

**MINUTES**  
**WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**COMMISSION MEETING**

**February 3-4, 2012**

Natural Resource Building, Room 172  
Olympia, Washington

**ATTENDANCE**

**COMMISSION:**

Miranda Wecker, Chair  
Gary Douvia, Vice Chair  
Larry Carpenter  
David Jennings  
Jay Kehne  
Connie Mahnken  
Rollie Schmitten

**COMMISSION STAFF:**

Tami Lininger  
Erin Gariépy

**DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

Phil Anderson, Director  
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director  
Nate Pamplin  
Dave Ware  
Joe Shorin  
Bill Frymire  
Jair Reitsma  
Rich Childers  
Dan Budd  
Will Moore  
Scott McCorquodale

Captain Dan Brinson  
Joanne Eide  
Deputy Chief Mike Cenci  
Chief Bruce Bjork  
Craig Burley  
Heather Bartlett  
Chad Jackson  
Chris Donley  
Charmane Ashbrook  
and other department staff

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**Public:**

Ron Chase  
Lewis Boyd  
Ralph Zaleck  
Jerry Lowe

Gene Bonderman  
Diane Gallegos  
Vinton Waldron  
Ken Crews

Brian Allison  
James Walton  
Lawrence Bucklin  
Daryl Rother

**Friday, February 3, 2012**

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

**1. Call to Order:**

**a. Commissioners' Discussion**

- Legislative Meetings with Senators Morton and Hargrove and Representatives Kretz and Orcutt–
  - Land Management Funding
  - Wolf Management and Conservation Plan
- Colville Meeting

**b. Approval of minutes**

- No minutes were presented

**c. Director's Report**

- Permanent Rules adoption for Pink Shrimp Trawl Fishery
- Joint Sturgeon Management Accord with Oregon
- Wolf Management and Conservation plan
  - Wolf Activity
  - Colville Meeting

- Steven's County Cattlemen's Association upcoming meeting
- Implementing MOU to share Wolf data with Colville Tribe
- Staff changes for Wolf Management and Conservation plan for implementation stage
- Jair Reitsma designing Project Management plan for implementation
- New Wolf Bio 2 & Sci-Tech positions
- Training sessions by U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist, Carter Niemeyer
- Puget Sound Hatchery Action Advisory Committee
- Delegation of Authority
- Performance Agreement
- International Pacific Halibut Commission
- Lawsuit – Catch Sharing Plan
- Deputy Director's Report
  - Legislative Update
- Supplemental item for agenda

2. Open Public Input:

The Commission is a direct link between citizens of Washington and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Comments on Department programs and topics of concern are welcome during this portion of the meeting. The following individuals provided testimony during this portion of the meeting:

Ron Chase - Sturgeon  
Lewis Boyd - Sturgeon  
Gene Bonderman – Crossbow  
Ken Crews - Crab

Vinton Waldron – Crab  
Brian Allison – Crab  
James Walton – Crossbow

3. 2011 Puget Sound Crab Season Results, Management & Enforcement – Briefing

Rich Childers, Shellfish Policy Manager & Deputy Chief Cenci, Enforcement Program provided the Commission with the annual report required by Policy C-3609 summarizing the performance, harvest, enforcement and management of both commercial and recreational fisheries during the 2011 season.

4. Puget Sound Recreational Clam & Oyster Season Changes – Briefing/Public Hearing

Rich Childers, Shellfish Policy Manager briefed the Commission on the proposed changes to the recreational clam and oyster seasons on Puget Sound public beaches and recommend changes in order to maximize recreational opportunities while preventing overharvesting. No one signed up to provide public input for this item.

5. Proposed Land Transactions - Decision

Dan Budd, Real Estate Section Manager, Wildlife Program, presented a land transaction recommended by the Department for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat, enhancement of public recreation opportunities and responsible property management:

- Proposed acquisition of 165.65 acres in Okanogan County

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

**Commissioner Schmitt moved, seconded by Commissioner Jennings to defer item to the February 17, 2012 Conference Call. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Multiple Season Big Game Permits – Rule Action

The Commission considered approval of the Department's recommendation to increase the number of hunters drawn for multiple season deer and elk permits in WAC 232-28-294 as presented by Dave Ware, Game Division Manager, Wildlife Program.

