



Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

Meeting date:

8/11/2023

Agenda item:

Agenda Item #10. Blue Sheet: Social Sciences Briefing

Presenter(s):

Dr. Braeden Van Deynze, Natural Resource Economist

Dr. David J. Trimbach, Conservation Social Scientist

Nate Pamplin, Director of External Affairs

Background summary:

The F&W Commission adopted a [blue sheet](#) on May 12, 2023 requesting a briefing on the Social Sciences.

Nate will introduce Dr. Braeden Van Deynze and Dr. David J. Trimbach who will present an overview of the social sciences and discuss their application within fish, wildlife, and natural resource management. The briefing will include a high-level overview of the conservation social sciences, including natural resource economics, a short history, and examples. The briefing will also include a synthesis of recent social science projects the Department has led and a summary of ongoing research and applied efforts.

Dr. Braeden Van Deynze's bio:

Dr. Braeden Van Deynze is the Natural Resource Economist for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Prior to joining the agency in 2022, he completed a postdoc appointment with University of Washington's School of Marine and Environmental Affairs and NOAA Fisheries' Northwest Fisheries Science Center. His postdoctoral research focused on the use of cost data and optimization methods in fish passage barrier removal planning in the Pacific Northwest. He holds a PhD in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics from Michigan State University where his thesis received the departmental Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation award. At MSU, his research was focused on the role of ecological change and social value orientations in driving farmer decision-making, with a particular focus on the use of agricultural pesticides. Dr. Van Deynze has published research on many natural resource topics ranging from agricultural practice adoption to fish passage planning in diverse journals across several fields, including

publications in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Land Economics*, and *Biological Conservation*. Prior to his graduate studies, Dr. Van Deynze attended Gonzaga University where he completed bachelors degrees in Economics and Biology while competing on the varsity cross country team.

Dr. David J. Trimbach's bio:

Dr. David J. Trimbach is the Conservation Social Scientist at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (since 2022). He currently works within the Communications and Public Engagement unit in the Director's Office. He is currently a member of the Northwest Straits Commission's Science Advisory Committee, Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agency's Human Dimensions Committee, and Puget Sound Partnership's Social Science Advisory Committee. He holds courtesy and affiliate faculty appointments with Oregon State University's Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences and the University of Washington's School of Environmental and Forestry Sciences. From 2017-2022, he was a Research Associate (2022) and Postdoctoral Research Associate (2017-2021) in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences at Oregon State University. While working for Oregon State University, he acted as the Puget Sound Partnership's in-house social scientist and was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Landscape & Culture at Tallinn University in Estonia. He previously worked as an applied Social Scientist with the Center for Public Partnerships and Research at the University of Kansas, working closely with tribal governments. He received his PhD in Human Geography from the University of Kansas. He has extensive experience collaborating with public agencies, tribal governments, universities, research institutes, and nongovernmental organizations on a diverse portfolio of research projects, both international and domestic. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses in human geography and conservation social sciences, including Human Dimensions of Fish and Wildlife and Environmental Decisions. He has received over 20 research awards, grants, contracts, and fellowships. He has authored or co-authored 20 journal articles and book chapters, and over 20 government reports, policy briefs, and other research products.

Staff recommendation:

N/A

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

N/A

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

N/A

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

N/A

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

N/A

Draft motion language:

N/A

Post decision communications plan:

N/A
