



ADAAC Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 13, 2016  
Olympia, WA

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Region 3: Reno Pelligrini, Chairperson  
Region 2: Dan Dickerson  
Region 5: Rick Erickson

Region 4: David Martin  
At Large: Kevin Frankeberger  
Absent: Wayne McCaskill (Review attendance)

**WDFW Staff in Attendance:**

Brad Smith, WDFW Commission Vice-Chair  
Cindy Colvin, WDFW Human Resource Director  
Sam Taylor, WDFW High Risk Manager - Staff  
Mary Fitzgerald, HR Administrative Assistant - Staff

Christine Redmond (Guest)  
Joshua Nicholas (Guest)  
John Burrows (Guest)

**Welcome by Chairman Pellegrini  
-Introduce Dan Dickerson**

Reno introduced the two topics and the guest speakers for today.

- Quorum Present

**Guest Speaker: John Burrows, Public Affairs IT Specialist**

John stated that the RFP (Request for Proposals) was poorly written, contactors weren't able to submit bids. Website has 9,000 pages, 82,000 PDF attachments, 30 million page views per year. 2016 Legislative action authorized to use State Wildlife Account funds to rebuild the website. RFP document confusing, state WEBS contracting system is not ADA-Accessible. Bruce revised the RFP and released it today. Several high-priority objectives: Creating a site that's user-focused; better organized and fully functional for all devices, smartphones and tablets; Meeting ADA accessibility and usability standards; best practices for multi-lingual; and eliminating unneeded information. Website is 9-10 years old. New RFP is being released today.

--Kevin: We need universal design and easy access for everyone.

--Sam: We are a state leader on getting website done; even state contract system not ADA compliant with accessibility standers.

--Kevin: Meeting was posted online and Kevin thanked John, Bruce and team for a wonderful job.

**-Reviewed ALEA Program:**

**Guest Speaker: Joshua Nicholas, ALEA Program Administrator**

Josh was here to talk about the Grant Program, providing basic information, application process and project monitoring. ALEA has bi-annual \$1.36 million in grant funds available, with an average grant of \$18,000. ALEA has been providing grants since 1984; projects need to provide a public benefit. Applications are due December 1, 2016, applicants can be filled out online. He gets on average of 100 to 120 grant requests, and approves 75 to 95 of those requests. Requirements of the grant are: quarterly reports; and a final report upon completion of the project.

--Dan: Asked about the Sportsmen group; his group has applied in the past but doesn't currently have any grant. Did Josh know why they stopped?

--Josh: He has not seen any grant request for the group in the past 10 years.

--Reno: Has used the ALEA grants for the Oak Creek Wildlife feeding program.

Josh stated that the grants are reviewed by WDFW staff; 18 people, two from each region, fish, habitat and wildlife and one at-large. Staff reviews and scores each grant and then meet as a group to do a final review. Those grants that are awarded will be assigned a WDFW field contact person, who will do a report.

--Cindy: How many have included ADA projects?

--Josh: Just a handle full.

**--Brad: Please let the commission know how many are ADA grants, numbers would be helpful.**

--Kevin: Do you do a press release style notice? If you could send us that press release that would be helpful, we could use it to contact groups.

--Dan: Can a grant be used on private land? We had a private land owner who allowed us to take young kids and train them on how to hunt upland birds but the owner has closed the land due to damage to his property. Could a grant be used to help setup a permit system?

--Josh: Yes, it's possible.

Josh brought ALEA booklets for committee members, along with Josh's contact information and the ALEA webpage information.



**Guest Speaker: Christine Redmond, Volunteer Program Manager**

Thank you for inviting her to the meeting. She has been 3 ½ years in the position. What she likes best about her job is that she learns something new every day. She spends her time training staff, working on special projects, and recording all the volunteer hours. On an average she reports 60 thousand hours volunteer annually. This is important because we are legally required to report all hours. She makes sure all hours get reported, because then we know where to invest our limited resources. For matching grants, volunteer hours are figured at a rate of \$28.00 per hour. Committee members stated that they have not reported their hours. Tracy Love keeps track of the Master Hunter hours.

