

**EL DORADO
COUNTY FISH &
WILDLIFE
COMMISSION
2024-2025**

**PRESENTED TO THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
September 23rd, 2025**



MISSION STATEMENT

El Dorado County Fish & Wildlife
Commission is committed to having
abundant, healthy and diverse fish and
wildlife in El Dorado County.





CURRENT MEMBERSHIP



Dennis Byrne – District I

Dennis has served on the commission for 12 years. His hobbies include building, installing, and maintaining bluebird and wood duck boxes as well as collecting, refurbishing, and gifting fishing rods and reels to local children. He assists in local wildlife projects to include deer crossing signs and the California Department of Wildlife dove banding project. Dennis helps with sourcing and stocking fish in local ponds and supports local children's fishing derbies.



Larry Robinson – District II

Larry Joe Robinson is a native of El Dorado County. He serves on the County Council of the Abnaki West Coast Indian Tribe and is a former member of the El Dorado Indian Council. He has been an avid hunter and fisherman for more than 50 years, whose passion is wildlife conservation.



Jim Davies – District III

Jim Davies is a licensed forester who has worked and lived in El Dorado County for over 50 years. Passionate about the county's forests and wildlife, Jim now works with the El Dorado Resource Conservation District, rehabilitating burned landscapes and implementing fuel reduction projects within the urban-suburban-wildland interface.





Patrick Weddle – District IV

Patrick Weddle is a retired entomologist specializing in integrated pest management and pesticide policy reform. He has been a resident of El Dorado County for 52 years. A life-long outdoorsman, Pat especially enjoys fly fishing. He has served on the El Dorado County Fish & Wildlife Commission in various capacities since he retired in 2011.



Leona Allen – District V

Leona is a life-long resident of Tahoe's portion of El Dorado County. Her passion for fish and wildlife conservation comes from growing up in the naturally rich environment of the Sierras and being trained to track animals by her father. She volunteers as an Interpretive Ranger at Taylor Creek Visitors Center, monitoring the Black Bear population to keep them safe.



Heather Gardner – At Large

A UC Davis alumna with a degree in Animal Science and a minor in Equine Studies, Heather spent several years as a horse breeder and has a lifelong passion for caring for animals, both large and small. She has over three years of volunteer experience with Foothill Dog Rescue and is a member of the Monarch Fellowship. In her free time, Heather enjoys fly fishing, gardening, and exploring the outdoors with her family. She remains deeply engaged in her community and is committed to environmental and wildlife stewardship.

Dr. Steven Schwarzbach – At Large

Dr. Steven Schwarzbach, PhD, Ecology, retired from the USGS in 2014, where he had been the director of the Western Ecological Research Center for 10 years. Prior to his tenure with USGS he spent 14 years with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, where he was the chief of the Environmental Contaminants Division of the Sacramento Field Office. He currently serves as the Vice-President of the Board for the El Dorado Resource Conservation District and has been a resident of El Dorado County for 45 years.



WHAT WE DO....

- Advise the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors regarding wildlife conservation, fishing, hunting and other related issues.
- Commission members provide refurbished fishing poles at no cost to children who do not have equipment.



WHAT WE DO....

- Our commission cooperates with Game Wardens and the District Attorney's Office to ensure successful prosecutions of Fish and Game code violations and collection of resultant fines.
- Revenues accrued to the county from Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties budgeted for FY 25/26 totals \$8,500.
- Based on 2024/2025 actuals the Commission is requesting an additional \$13,420 to support funding Youth Fishing Derbies and Fish and Wildlife Projects. (Note the total amount in the approved Budget for FY 25/26 is \$21,920.)

Court Fines Collected	Fiscal Year
\$5,059.26	21/22
\$6,315.11	22/23
\$2,489.46	23/24
\$10,113.91	24/25

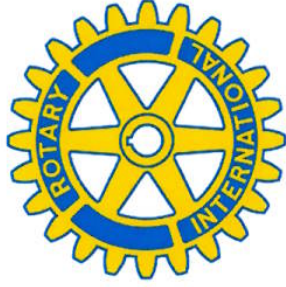
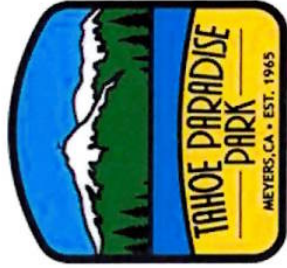
2024/2025 YEAR IN REVIEW.....

- July 2024** – presentation by Sierra Wildlife Rescue who rescue, rehab and release injured/sick/orphaned wildlife in our County
- August 2024** – draft report on mountain lion conflict issues prepared by Commission sub-committee
- September 2024**
 - presentation by Pathways for Wildlife who are working on wildlife connectivity studies in the Tahoe Basin
 - Mountain lion opinion paper sent to Board of Supervisors
- October 2024** – presentation by California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) regarding feeding deer

- **November 2024** – presentation by CDFW on mountain lion management
- **January 2025** – presentation by wildlife biologist with US Geological Survey regarding tracking/analysis of wildlife movement
- **February 2025** – presentation by CDFW regarding proposed deer hunt boundary changes
- **March 2025** – discussion regarding campgrounds in the Tahoe Basin that do not have bear boxes

- **April 2025** – presentation to Mike Denega from County Supervisors in recognition for his years of service to the Commission
- **May 2025** – presentation regarding the EDC Carnivore Project Independent Mountain Lion Monitoring
- **June 2025** – report from Commissioner Gardner regarding Milkweed plant importance and the Monarch Butterfly Foundation

OUR SPONSORS....



