



Minutes

Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting

March 26-27, 2021 – Webinar

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Commission Staff</u>
Larry Carpenter, Chair	Joe Panesko, AGO	Derek Stinson	Nichole Kloepfer
Barbara Baker, Vice Chair	Amy Dona, AGO	Taylor Cotton	
Donald McIsaac	Kelly Susewind, Director	Brock Hoenes	
Kim Thorburn	Amy Windrope, Deputy	Stephanie Simek	
Molly Linville	Director	Kyle Spragens	
James R. Anderson	Cynthia Wilkerson	Ciera Strickland	
Lorna Smith	Lisa Coffman	Ron Warren	
Fred Koontz		Ken Warheit	

Friday, March 26, 2021

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

a. **Commissioners' Discussion**

There was no Commissioner discussion.

b. **Meeting Minute Approval**

The Commission considered approval of the February 25-27, 2021 and March 12, 2021 draft minutes.

Commissioner Thorburn made motion, seconded by Commissioner Linville, to approve the minutes of the February 25-27, 2021 webinar as presented. All in favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Thorburn made motion, seconded by Commissioner Linville, to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2021 web conference as presented. All in favor. Motion passed.

c. **Committee Reports - This Section constitutes the formal minutes from each of the listed committee meetings:**

Wildlife Committee

Commissioners in attendance: Committee members Anderson, Linville, Smith, Thorburn, joined by Baker, Koontz, McIsaac

Commissioner Thorburn reported that the committee received an update on permit points for disabled hunter that was brought to the committee by the ADA committee. The resolution the ADA committee is seeking requires a rule change. The intent is to bring it to the Commission with a recommendation after the committee receives all the necessary data. The committee received a preview of the Lands 20/20 recommendations that are on the full commission agenda. Staff also provided a briefing on the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) draft plan for Washington state. The draft plan will go out for public comment. The committee ended with a viewing of the [Predator/Prey video](#).

Big Tent Committee

Commissioners in attendance: Committee members Baker, Koontz, McIsaac, Thorburn, joined by Anderson, Smith,

Vice Chair Baker reported that staff provided a briefing on the [Wild Washington curriculum](#). The committee discussed the WDFW Mission Statement. There are variations of the statement on the website and the committee asked that it be cleaned up for consistency. The committee spent most of the meeting discussing the idea of a Commission Conservation Policy. The committee doesn't have a recommendation for the full Commission yet. At the next meeting the committee will come together to agree on a shared definition of conservation and the shared principles on which they work.

Fish Committee

Commissioner in attendance: Committee members Anderson, Baker, Carpenter, McIsaac, joined by Koontz, Smith

Commissioner Baker reported that the committee had a short conversation on hatchery reform and next steps and schedule. There will be additional discussion on hatchery reform on Saturday during the hatchery agenda item. The remaining of the meeting the committee discussed the emerging commercial fishing permits and alternative gear.

2. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

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| Martha Hall – Wildlife conflict | Robert Sudar – Alternative gear |
| Frank Haw – Alternative gear | Adrian Tuohy – Fish trap project |
| Rachel Bjork- Wildlife conflict | Greg King – Fisheries management |
| David Moskowitz - Cold water refugia | Irene Martin – Alternative gear |
| Kent Martin- Alternative gear | Dale Magart - Hunting seasons |
| Aaron Jorgenson – Alternative gear | Pat Hesselgesser – Alternative gear |
| Stephanie Taylor - Wildlife conflict | Mike Herz – Hunting seasons |
| Kevin Vella – Hunting season | Marie Neumiller – Chronic Wasting Disease |

3. Director's Report

The Director provided oral highlights on the following:

- Meetings with Hatchery Co-Managers, WAG subgroups, and range riding
- Shrubsteppe fire update
- Update to the Alternative Gear Advisory Board
- Update on WDFW budget
- WDFW website, new Commission documents search function
- Grazing/wolf management season
- Marketing for the Team's Angler Retention Plan
- Greater Sage-Grouse repopulating
- Start of Sharp-Tailed Grouse surveys
- Columbia River buyback status
- Aquatic Invasive Species funding

Commissioner McIsaac paraphrased the alternative gear section from Policy C-3630 and requested some creative consideration on how to move forward with pound nets. When the decision does move forward as part of the rulemaking package staff should consider an ad hoc advisory body that includes those who are affected by the changes and that it be a thorough Commission process. Commissioner Anderson supports McIsaac's suggestions. Commissioner Smith asked that there be more diversity with the advisory group.

Commissioner Smith suggested consistent training for range riders; the Tom Mine Basin Association does great work.

4. Lands 20/20 – Briefing and Public Comment

Cynthia Wilkerson, Lands Division Manager, and Lisa Coffman, Lands 20/20 Coordinator provided a briefing on the Lands 20/20 process.

