIV. Population and Housing

a) The project will not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly. Such an impact will not occur because the project will not construct any new homes, businesses, roads, or other human infrastructure.

b) The project will not displace any existing people or housing and will not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

XV. Public Service

a) The project will not have any significant environmental impacts associated with new or physically altered governmental facilities. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or land use changes.

XVI. Recreation

a) The project will not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or would be accelerated.

b) The project does not require construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

XVII. Transportation

a) The project will not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The project involves no land use or transportation system modifications.

b) The project will not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b), which pertains to vehicle miles traveled.

c) The project will not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses with equipment. There will be no land use or transportation system modifications.

d) The project will not result in inadequate emergency access. The project involves no land use or transportation system modifications.

XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources

a.i) The project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe. Furthermore,

a.ii) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k). The project does not involve ground disturbing work and thus has no potential to affect tribal cultural resources.

a.iii) The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. The project does not involve ground disturbing work and thus has no potential to affect tribal cultural resources.

XIX. Utilities and Service Systems

a) The project will not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities. The project does not involve construction or land alteration.

b) The project requires no new water supplies.

c) The project will not produce wastewater.

d) The project will not generate solid waste. Thus, the project will be in compliance with state and local standards for solid waste.

e) The project will not create solid waste. Thus, the project will be in compliance with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

XX. Wildfire

a) The project will not impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

b) The project will not exacerbate wildfire risks due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors.

c) The project will not require the installation or maintenance of any infrastructure.

d) The project will not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.

XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance

a) The project does not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The project is consistent with the Commission's mission to protect, enhance and restore California's native fish and wildlife in their natural habitats, and to secure a rich and sustainable outdoor heritage for all generations to experience.

b) The project does not have adverse impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. Cumulative adverse impacts will not occur because there are no potential adverse impacts due to project implementation identified in any impact analyses.

c) The project does not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on humans, either directly or indirectly. The project will not involve any construction, land alteration, or the creation of new infrastructure.