



Mr. Eric Sklar, President
California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 11, 2019

RE: January 31st Duck Season Ending Date for 2019/20 Season - SUPPORT

Dear President Sklar:

This letter is to inform you that the California Waterfowl Association (CWA) Board of Directors met on April 5, 2019 and **reaffirmed its support of extending the duck season to January 31st in the Balance of State, Southern San Joaquin and Southern California Zones for the 2019/20 season.**

The Board also recommended that the post season youth hunts in those Zones begin on Saturday, February 8, 2020, and that the late season goose hunts begin a week later on Saturday, February 15, 2020.

This decision was made after input from CWA's Regulations and Traditions Committee, which includes participation from waterfowl hunters across California. The Board and Committee also considered CWA's 2019 End of Season Survey (completed March 31, 2019), which asked the following question:

“For the 2019-20 season, do you support extending the duck season for 5 more days until Friday, January 31 in the Balance of State, Southern San Joaquin and Southern California Zones? (The post-season youth hunt would also be moved back as needed (e.g. one week later) to help ensure a quality hunt for junior hunters.)”

With 1,516 total respondents to the 2019 survey, 85 % (1289) responded “Yes” and only 10 % (152) answered “No”. (4.9% (75) did not provide a response.)

The Board and the Committee believes that the additional 5 days of duck hunting at the end of January of 2020 would enhance hunter opportunity—thereby helping to support hunter recruitment, retention and reactivation (R3) goals—while not adversely impacting duck populations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Hennelly, California Waterfowl Association

cc: Members, California Fish and Game Commission
Ms. Melanie Weaver, California Department of Fish and Wildlife