

FEBURARY 2026

CALIFORNIA DEER ASSOCIATION **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**



Predators are out of control, why even bother?

BUT HERE'S THE BIGGER *picture*

We hear this a lot and we get it.

At Inyo Craters, we're tackling severe bark beetle mortality, removing hazard trees, improving forest health, and restoring critical winter range. This project doesn't just protect habitat, reduces fuel loads and wildfire risk. That matters for deer and the people who live here.

Predator pressure? It's real. And we're not ignoring it!



LEARN MORE



However...habitat loss, overgrowth, fire suppression, drought, they're all squeezing deer from every side. You can't fight one threat and ignore the rest. That's why we're also working on the policy front, pushing for balanced wildlife management, increased accountability, and science based predator control tools that actually help. You want action? So do we. We're showing up with chainsaws and legislative coalitions. Because if we don't fight for this land, this herd, and this future, who will?



Is wildlife near and 'deer' to your heart...

A Gift That Gives Back

14

VALENTINE'S
DAY

This Valentine's Day, consider pairing your gift with CDA membership, event tickets, Monthly Prize Calendar or a donation in their name. Supporting conservation ensures healthy deer herds, quality habitat, and the future of hunting in California.

We rounded up some of our favorite Valentine's Day gifts from CDA, including wine glasses, the cheese board, and the timeless CDA deer knife. Perfect for a cozy date night that also supports conservation.



Because the best gift of all is protecting the places and wildlife we love.

CALIFORNIA DEER ASSOCIATION
COLUSA COUNTY CHAPTER

**ANNUAL AUCTION
AND BANQUET**

Every dollar raised helps protect wildlife,
conserve habitat, and strengthen our
outdoor community.

MARCH 21, 2026 | DOORS OPEN AT 5PM

HIGHLIGHTS

- Premium Raffle Prizes
- Dinner, Drinks & Community
- Support Local Conservation In Our Region

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!



FEATURED RAFFLE ITEMS



**Colusa Fairgrounds
Festival Hall**

1303 10th Street
Colusa, California 95932

WEATHERBY KUIU HAWA MAVER BENELLI HORLIT

COLUSA BANQUET
March 21st

EVENTS COMING UP



FIND ONE
NEAR YOU...

CLICK HERE

THE CDA FRESNO CHAPTER
INVITES YOU TO

**1ST ANNUAL
CONSERVATION GALA**

FEBRUARY 28, 2026 | 5 PM

PARDINI'S BANQUET ROOM
2257 W SHAW AVE, FRESNO, CA 93711

FEATURE



**GREEN MOUNTAIN
PELLET SMOKER**

**FIERCE FIREARMS
7MM PRC RIFLE**

**GRIZZLY 100 QT
COOLER**

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE DINNER, DRINKS, AND COMMUNITY; EXCLUSIVE RAFFLE PRIZES; LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS; AND LIVE MUSIC BY JOHN PEMBERTON.
FORMAL OR SEMI-FORMAL ATTIRE ENCOURAGED, BUT NOT REQUIRED.

WEATHERBY KUIU HAWA MAVER BENELLI HORLIT

FRESNO GALA
FEBURARY 28th



BCCER Turkey Draw

NEW

FEATURED HUNTS PAGE



CLICK HERE



California Tule Elk

WHATS HAPPENING THIS MONTH...

The California Fish and Game Commission will meet in Sacramento to vote on whether Southern California and Central Coast mountain lions should be listed as Threatened. From a deer conservation perspective, predator management plays a critical role in maintaining balanced ecosystems, healthy deer herds, and connected habitat corridors. This vote has the potential to shape long-term wildlife management and conservation strategies across multiple regions of the state.

MEETINGS & LEGISLATIVE

Mountain Lion Protection
Vote | February 11-12, 2026

Why it matters:

Predator policy decisions directly impact deer population dynamics, habitat use, and broader ecosystem health. Making this an important issue for hunters and conservationists alike.

PHOTO *of the month*



Send us
your photo
today to be
featured
next!

CLICK HERE

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

*Waterfowl
Season*

DUCK SOUP

This is the kind of meal that warms hands, slows conversations, and reminds everyone why we gather after a long morning in the marsh.

The ducks were cleaned before the sun had fully burned off the frost. Carcasses went into the pot, not wasted, not rushed. Stock simmered while stories were told and knives kept moving. Later, duck breast and salt pork browned together, vegetables followed, and the fire did the rest.

By the time the soup was ready, the hunt was already part of it.

Built on a rich, slow-simmered duck stock and finished with tender duck breast, root vegetables, wild rice, and a touch of spice from gumbo seasoning, it's a rustic, satisfying dish that warms you from the inside out. Smoky salt pork adds depth, while corn and green beans bring balance and texture. Simple to prepare and perfect for sharing, this soup only gets better with time, making it ideal for leftovers, gatherings, or a cozy night in.

[Click here for the full Recipe](#)

BY: CHRIS MARTIN

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jason Haley
Frank Garrison
Sonny Martin
Erika Giusti
Chase Seidel
Sporty Pair
Matthew Campisi
Robert Gorini
Tom Miller
Robert Bailey
Robyn Mazzanti
Bob Moretti
Jonathon Prokott
Dan kinder
Justin Pryoe
Scott Rosendahl
George Engelmann
Lorne Riche
Chris Knight
Scott Holmes
Michael Cyphers
Donald Denoyer

Pat Nixon
Jon Campbell
Casey Smith
Megan Spangle
Damon Conklin
Joshua Butts
Brian Finch
Alisha Behymer
Robbie Swenson JR
Robbie Swenson
Ian Prindle
Dan Xavier
Chris Maisel
Mark Imsdahl
Michael Bocahegia
Pete Peters
Patrick Kaace
Terry Owingfield
Bob Jungman
Wayne Souza
Stuart Perry
Diana Fisher

Steve Lumley
Robert Payre
Chris Wick
George Gomes
Ryan Ellyson
Craig Lichtle
Anthony Irizarey
Jim Martin
Walker Slover
Celand Wood
Scott Combs
Michael Falconer
Caleb Bairos
Andre' Ortega
David Young
Holli Miller
Kevin Spjut
Dion Edwards
Jeff Davidson
Nathan Cunningham
Jason Kelly

www.caldeer.org

JOIN TODAY

info@caldeer.org