



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
June 13-15, 2019 – Port Angeles

Attendance

WA Commission:

Larry Carpenter, Chair
Barbara Baker, Vice-chair
Dave Graybill
Don McIsaac
Bob Kehoe
Brad Smith
Kim Thorburn
Jay Holzmilller

Commission Staff:

Tami Liningier

WA Department Staff:

Kelly Susewind, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
Amy Windrope
William Frymire, AGO
Nate Pamplin
Ron Warren
Eric Gardner
Anis Aoude
Stephanie Simek
Chris Donley
Raquel Crosier
Taylor Cotten
Chris Donley

Kelly Cunningham
Julie Sandberg
Fenner Yarborough
Scott Pearson
Kyle Adicks
Morgan Stinson
Chris Eardley
Lucas Hart
Larry Bennett
Kelly Cunningham
Larry Phillips

Public:

Janis D. Schweitzer
Aileen Good
Dave Croonquist
Molly McCoy
Steve Shanewise
Bill Hebner
Mary Lewis
Randy Lato
Lucas Hart

Randy Good
Randy Johnson
Greg Jones
Jamie Michel
Ed Bowen
Jesse Pecor
Stephen Lewis
Curt Kraemer
Bob Beausoleil

Brian Lipscomb
Chris Madsen
Lorna Smith
Tino Villaluz
Will Honea
Frank Bob
Holly Lewis
Wayne Cline

Christi Lipscomb
Shawn Yanity
Rob McCoy
Ron Hayes
Ron Wesen
Nancy Bluestein-Johnson
Lora Leschner
Lee Whetham

Thursday, June 13, 2019

Executive Committee meeting – Commissioners Carpenter, Baker, Smith, Kehoe
Chair Carpenter closed the committee meeting and called an executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment. No action was taken during the executive session.

Fish Committee meeting – Commissioners Carpenter, Kehoe, McIsaac, Graybill

Location: Juan de Fuca room

Agenda topics

- Willapa Bay progress report
- Hatchery Reform Policy review

Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) the Commission met to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. The Commission also met to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). No action was taken during the executive session.

Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 14, 2019

Wildlife Committee meeting - Commissioners Thorburn, Baker, Holzmilller

Location: Juan de Fuca room

Agenda topics

- Status report – greater sage-grouse
- Hunting contests
- Non-toxic shot
- Discussion on agenda items

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion

The Commissioners discussed the following items:

Commissioner Thorburn talked about Northern Pike

Commissioner Baker made a motion to hire candidate 1 for the Executive Assistant to the Commission, Commissioner Smith seconded the motion – all were in favor. Nichole Kloefer was hired and offered a salary of \$59,000 per year.

Commissioner McIsaac provided an update on the Columbia River Policy Review Committee.

Commissioner Holzmilller provided information regarding the Grand Ronde River access land donated by Larry Cassidy. Big thank you from the Commission and would like to have a kiosk placed or possibly name the site with recognition for Mr. Cassidy.

b. Meeting Minute Approval

The Commission considered approval of the minutes of the May 31, 2019 conference call.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of the May 31, 2019 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

c. Committee Reports

Commissioner Kehoe reported that the Fish Committee topics included:

- Willapa Bay review
- Hatchery Reform Policy review
- Skagit catch and release budget
- Columbia River Policy review

Commission Thorburn reported the Wildlife Committee topics included:

- Greater Sage-grouse status report
- Coyote hunting contests
- Non-toxic ammunition
- Items on the agenda for the meeting

2. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

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| Ron Hayes – Baker Lake Sockeye | Steve Shanewise – corn pond hunting/WAG |
| Greg Jones – HB 1516 – dogs/conflict resolution | Lorna Smith – Direction of WDFW |
| Randy Johnson – Hurd Creek Hatchery | Ed Bowen – Elwha project lands/culverts |
| Rob McCoy – Predator/prey | Jamie Michel – Public lands conservation |

3. Director's Report

The Director provided an overview and highlighted the following topics:

- Regional Award events and digital opens
- Wolf tour with House Natural Resources and Ag Committee
- Staff changes effective June 16th
- Thank you to Joe Stohr for his 12 years as the Deputy
- Pinnipeds 120 permit has been submitted
- Cougar efforts and next steps
- BIAW petition regarding HPAs will be handled by the Director
- Larry Phillips, Region 6 Director provided an update on items in the region

4. Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager, briefed the Commission and requested approval on land transactions recommended by the Department for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat and for the enhancement of public recreation opportunities.

