September 2, 2025

California Fish and Game Commission

P.O. Box 944209

Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

**Via Electronic Mail Only:** [**fgc@fgc.ca.gov**](mailto:fgc@fgc.ca.gov)

**Subject: Support for Increasing Bear Tags and Reducing Bear Tag Fees – Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors**

On behalf of the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors, we are writing to support the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (CDFW) proposal to allow hunters to purchase two bear tags per season. The Board also recommends reducing the price of a bear tag to fifteen dollars ($15.00) for both residents and nonresidents.

Black bear hounding was prohibited in California in 2013 under Senate Bill 1221. Since then, harvest levels have consistently fallen short of the statewide quota, while the bear population has continued to grow. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s 2025 Black Bear Conservation and Management Plan estimates the state’s population at about 60,000, which is one of the largest bear populations in the United States.

Increasing the number of tags available and lowering the cost would encourage greater hunter participation, helping CDFW meet its harvest threshold and support effective management of the bear population. As bear numbers continue to rise, their impact on deer populations has become a significant concern, highlighting the need for responsible bear management to protect deer herds, maintain ecological balance, and safeguard the long-term health of California’s ecosystems.

Thank you for considering our position on this important wildlife management issue.

This letter was approved by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors on September 2, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sincerely,

Nancy Ogren

Chair, Board of Supervisors

CC: Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange Assemblywoman Heather Hadwick Senator Megan Dahle

Rural County Representatives of California

CDFW Director Chuck Bonham

California State Association of Counties