

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 EVAN EICKMEYER
ERIC KATZ
3 Supervising Deputy Attorneys General
JAMES C. CROWDER (SBN 327653)
4 BENJAMIN P. LEMPert (SBN 344239)
Deputy Attorneys General
5 1300 I Street, Suite 125
Sacramento, CA 95814
6 Telephone: (916) 210-7916
Fax: (916) 327-2319
7 E-mail: james.crowder@doj.ca.gov
Attorneys for Respondent California Department of Fish & Wildlife
8 *Exempt from filing fees pursuant to
Government Code section 6103*

10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

13 **SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL;
14 CALIFORNIA RIFLE & PISTOL
ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED;
15 CALIFORNIA BOWMEN
HUNTERS/STATE ARCHERY
16 ASSOCIATION; HOWL FOR WILDLIFE,
INC.; CALIFORNIA DEER
17 ASSOCIATION; and COALITION TO
SAVE CATALINA ISLAND DEER,**
18
19
20 v.
21 **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH
AND WILDLIFE; CALIFORNIA
22 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND
WILDLIFE, SOUTH COAST REGION;
23 and DOES 1-10,**
24
25 **CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY,**
26
27
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Case No. 26STCP00987

**RESPONDENT AND REAL PARTY IN
INTEREST'S JOINT STATUS
CONFERENCE STATEMENT**

Date: April 23, 2026
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Dept: 86
Judge: Honorable Curtis A. Kin
Action Filed: March 10, 2026

Petitioners,

Respondents,

Real Party in Interest.

1 Respondent California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Respondent or Department) and
2 Real Party in Interest Santa Catalina Island Conservancy (Real Party in Interest or Conservancy)
3 hereby submit this Joint Status Conference Statement to provide notice to the Court regarding
4 preliminary procedural issues and to request that two related hearings be consolidated onto a
5 single date.

6 **1. Petitioners' Motion to Conform**

7 On March 10, 2026, Petitioners Safari Club International, et al. (Petitioners) filed their
8 Petition for Writ of Mandate (Petition). On March 18, 2026, Petitioners filed a Notice of Motion
9 and Motion to Conform Filing Date to Attempted Transmission Date or Other Appropriate Relief
10 (Motion to Conform). The Motion to Conform requests that this Court backdate the filing of
11 Petitioners' Petition from March 10, 2026, to March 9, 2026.

12 Petitioners have reserved a May 28, 2026, hearing date for the Motion to Conform and
13 have since advised that they would like to expedite the hearing date. Respondent and Real Party
14 in Interest are willing to consider an alternative date, provided it does not shorten their time to file
15 their oppositions to the Motion to Conform, and provided their demurrers, discussed *post*, would
16 be heard on the same date.

17 **2. Respondent and Real Party in Interest Demurrers**

18 Respondent and Real Party in Interest both plan to demur due to Petitioners' failure to file
19 the Petition within CEQA's 35-day statute of limitations. (See Pub. Resources Code § 21167,
20 subd. (d).) The factual and legal bases for the demurrers are nearly identical to those that will be
21 raised in opposition to the Motion to Conform.

22 Real Party in Interest and Respondent requested a May 28 hearing date for the demurrers
23 to avoid duplicative hearings, but it was unavailable. They instead reserved June 11, 2026, the
24 earliest available date. They also requested that Petitioners stipulate to consolidating the two
25 hearing dates, but Petitioners have declined.

26 **3. Request to Consolidate Hearings**

27 To streamline this litigation and conserve party and judicial resources, Respondent and
28 Real Party in Interest request that the Court consolidate the hearing dates for the Motion to


1 Conform and demurrers to May 28, 2026, or another available date that is mutually agreeable to
2 the parties.

3
4 Dated: April 22, 2026

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
EVAN EICKMEYER
ERIC KATZ
Supervising Deputy Attorneys General

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JAMES C. CROWDER
BENJAMIN P. LEMPert
Deputy Attorneys General
*Attorneys for Respondent California
Department of Fish & Wildlife*

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12 Dated: April 22, 2026

SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER LLP

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EDWARD T. SCHEXNAYDER
ORRAN BALAGOPALAN
*Attorneys for Real Party in Interest Catalina
Island Conservancy*

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY E-MAIL

Case Name: Safari Club International, et al. v. CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, et al.

Case Number: 26STCP00987

Declaration of Electronic Service

1. I am at least 18 years of age and not a party to this matter.
2. I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General of the State of California. My business address is 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702, Los Angeles, CA 90013-1230, County of Los Angeles.
3. My electronic service address is Lois.Smith@doj.ca.gov.
4. On April 22, 2026, I electronically served the following document[s]:

**RESPONDENT AND REAL PARTY IN INTEREST’S JOINT STATUS
CONFERENCE STATEMENT**

5. I electronically served the aforementioned document[s] by emailing them to the following individual[s]:

C.D. Michel, Esq. Tiffany Chevront, Esq. Sean Brady, Esq. Michel & Associates, P.C. 180 East Ocean Blvd., Suite 200 Long Beach, CA 90802 Email Addresses: <i>Cmichel@michellawyers.com</i> <i>SBrady@michellawyers.com</i> <i>TChevront@michellawyers.com</i> <i>lfera@michellawyers.com</i> <i>Attorneys for Petitioners</i>	Edward T. Schexnayder, Esq. Orran Balagopalan, Esq. Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP 550 California Street, Suite 1200 San Francisco, CA 94104 Email Addresses: <i>Schexnayder@smwlaw.com</i> <i>OBalagopalan@smwlaw.com</i> <i>Attorneys for Real Party in Interest</i>
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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on April 22, 2026.

Lois E. Smith
Declarant

/s/ Lois E. Smith
Signature