EL DORADO HILLS
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

PRIORITY ISSUES...

Human-bear conflict in the Lake Tahoe Basin

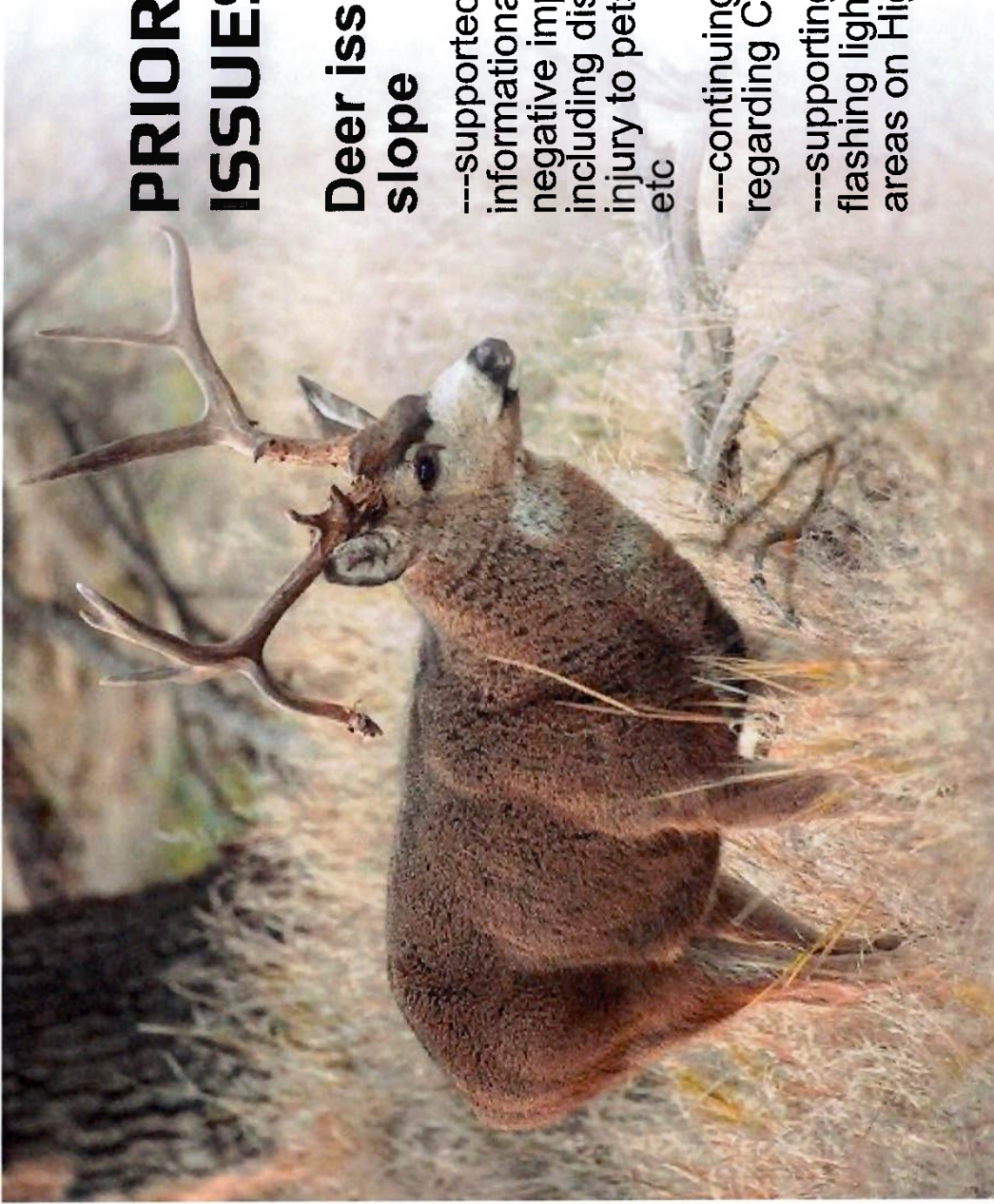
- sponsored coexistence education posters in visitor's centers
- working with Supervisor Laine to encourage bear boxes in Tahoe campgrounds



PRIORITY ISSUES....

Deer issues on the west slope

- supported distribution of informational brochure regarding negative impacts of feeding deer, including disease transmission, injury to pets, influx of predators, etc
- continuing updates from CDFW regarding Chronic Wasting Disease
- supporting efforts to establish flashing lights near deer crossing areas on Highway 50 corridor



PRIORITY ISSUES....

Mountain lion conflict issues on the west slope

- produced opinion paper for El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
- continuing updates from CDFW
- reaching out to other county Fish & Wildlife Commissions



PRIORITY ISSUES

Invasive species in Lake Tahoe and its tributaries

- monitoring work done by
area land and water
management agencies
- effects on other county
waterways



QUESTIONS