

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor, District 5
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: July 27, 2010

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION – Present a Commendation honoring Robert Pelzman for receiving the, “2010 California Department of Fish and Game Officer of the Year Award.”

ACTION REQUESTED

Present a Commendation honoring Robert Pelzman for receiving the, “2010 California Department of Fish and Game Officer of the Year Award.”

BACKGROUND

The fish and game wardens serve as law enforcement agents for State and Federal fish and wildlife agencies, enforcing laws that are designed to protect and conserve fish and wildlife. Each year, the Department of Fish and Game honors their top wardens with awards in recognition of their officers that have demonstrated exceptional service during their call to duty. This year, Robert Pelzman was honored with the, “2010 California Department of Fish and Game Officer of the Year Award” for going beyond the call of duty to arrest a poacher in the Foresthill area that was attempting to take bears over bait known as “baiting”. Upon arrest, the accused poacher was found to also have four stuffed ring-tailed cats in his possession. The man plead guilty to hunting over bait for leaving jars of fermented meat with holes in the lids hanging from trees in the forest, classic bear bait, illegal in California. In addition, Robert Pelzman has volunteered for multiple extra-duty assignments including being one of the first participants in the newly developed canine program.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

**In the matter of a Commendation
honoring Robert Pelzman for receiving the,
"2010 California Department of Fish and Game
Officer of the Year Award."**

WHEREAS, fish and game wardens serve as law enforcement agents for State and Federal fish and wildlife agencies, enforcing laws that are designed to protect and conserve fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Robert Pelzman is the fish and game warden in Placer County; and

WHEREAS, Robert Pelzman attended American River College before transferring to Humboldt State University to major in wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, Robert became a game warden after completing his academy training that he paid for personally without any promise of a job at the end; and

WHEREAS, his father, Ronald Pelzman, also worked for the Department of Fish and Game and retired as a fisheries biologist; and

WHEREAS, Robert is known for excelling in his performance, being a star athlete in high school football and having a natural knack for detail and having good observation skills; and

WHEREAS, as quoted by his Supervisor, Lt. Richard Vincent, "Robert goes the extra mile to watch and see what's going on"; and

WHEREAS, having this depth of character to perform his duties with excellence is what prompts his patience and diligence to catch poachers in Placer County including one man caught baiting bear in Foresthill and when caught, was also in possession of four stuffed ring-tailed cats; and

WHEREAS, Robert has always stood out for his propensity for volunteering including training 13 new wardens, helping in other areas needing support, teaching hunter-education classes and becoming one of the first volunteers for the canine program; and

WHEREAS, Robert signed over ownership of his black Labrador retriever, Nigel, to the department and both went through an extensive six week training program that resulted in Nigel being trained to sniff out everything from guns and spent cartridges to abalone, deer and elk meat. Nigel and Robert are now partners patrolling the forest roads looking for signs of any illegal activity.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that the Placer County Board of Supervisors takes great joy in honoring Robert Pelzman for receiving the, "2010 California Department of Fish and Game Officer of the Year Award." Robert has truly proven to be an asset to the Department of Fish and Game and searching out illegal fish and game related activity in Placer County.

Kirk Uhler Supervisor, District 4
Chairman 2010

F. C. "Rocky" Rockholm
Supervisor, District 1

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5