The following people provided comments:

Elizabeth Rodrick	Cody Duncan	Jay Gordon
Tom Davis	Terry Willis	Jonathan Talmadge

BREAK

5. Greater Sage-Grouse Periodic Status Review – Briefing and Public Hearing

Derek Stinson, Wildlife Biologist, and Taylor Cotten Conservation Assessment Section Manager briefed the Commission on the Periodic Status Review of the Greater Sage-Grouse that is recommending up-listing to endangered.

The following people provided comments:

Trina Bayard

6. Hunting Boundaries– Briefing and Public Hearing

Brock Hoenes, Ungulate Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Hunting Boundaries. There was no public comment for this item.

LUNCH

7. Hunting Restrictions and Equipment– Briefing and Public Hearing

Brock Hoenes, Ungulate Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Hunting Restrictions and Equipment.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall	Mike Herz	Bob Harriman
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8. Furbearers, Small Game and Upland Game Birds– Briefing and Public Hearing

Stephanie Simek, Carnivore, Furbearer, Small Game and Upland Bird Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Furbearers, Small Game and Upland Game Birds.

The following people provided comments:

Chris Bachman	Martha Hall	Bob Harriman
Bob Dennis	Glen Mendel	Russel McDonald
Kevin Vella	Bruce Vandervort	

Commissioners will continue their discussion on this item during the meeting debrief due to time constraints.

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

Stephanie Simek, Carnivore, Furbearer, Small Game and Upland Bird Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Fall Black Bear

Hunting Seasons and Regulations.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall Hailey Stewart Michael Herz
Marie Neumiller Stephanie Taylor

10. Waterfowl Equipment and Regulations– Briefing and Public Hearing

Kyle Spragens, Waterfowl Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Waterfowl Equipment and Regulations.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall

11. Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Regulations– Briefing and Public Hearing

Kyle Spragens, Waterfowl Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Regulations.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall

12. Landowner Hunting Permits – Briefing and Public Hearing

Ciera Strickland, Private Lands Access Program Manager briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Landowner Hunting Permits.

There was no public comment for this item.

13. Bighorn Sheep, Moose and Mountain Goat– Briefing and Public Hearing

Brock Hoenes, Ungulate Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Bighorn Sheep, Moose and Mountain Goat.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall Dale Magart Rachel Bjork

Items #14 and #15 were moved to Saturday morning due to time constraints.

14. Game Reserves – Waterfowl Closures – Briefing and Public Hearing

Kyle Spragens, Waterfowl Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Game Reserves – Waterfowl Closures.

The following people provided comments:

Martha Hall

RECESS

Saturday, March 27, 2021

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

17. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Greg King – Alternative gear Lynn Mason - Klickitat cougars
Rachel Bjork – Mountain goats David Linn – Klickitat cougars

Gabrielle Gilbert – Klickitat cougars
Ravae O’Leary – Hoh River petition
Marc Alberts – Hunting seasons

Rachel Haymon – Klickitat cougars
Stephanie Taylor – Public comment/agenda revisions

15. Deer General Seasons and Special Permits – Briefing and Public Hearing

Brock Hoenes, Ungulate Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Deer General Seasons and Special Permits.

The following people provided comments:

Bob Harriman Al Martz Marc Alberts
Dale Magart Marie Neumiller Rocky Ross

16. Elk General Seasons and Special Permits – Briefing and Public Hearing

Brock Hoenes Ungulate Section Manager, Game Division briefed the Commission on rule changes and updates regarding Elk General Season and Special Permits.

The following people provided comments:

Marc Alberts Bob Harriman

18. C-3619 Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy – Briefing and Public Comment

Ron Warren, Director of Fish Policy, and Ken Warheit, Supervisor, Genetic and Fish Health Laboratories provided a briefing on the current state of the policy review process for Policy C-3619. The Commission will take public comment as part of the public hearing process and schedule final action.

Commissioner McIsaac reported on the results from the last Co-Manager meeting on March 2, 2021 in which they reviewed the SEPA content and policy guideline #4 in detail. All supported to moving forward with the revised policy.

The following people provided comments:

Ilene Levee Greg King Aaron Jorgenson Ron Garner
Conrad Gowell Jamie Glasgow Bob Harriman Charles Malmgren
Lisa Olsen, Pacific County Commissioner

A final decision is scheduled the April 9, 2021 web conference.

19. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Commissioner McIsaac discussed the upcoming meeting on the year-at-a glance. On the matter of E-bikes, Commissioner McIsaac suggested adding an E-bike briefing in June.

Commissioner Thorburn and Vice Chair Baker clarified the Big Tent committee report.

Vice Chair Baker asked that the Commission consider an in-person meeting to discuss our rules, procedures, and operating context.

20. Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) & (i), the Commission met in executive session. No action was taken, and the public was not permitted to attend.

Chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 2:31 pm.

Nichole Kloepfer 4/23/2021
Nichole Kloepfer, Executive Assistant