



**Minutes**  
**Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission**  
Conference Call  
Friday, August 23, 2019  
Olympia, Washington

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Attendance

Commission:	Department Staff:	Commission Staff:	Public:
Larry Carpenter, Chair	Kelly Susewind	Nikki Kloepfer	Chris Bachman
Barbara Baker, Vice Chair	Amy Windrope	Tami Lininger	Jarrold Kaiser
Don McIsaac	Nate Pamplin		Nikolas Novotny
Kim Thorburn	Raquel Crosier		
Bob Kehoe	Edward Eleazer		
Dave Graybill	Captain Jeff		
Molly Linville	Wickersham		
James Anderson	Craig Burley		
	Mick Cope		

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**Friday, August 23, 2019**

Commissioner Thorburn called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m.

The meeting started late due to technical issues.

**A. Petition – Rule amendment to WAC 220-312-040 (94) Green River – Decision**

Edward Eleazer, Region 4 Program Manager briefed the Commission on a petition to amend WAC 220-312-040 (94) Green River. The amendment would close the area around the Tacoma Municipal Watershed to fishing as an added measure to protect drinking water quality.

Commissioner Thorburn and Anderson asked about the consequences of illegal fishing and Commissioner Anderson commented that accessibility is limited to the public in the area.

Commissioner Thorburn commented of the importance of this amendment and the conservation of drinking water.

Details of the petition can be found on the Fish and Wildlife Commission page [here](#).

**Commissioner Thorburn made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kehoe to accept the petition and direct the Department to initiate rule-**

**making concurrent with the rule-making for implementation of 2SHB 1579 (2019). The motion passed.**

**B. 2020 Agency Request Legislative Proposal – Enforcement Civil Authority Bill – Decision**

Nate Pamplin, Director of Budget and Government Affairs, Raquel Crosier, Legislative Director and Captain Jeff Wickersham, Region 5 Enforcement Program followed up with the agency's 2020 request in regards to the Enforcement Civil Authority Bill as discussed at the August 2-3 meeting.

Nate announced that Tom McBride was selected as the new Legislative director. He served as legal counsel to the Washington State Senate, a deputy prosecuting attorney for King County, and 25 years as the Executive Director of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA). He has a deep knowledge of the legislative process. He starts September 3.

Raquel and Nate provided a modified version of the enforcement bill. Raquel detailed the proposed changes regarding the recreational license revocation framework. It was removed from the legislative proposal that was presented to the Commission on August 2. She indicated that staff need to work on additional analysis and will likely combine that effort with a review of the commercial license revocation framework, pursuing a comprehensive license revocation proposal in the 2021 legislative session.

The updated proposal would make four changes:

- Allows some lower level fish and wildlife violations to be charged as an infraction;
- Changes the definition of conviction to allow the Department to maintain possession of seized fish and wildlife for an increased number of case dispositions;
- Requires notice to WDFW of citation disposition by the courts; and
- Aligns Department's recruitment requirements with the state's other law enforcement agencies to allow "lawful permanent residents" apply for our officer positions.

Commissioner McIsaac thanked the staff for a thorough summary sheet and asked how the change would impact rates. Revocation impact is expected to be minimal.

Vice Chair Baker thanked staff for the transparency and open dialogue through the process. Commissioner Linville also supports the changes.

**Commissioner Thorburn made a motion, seconded by Commissioner**

**Linville to approve the agency-request legislative proposal, Enforcement Civil Authority Bill as proposed by staff. The motion passed.**

**C. 2020 Additional Supplemental Operating Budget Requests– Decision**

Nate Pamplin, Director of Budget and Government Affairs discussed with the Commission the agency's 2020 four additional supplemental operating budget requests.

Since the August meeting, the Department has identified additional budget needs and is seeking approval to advance the requests to the Governor's Office.

The additional decision packages for maintenance level are:

- DES Motor Pool, \$328K in SFY 2020 and \$328K in SFY 2021 (on-going)
- Hatchery Utilities, \$220K in SFY 2020 and \$220K in SFY 2021 (on-going)
- Wildfire Suppression, \$488K (one-time for SFY 2020)

These three requests would bring the total biennial maintenance level request to \$12.4M.

The additional decision package for performance level are:

- Wildfire Recovery, \$400K (one-time for SFY2020)

This request will bring the total Performance Level request to \$6.8M (FY20-21), \$15.1M ongoing.

Details of the requests can be found on the summary sheets provided on the Fish and Wildlife Commission page [here](#).

Vice Chair Baker asked if there have been discussions with OFM about including COLAs in the supplemental budget request. Nate indicated that staff have met with OFM to share the Department's plans to include COLAs that were not backed by revenue in its budget request and that OFM didn't tell us 'no' at the time. Nate relayed that the funding request for COLAs was included in the budget proposals approved by the Commission on August 2.

**Commissioner McIsaac made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the four additional supplemental operating budget requests as proposed by staff, with allowance for minor adjustments as staff prepare final documents for submittal to the Governor's Office. The motion passed.**

**D. Meeting Minute Approval – Decision**

The Commission considered approval of the August 2-3 meeting in Olympia.

**Commissioner Thorburn made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the minutes as proposed. All were in favor and motion carried.**

## **E. Future Meeting Planning**

Commissioners discussed upcoming meeting agendas.

Commissioner McIsaac thanked staff for the prompt posting of special meetings, keeping with the Departments transparency efforts. He asked for a news release to be submitted for the special meetings as a notification to the public.

Commissioner Thorburn gave an overview of the discussions that will occur for the September 6 Wildlife and September 3 Wolf Committee meetings. The first wolf post-delisting plan scoping forum will be in Spokane the night of the Wolf Committee meeting.

Commissioners Kehoe reminded the commissioners of the historical issues with cougar and how the Governor's office was involved. Commissioner Thorburn emphasized that it wasn't the decision the Governor had an issue with, it was the lack of notice to the public about the changes.

The Commissioners agreed that communication should be disseminated to the public about the meetings so they can listen. No public comment will be taken but can be provided by email.

The September 13-14 Commission meeting will be in Winthrop. Commissioner McIsaac asked to have a Willapa and hatchery update added to the Fish Committee. Nikki will follow up with Ron Warren and Chair Carpenter for amendment and approval. The agenda will be disseminated to the public next week.

## **F. General Discussion**

Commissioners and the Director discussed recent activities and items of interest.

Commissioner Linville asked for more information about how firefighting recovery funds work. Commissioner Thorburn suggested that the discussion be taken to the Wildlife Committee and Mick Cope can provide background at the October Wildlife Committee meeting.

Commissioner Thorburn attended the Return of the Chinook in Roosevelt Lake. It was well attended and quite a moving cultural experience. Commissioner Graybill, also attend the Return of the Chinook ceremony in Rufus Wood Lake and had a similar experience. Lots of tears shed and very important to the Colville members.

Vice Chair Baker attended the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators the first week of August. Her topic was on, "Achieving conservation through agency governance." If anyone is interested in knowing more, please follow up with her.

Commissioner Anderson, and Commissioner Baker attended the Congressional Tour through the South Sound and Grays Harbor areas. Commissioner Anderson thought

it was well coordinated and it was great to meet people in Westport and the surrounding communities.

Commissioner Anderson will be in Kettle River's new access area, and see if there are any fish between the northern and southern points.

Commissioner Linville will be attending the Wildlife Conservation Society Conference in Reno, Nevada with Donny Martorello discussing wolf conservation.

Vice Chair Baker noted that committee meetings do not overlap so all Commissioners are welcome to attend.

Vice Chair Baker adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

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These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

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Nikki Kloepfer, Executive Assistant