



Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

Meeting date:

6/21/2024

Agenda item:

Briefing: Implementation Update on 10-year Recreation Strategy for WDFW-managed Lands

Presenter(s):

Joel Sisolak, Lands Recreation and Planning Manager, Cynthia Wilkerson, Lands Division Manager

Background summary:

The 10-year Recreation Strategy for WDFW-managed Lands was signed by Director Susewind in July 2022. Early implementation of the strategy has included work under six strategic initiatives: (1) recreation planning; (2) education and engagement; (3) use and impact monitoring; (4) rulemaking; (5) travel management; (6) capacity and funding. Staff will brief the Commission on completed projects, work underway, and near-term objectives that will require additional capacity. Future success in meeting the goals of the strategy to better protect natural and cultural resources while enhancing recreation access for diverse visitors will require ongoing investment, which is a desired outcome for the upcoming legislative session.

Staff recommendation:

n/a

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

Tribes and other state government partners, as well as multiple conservation and recreation stakeholders and the general public, were heavily engaged in the development and review of the 10-year Recreation Strategy for WDFW-managed Lands. Public review included an extended comment period during a SEPA process in early 2022. Since the strategy was enacted by the director in July 2022, we continue to engage tribes, sister state, federal, county and municipal agencies, conservation and recreation partners, local communities and the general public in planning and place-based implementation of the strategy.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

n/a

Draft motion language:

n/a

Post decision communications plan:

The Lands Division of the Wildlife Program is engaged in multiple levels of communication and engagement associated with the implementation of the 10-year Recreation Strategy for WDFW-managed Lands. This includes coordination and consultation with 31 federally recognized tribes, collaboration with other public land managers, engagement with myriad conservation and recreation interests at state, regional and local levels, and education and engagement with the general public through formal and informal communication channels. Where appropriate, individual projects recommended by the Strategy will go through separate SEPA approval process, which also will include public comment periods. We've made significant progress in the past 2 years and continued progress will rely on sufficient and on-going funding.

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