--Brad: The number of hours reported each year; does this get reported to the commission? We need to let people know how much is being done by our volunteers.

Christine handed out an information sheet on the Discovery Pass Project; for volunteers working in areas that require a Discovery Pass, the volunteer and can get a complimentary pass. "*Volunteer Opportunities*" pamphlet, listing all the activities that are available. Hunter's education is performed by an all-volunteer staff; "*Becoming a Hunter Education Instructor*" pamphlet was given out.

--Dan & Reno: Both stated how great it's been working with Aaron (Garcia).

--Christine: Aaron Garcia (one of three WDFW employees) works with Hunter's Ed & as a Volunteer Coordinator. Aaron has been a great addition to our staff.

--Reno: Master Hunter volunteer hours are hard for people with ADA issues.

--Christine: Master Hunter Light Duty; for those with ADA or are senior hunters, has tasks that let you get your Master Hunter points.

--Kevin: What about drivers for disabled hunter's and fisher's. We have ADA spaces. But if you don't drive, you can't use them.

--Dan: We have local volunteers that help out in our area.

--Sam: The board is working on this item agency wide, making all that we do accessible for all.

Some of Christine's favorite places to volunteer are: Hatcheries; all our hatcheries are listed online. Some even put volunteer information on the website. If it's not listed, you can call and ask.

--Dan: At our hatchery they dug out a pond for a youth fishing day but it was not finished in time for this year. Do we call you Christine or do we work with the region office to see if this can get done for next year?

--Christine: Work with the local region office, if they need my assistance they will call me.

Not ready to be a Hunter Education Instructor; how about a helper? Hunter Ed program is always looking for volunteer helpers with the classes. How about Costal Rock Fish Tagging?

--Dave: I did go out. This is great if all you want to do is catch fish. Catch fish, tag and release. Starts in late February and goes to early April for tagging. Call in December and they will put you on a list for a charter boat going out.

Right now in Capitol Forest, biologists are catching Fawns, collaring and releasing the animals. New project: Internship program in Habitat for college students. Another new project: Kids fishing events.

--Brad: Youth fishing numbers, do we have for state wide? These are our future licensed fishers.

--Dave: Grandparents and Grandkids, it's easy for the older folks, while teaching the younger to fish. It's good clean fun.

National Hunting & Fishing Day Event: This went really well last year. We used a shooting range and had firearms and archery equipment. Lots of free give away for the kids. Families had a great time, we had enforcement trailer and the kids could talk with an officer. This year we are planning a bid event on the eastside. I want to encourage you all to celebrate it in your community, take someone fishing, go out walking in the forest. Christine then gave out bracelets with the website for National Hunting & Fishing Day.

--Rick: Any ADA at these events?

--Christine: No, this is why I'm here; I want to know what we can do together. What can we all bring to the table?

--Cindy: Challenged Christine to find project connection for ADA and volunteer groups on things we can do together. Find a way to combine the two.

--Rick: Talked about the Two Day Big Event they have down south. Children with special needs go the first day. The second day is open to all children. We get more volunteers than kids on the second day.

#### **-Board Member Community Projects:**

--Reno: request that Rick updated Dan on the "Hilton" of duck blinds that was built in his region, next to Vancouver Lake.

--Rick: Everyone loves it and it was reserved everyday this past season (Oct. 31, 2015 – Jan. 27, 2016). The road was paid for with funds from the Duck Stamp. You can make a reservation & Region 5 has key. The duck blind is wheelchair accessible and in a premium spot. It is an ADA blind but is open to everyone if not in use by 8:00am.

--Brad: Rick can you get me a head count on the number of people who used the site, numbers help the commission with funding.

The other duck blind should be ready by July 16<sup>th</sup>. We have built this one on skids for removal during the off season due to the damage that was done to the original blind when left out all year. One last thing, we are just waiting on the Corp of Engineer's approval to complete our pier. They don't return any of my calls.