**Commissioner Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehne to approve the amendment to WAC 232-28-294, increasing the number of hunters drawn for multiple season deer and elk permits. Motion passed.**

7. Wildlife Program Overview – Briefing

At the request of the Commission, Nate Pamplin, Assistant Director, Wildlife Program briefed the Commission with a summary of the organizational structure, staff positions and expertise, budget sources, and wildlife conservation and management priorities.

8. Colockum Elk – Briefing

At the request of the Commission, Will Moore, Wildlife Biologist, Region 3 and Scott McCorquodale, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Specialist briefed the Commission on Colockum Elk. Including harvest trends over the past 10 years, road closures, review of true spike, status of reserve, and impact of the Yakama Tribe.

9. Sanitary Shellfish Enforcement Strategy – Briefing

Captain Dan Brinson, Enforcement provided an overview to the Commission of the responsibilities of the Enforcement Program for providing adequate enforcement of the Department of Health rules and regulations pertaining to the sanitary control of shellfish.

10. Enforcement – Agency's WAC Overhaul – Briefing

Joanna Eide, Administrative Regulations Analyst and Deputy Chief Cenci, Enforcement Program provide an overview to the Commission on the agency WAC overhaul project currently underway, why the overhaul is needed and the benefits to rectifying the code.

Supplemental Item

Director Phil Anderson requested the Commission adopt a permanent rule amending WAC 220-69-240 (a)(b), (9)(c), (14)(c)(ii), and former (14) relating to sardines and anchovy.

**Commissioner Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to adopt a permanent rule amending WAC 220-69-240(9)(b), (9)(c), (14)(c)(ii), and former (14), as highlighted in the draft numbered OTS-4609. Motion passed unanimously**

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 5:08pm.

Saturday, February 4, 2012

11. Sportfishing Regulations 2012-13 – Rule Adoption

The Commission considered the 2012-13 Sportfishing Regulation changes for adoption as presented by Craig Burley, Fish Management Division Manager.

**Commissioner Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitt, to adopt permanent amendments to:**

- **WAC 220-12-090 Classification--Nonnative aquatic animal Species**
- **WAC 220-55-220 Two pole endorsement**
- **WAC 220-56-100 Definitions--Personal-use fishing**
- **WAC 220-56-235 Possession limits—Bottomfish**
- **WAC 232-12-019 Classification of game fish**
- **WAC 232-28-619 Washington food fish and game fish—Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules**

**Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter to amend WAC 220-56-282 Sturgeon--Areas, seasons, limits and unlawful acts to read it is lawful to retain white sturgeon in Puget Sound and all Puget Sound tributaries from June 1 through June 30 and September 1 through October 15. Amendment Motion passed.**

**Motion Passed Unanimously.**

12. Inland Fish Stocking Strategy and Marketing Plan- Briefing

Heather Bartlett, Hatcheries Division Manager, and Craig Burley, Fish Management Division Manager provided an overview on the Integrated Fish Management Strategy and the outcome of their work over the last 18 months.

13. Open Public Input

The Commission is a direct link between citizens of Washington and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

No one signed up to provide public testimony for this item.

14. Commission Committee Reports

The Commissioners will discuss recent activities of the various Commission committees.

- Wildlife Committee reviewed
  - Rule Proposals
  - Colockum Elk Herd
  - Roads
  - Tribal
  - Cougars
- Fish Committee
  - Sturgeon
  - Coastal

- Kettle River
- Skagit River
- Puget Sound Spot Shrimp
- Summer Chinook
- Sea Urchin / Sea Cucumbers
- Enforcement
  - Staffing Study

15. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

The Commission discussed the following items that arose immediately before or during the meeting and after the preliminary agenda was published:

- Wolf Position Statement
- Translocation Discussion
- Blue Sheet Requests:
  - Pheasant Program Update – Presentation to Commission and Report  
**Commissioner Schmitten moved, seconded by Commissioner Jennings to request a presentation and report. Motion passed unanimously.**

Overview of Mainstem Columbia River – Presentation to Commission  
**Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten to request an overview of Mainstem Columbia River presented to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.**

Comprehensive Review of Puget Sound Spot Shrimp Fishery and Commission Policy - Briefing  
**Commissioner Schmitten moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to request a comprehensive briefing on Puget Sound Spot Shrimp Fishery and Commission Policy. Motion passed unanimously.**

Get Out West Program – Briefing  
**Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten to request a briefing on Governor Gregoire's Get Out West initiative. Motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 11:38.

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EKG

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

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Erin Gariépy, Administrative Assistant