

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Big Game Management Account Funding
Proposal Solicitation Notice

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is soliciting grant proposals from qualified non-profit organizations in the following subject areas:

1. Restoration or Enhancement of Big Game Habitats (See page 4 regarding proposals for projects on CDFW owned properties that are not eligible for funding under this program):

Wildlife habitat restoration or enhancement projects on lands that are open to the public (excluding CDFW owned properties) for big-game hunting opportunities. Projects of this type may include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- a. Restoration of habitat(s) following wildfire events;
- b. Conifer removal to enhance mountain meadow habitats;
- c. Maintenance of existing and/or construction of new water source (ie guzzlers, spring development) projects.

2. Research

Projects which provide a better understanding of big-game species population dynamics, habitat use, and limiting factors that impact big-game species in California.

Grant Information/Proposal Submittal Instructions:

A total of up to \$1,700,000 of Big Game Management Account (BGMA) funds will be available for grants under this proposal solicitation notice (PSN). There is no project funding cap or restriction requiring single year projects for grants awarded from this fund in FY 16/17. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Craig Stowers, Environmental Program Manager, at 916-445-3553 or craig.stowers@wildlife.ca.gov

The submission date for proposals to receive funding for this grant cycle is Monday, **March 14, 2016**. Applications may be submitted by email with the subject line title of "BGMA Grant Proposal" to wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov. Hard copy applications shall be addressed to:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Chief, Wildlife Branch
ATTN: BGMA Grant Proposal
1812 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

All hard-copy applications for FY 16/17 funding must have a U.S. POSTAL SERVICE POSTMARK no later than **March 14, 2016**. Proposals delivered by any other means (FEDEX, U.P.S., etc.) including hand delivery must be delivered no later than **March 14, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.** Incomplete applications, applications using other than the standard format provided, or those delivered after the identified deadline will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

If a proposal is funded, the grantee must submit additional information before a grant agreement is prepared and executed. The applicable forms described in this section are for informational purposes only. **Do not submit these forms with your proposal.** When applicants are notified that their project has been approved for funding, they shall be required to complete, sign, and return the forms provided if not already on file. These additional forms may include:

- Certification of Nonfederal Contributions: In-kind/Third Party (GMB Form D.)
- Payee Data Record form (STD. 204). This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std204.pdf>.
- Federal Taxpayer ID Number
- A Nondiscrimination Compliance Statement form (STD. 19) will be required for grants of \$5,000.00 or more per Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 8113. This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std019.pdf>.
- A Drug-Free Workplace Certification (STD. 21) will be required for all grants regardless of grant dollar amount. This form can be found at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/pdf/std021.pdf>.

C. FY1516 BGMA Grant time-line:

- a. Call for Proposals – February 12, 2016
- b. Grant Proposals due - March 14, 2016
- c. Internal/Advisory Committee Review - Completed by April 11, 2016
- d. Advisory Committee recommendations - Completed by April 25, 2016
- e. Executive Committee review and approval - Completed by May 18, 2016
- f. Award Notification and Grant Preparation - May 25 - July 1, 2016

Scoring Procedure

Administrative Review

In all program areas, an administrative review will determine if the proposal package is complete and meets all the requirements for submission. If the proposal does not pass the administrative review, the proposal will not be considered further for funding in this cycle.

Program Review

Scoring Process

The CDFW Big-Game Technical Review Committee (BGTRC) will independently review and score each proposal submitted based on the criteria identified below. Proposals will also be reviewed by the Big-Game Management Account Advisory Committee (BGMAC) established under Section 3684(e) of the Fish and Game Code. The recommendations of both the BGTRC and BGMAC will be forwarded to CDFW's Executive Team for review and final approval.

Evaluation Criteria

Individual proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria; scientific/research projects, use categories a through d; hunter opportunity and outreach and educational purposes use categories c through f.

- a. **Achievement of identified species goals and objectives (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:
 1. Increasing efficiency of methods used to determine population demographics (abundance and distribution);
 2. Increasing wildlife health/condition;
 3. Alleviation of depredation and/or nuisance wildlife issues;
 4. Increasing the quantity/quality of appropriate habitat types on public lands.

- b. **Scientific merit of proposed approach (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:
 1. Use of peer-reviewed techniques for data collection (study design);
 2. Use of appropriate analytical design;
 3. Literature search results.
 4. Supporting scientific information, and/or demonstrated results for habitat- related activities.

- c. **Products (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:
 1. Publication in scientific journals;
 2. Management recommendations;
 3. More efficient data collection protocols;
 4. Educational materials for public consumption.
 5. Acres of habitat treated, manipulated, or improved by project.

- d. **Organizational capacity to satisfactorily complete the grant (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:
 1. Demonstrated ability of proponent to successfully complete grant(s);
 2. Sufficient staff available to complete the grant;
 3. Existing equipment available for use on the grant project.

- e. **Public hunting opportunity (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following:
 1. Enhancing or increasing hunting opportunity for upland game birds on public lands;
 2. Enhancing public hunting access on public and private lands.

- f. **Hunting and wildlife conservation outreach & education (max. 25 pts)**
Includes, but may not be limited to, the following;

1. Creating and developing outreach and educational materials;
Developing and implementing various hunting and other wildlife related educational programs/activities.

Projects not eligible for funding on CDFW owned lands:

Projects that are considered “capital outlay” projects (new construction or items considered to be “infrastructure”) are ineligible for funding under this program. For the purposes of this program (a full list of projects of these types can be found in Section 1501.5 of the Fish and Game Code) these projects would most likely include the following:

1. Drilling wells and installation of pumping equipment;
2. Any project requiring engineered design or certification by a registered engineer.