--Dave: Contact Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray. They helped on another project, got a 4 month waiting period cleared in 3 weeks.



--Reno: Invited Dan to tell the committee about himself and what he's working on in Region 2, since this is his first meeting.

Dan is active in the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association. They work on wildlife preservation, habitat enhancement and education of our youth. A lot of what Dan does is working with young hunting and fishing. Bird release for youth training and feeding (deer, elk & turkey) animals in the winter. The two top priorities for the association right now is; 1) Getting younger people involved in the association, they have updated their website and are using the social media (i.e.:Facebook) to reach out to next generation of hunters and fishers. 2) Keeping land open in the Wenatchee area. Keeping it accessible for those with ADA needs and trying to buy forest land to keep the trees. Wheeler Ridge Farms, LLC is buying up forest land, stripping it of natural trees and planting Cherry trees. The area is dealing with land-shift due to the water reservoir the company has built to hold water for trees. Dan is also active with the Trout Unlimited, the conservation, outreach and education regarding rivers and streams. Currently the association is looking to buy 14 acres of land to keep public access along the Wenatchee River. They plan to deed the property to WDFW with the hope of adding an ADA dock.

--Brad: Have you worked with community college?

--Dan: Yes, we have a fishing event each year in the campus fountain, we loan out 2,500 poles for youth.

#### **-Discussion of Motions:**

Reno stated that he spoke with Dolores Noyes, ADA Program Manager before the meeting. He inquired as to the number of currently active ADA people listed with the state. Dolores told him that we have gone from 54,000 to 88,000 in just two years (of that 32,000 are veterans).

--Cindy: If the program continues to grow at its current rate it is going to be impossible for us to hire enough people. We need change in the way we are currently handing this program, computerization, lean system, etc.

--Sam: We want to institutionalize our ADA program, get leaner and get everyone onboard throughout the agency.

Our next goal is to get more hunting opportunities for person with disabilities and to do that we need to have more followed thru with the current and future board members. We sign up for the volunteer position and then you get those that don't do the work needed. Also, we need to fill vacant board positions. We need to fill present and upcoming vacant board positions. Last time it took 3 months to get the position filled. We received three applicants for the current open position (Region 6) and none could pass a basic background check.

--Kevin: We need to fill the positions within 60 days. Can we do news releases?

Will the Commission give us permission to put out the Recruitment Notices to fill the positions?

--Brad: The Commission will not give me a hard time on Recruitment Notice. **Put The Notice Out.**

**-Motions to refer matters to the Commission:**

- 1) That the Commission considers expanding Damaged Hunt Opportunities for person with disabilities.**

Motion to keep this topic open to draft and approve motion by email was accepted/passed.

Motion was drafted, emailed out to committee members and accepted/passed by email to Item #1.

- 2) That the Commission initiates a Recruitment Notice to fill the vacant ADA AC Region 6 position, and future open positions.**

Motion accepted/passed to Item #2. Brad gave staff instructions to put out Recruitment Notices.

**-Future Meeting dates:**

Moses Lake in March 2017, waiting to confirm the date until the WDFW Commission set their date. We will have dinner on Friday night and a staff meeting on Saturday afternoon.

The committee has also decided to have working conference calls; these would be between our two annual meetings. Winter weather making it difficult for group meeting; this way we could hold working meeting by telephone. The date proposed is end of September/first of October for the first conference meeting. It will give the committee time to work together on the 2 year plan. These telephone meeting will not replace the twice a year required meeting of the committee members.

**-Motion to Adjourn:**

Motion to hold meeting open and close by email pending drafting and voting on motion to expand damaged hunt opportunities for persons with disabilities.

With the motion to the Fish and Wildlife Commission accepted/passed; Reno adjourned the meeting by email and it was accepted/passed. June 13, 2016 meeting now closed.

**Schedule Resource Meeting:**

Master Hunter  
Licensing Marketing  
Access Manager