STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION
(Pre-publication of Notice Statement)

Repeal Section 367
Title 14, California Code of Regulations
Re: Bear License Tags

I. Date of Statement: January 14, 2002

II. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings:

(a)	Notice Hearing:	Date:	February 9, 2002
		Location:	Sacramento, California
(b)	Discussion Hearing:	Date:	March 8, 2002
		Location:	San Diego, California
(c)	Discussion Hearing:	Date:	April 5, 2002
		Location:	Long Beach, California
(d)	Adoption Hearing:	Date:	April 25, 2002
		Location:	Sacramento, California

III. Description of Regulatory Action:

(a) Statement of Specific Purpose of Regulation Change and Factual Basis for Determining that Regulation Change is Reasonably Necessary:

Existing regulations specify bear tag application and distribution procedures, including qualifying conditions and the return of bear tags. The proposed change establishes new Subsection 708(e), by moving the tag application and distribution procedures for bear to that new subsection. This change will facilitate future changes to the tag application and distribution procedures that may be recommended as a result of implementing the automated license data system (ALDS). Because hunting regulations are modified only in even years, this proposed change will make implementing ALDS possible during any year as new Section 708 is not within the hunting regulation sections of Title 14, CCR.

(b) Authority and Reference Sections from Fish and Game Code for Regulation:

Authority cited: Sections 200, 202, 203, 219 and 1050, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 202, 203, 203.1, 207, 1050 and 4750-4756, Fish and Game Code.

(c) Specific Technology or Equipment Required by Regulatory Change: None.

(d) Identification of Reports or Documents Supporting Regulation Change:

Draft Environmental Document Regarding Bear Hunting.

(e) Public Discussions of Proposed Regulations Prior to Notice Publication:

Although the proposed changes are relatively simple and few, the Department held four public meetings regarding the proposed changes as follows:

November 7, 2001 in Fresno
November 13, 2001 in San Diego
November 29, 2001 in Monterey
December 13, 2001 in Sacramento

IV. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action:

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change:

No alternative to the proposed change is identified.

(b) No Change Alternative:

This alternative would continue to restrict changes to the tag application procedures to even years only. This alternative is rejected because it would not allow for implementing ALDS during odd or even years.

(c) Consideration of Alternatives:

In view of information currently possessed, no reasonable alternative considered would be more effective in carrying out the purposes for which

the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to the affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

The statement described pursuant to Section 11346.14(b), Government Code, may be modified by information received at public meetings scheduled for March 8, 2002, in San Diego, California, and April 5, 2002, in Long Beach, California.

V. Mitigation Measures Required by Regulatory Action:

Attached are copies of the Draft Environmental Document Regarding Bear Hunting.

VI. Impact of Regulatory Action:

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made.

(a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businessmen to Compete with Businesses in other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. Given the number of tags available to the public, this change will be economically neutral.

(b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California: None.

(c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business: The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.

(e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.

(g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4: None.

(h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST (Plain English Overview)

Existing regulations specify bear tag application and distribution procedures, including qualifying conditions and the return of bear tags. The proposed change establishes new Subsection 708(e), by repealing Section 367 and moving the tag application and distribution procedures for bear to that new subsection.