No one provided comments.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the land transactions as presented. Motion passed

5. Update on Skagit Elk

Region 4 Director, Amy Windrope and Fenner Yarborough, Region 4 Wildlife Program Manager provided an overview of the action plan for the Skagit Elk herd. The Commission also heard from Skagit County Commissioner, Ron Wesen, Prosecuting Attorney, Will Honea and Washington Cattleman's Association Representative, Danny Defranco. Frank Bob, Lummi Nation, Tino Villaluz, Swinomish Tribe, Chairman Yanity and Jesse Pecor, Stillaguamish Tribe provided comments regarding the plan and next steps.

Wolf Committee meeting - Commissioners Thorburn, Baker, Holzmilller

Location: Juan de Fuca room

Agenda topics

- Briefing and discussion about wolf-livestock depredation protocol and any other WAG business
- Updated policy action (SEPA/EIS) timelines, especially focusing on items that the committee might bring forward to the full Commission
- Update on the status of the viability assessment model

6. Periodic Status Review and Recovery Plan (Tufted Puffins) – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Scott Pearson, Senior Research Scientist, provided a briefing and requested approval from the Commission to maintain the endangered status for tufted puffins.

No one provided comments.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to maintain the endangered status for tufted puffins as presented by department staff. The motion passed.

7. Period Status Review (Oregon Silverspot Butterfly) – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Taylor Cotten, Acting Wildlife Diversity Division Manager provided a briefing and requested approval from the Commission to maintain the endangered status for the Oregon silverspot butterfly.

No one provided comments.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to maintain the endangered status for the Oregon silverspot butterfly as presented by department staff. The motion passed.

8. Period Status Review (Grizzly Bear) – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Jeff Lewis, Wildlife Biologist provided a briefing and requested approval from the Commission to maintain the endangered status for the grizzly bear.

Lorna Smith provided comments.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to maintain the endangered status for the Grizzly Bear as presented by department staff. The motion passed. Commissioner Thorburn commented that there are some changes needed to the draft before finalization.

9. Fall Black Bear Seasons and Regulations – Briefing and Public Hearing

Stephanie Simek, Carnivore Section Manager provided a briefing and heard public comments on proposed changes to the 2018-2020 fall black bear seasons and regulations.

Lorna Smith provided comments.

10. Commercial Fishing Guide Logbook Requirements – Briefing and Public Hearing

Kelly Cunningham, Fish Program Deputy Assistant Director and Chris Donley, Region 1 Fish Program Manager provided a briefing on establishing logbook requirements for gamefish guides, food fish guides and combination gamefish and food fish guides.

The Commissioners asked for staff to provide some different options and come back to the August meeting.

No one provided comments.

11. 2019 Legislative Review - Briefing

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director, Raquel Crosier, Legislative Director and Morgan Stinson, Budget Division Manager provided an overview of the 2019 legislative session.

12. 2020 Agency Request Legislation – Briefing

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Director provided a preliminary review of the agency's 2020 agency request legislative proposals. There will be further discussions in August.

13. 2020 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budget Requests - Briefing

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Morgan Stinson, Budget Division Manager provided a preliminary review of the agency's 2020 supplemental operating and capital budget proposals. There will be further discussions in August.

Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 4:58

Saturday, April 5, 2019

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

14. Future Meeting Planning - Discussion

The Commissioners and staff briefly discussed upcoming meetings.

15. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Curt Kraemer – Skagit catch & release

Wayne Cline – Skagit catch & release

Bob Beausoleil – support for Dave Croonquist & Treaty tribes/hatcheries

Lee Whetham – Halibut fishery

16. Northwest Straits Commission - Briefing

Chris Eardley, Puget Sound Shellfish Policy Coordinator and Lucas Hart, Northwest Straits Commission provided an overview on the collaborative work being done between WDFW and NWSC in conducting marine conservation and monitoring projects.

17. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

The Commissioners and staff discussed the follow up items from the meeting.

Commissioner Thorburn provided an update on the previous two Wolf Committee meetings.

Commissioner McIsaac thanked staff for the work done on the Skagit elk situation and provided some input on finalizing the Action Plan.

Chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant