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Legislative Information

Finally 2 new Fish and Game Commissioners were appointed by the Governor and will replace Michael Sutton and Richard Rodgers who have been termed out. Senate confirmation is needed within one year to seat them to a full term of 6 years. Sutton and Rodgers were no friends to conservation minded people. Here is their initial press release information

Eric Sklar, 52, of St. Helena, located in northern California's Napa Valley, is a vintner who is deeply involved in the area's wine industry, as well as serving as a member of the St. Helena city council. He earned his Master of Business Administration from the Georgetown University McDonough School of Business and was an adjunct professor there from 1997-99. Sklar is a sportsman who enjoys waterfowl and upland-bird hunting.

Anthony Williams, 47, of Huntington Beach, originally hails from Bakersfield in California's central valley. Williams earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and a Master of Public Policy degree from the Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government. He has been director of government relations at the Boeing Company since 2014 and has served in various legal capacities in the public and private sectors, including as director of government affairs at the State Bar of California from 2004-06

The next Fish and Game Commissions (FGC) meeting is August 4-5 in Fortuna. No agenda has been posted at this writing but a vote on bobcat trapping and upland bird is expected.

The Wildlife Resources meeting will be September 9th in Fresno, Ca. No agenda has been set at this writing.

The 2015 Legislative Cycle has started with this being the start of a 2 year cycle for bills proposed. Bills submitted this year could take up to 2 years to complete. Bills to watch: and current positions.

AB96 Atkins, importing ivory. Senate Appropriations

AB499 Cooley, amend Fish and Game Code 4370, archery season in regards to Concealed firearms, Senate Natural Resources

AB290 Bigelow, amend Fish and Game Code 3953, Big Game Account related to pigs, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

AB665 Frazier, amend Fish and Game Code 203.1 and add sections 200.5 & 200.6, give sole authority to Fish and Game Commission on Hunting and Fishing, Senate Appropriations

AB395 Gallagher, amend Fish and Game Code 3004.5, Lead ammunition, eliminate phase in wording. Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

SB234 Neilson, \$19 million from State's general fund to DFW to make payments to counties for lost tax revenue. Senate Appropriations

CBHSAA lobbyist, Bill Gaines through his special reports will keep us informed on the above bills and any that may be modified later. His Special Reports will be posted on the CBHSAA website under legislative link and distributed to legislative reps that I have email addresses for.

The Legislative Sporting Caucus Shoot was held in Rancho Cordova June 17th. CBHSAA ran an archery range set up for legislators and staff. Thanks go out to Robert Williams, John Tarro, Carlos Rodriguez and Andy Palmer, instructor from Maya Archers who provided equipment and instruction. Region 1 Legislative Rep. Teri Faulkner and I talked to various Legislators and their staff during the event.

Teri Faulkner and I attended a meeting with DFW Armand Gonzales and other Gaines and Associates clients to discuss the State Wildlife Action Plan draft release. Several sections had hunting and fishing listed as an action item for reduced pressure, illegal hunting and fishing was listed once.