



Minutes

Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting

February 8-9, 2013

Natural Resource Building, Room 172, Olympia, Washington

Attendance

Commission:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Gary Douvia, Vice Chair
Larry Carpenter
David Jennings
Conrad Mahnken
Chuck Perry
Rolland Schmitt
Brad Smith
Commission Staff:
Tami Lininger
Erin Gariépy

Department Staff:

Phil Anderson, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
Joseph Shorin, AGO
William Frymire, AGO
David Giglio
Owen Rowe
John Long
Brian Calkins
Jason Wettstein
Lynn Helbrecht

Pat Pattillo
Dan Budd
Dennis Beich
Timothy Quinn
George Wilhere
Bruce Bjork
Mike Cenci
Craig Burley
Jim Scott
Rich Childers

Public:

Paul Wiltberger
Bob Lake
Robert Buckingham
Ron Garner
Michael Jamboretz
Tom Burlingame
Norm Reinhardt
Kelly Barnum
Stefaine Barnum
Greg Harris
Robert Brown
Keith Polzr
Dennis Dawson
Dan Miller
Bill Hunter
Mark Smith
Rob Smith

Al Seuyohl
Wes Hoppler
Chris Bellows
Rory O'Connor
Eli Michael
Bob Muhlhauser
David Martin
Laurence Bucklin
Bob Margulis
Jim Schmitz
Dave Opstad
David Paige
Dan Siemann
Denny Peterson
Edward Barnes
Wayne Cline
Bruce Barnes

Rich Simms
Dan Stauffer
Philippe Gayte
Jamie Glasgow
Ken Townsend
Steve Watrous
Marcos Lopez
Scott Cottell
Darlene Zacherle
Holly McLellan
Bret Nive
Shane Anderson
Michel Brazean
Dean Cahill
Ken Miller
Burleigh Cubert
Karl Brackmann

Steve Hastings
Mark Byrne
Greg Ekberg
BJ Thorniley

Brady Mojtowicz
Linda Saunders

Jerry Wright
Alice Turner
Bill Ward

Friday, February 8, 2013

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

1. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion

- Commissioner Douvia attended a joint meeting of Pondera, Steven's, Ferry and Okanogan county commissioners in Colville
- Commissioner Smith hosted a meeting focusing on getting youth involved with outdoor recreation and sports with Commissioner Jennings, Laura MacLean, AFWA D.C., Kellie Tharp, Arizona Department of Fish and Wildlife, WDFW staff including Joe Stohr, Deputy Director, Bruce Botka, Community Outreach and Public Affairs Manager, Margen Carlson, Puget Sound Policy Lead and Nate Pamplin, Assistant Director, Wildlife in attendance.
- Commissioner Jennings brought a report regarding Tortugas marine reserve to the attention of the commission.
- Commissioner Carpenter commented on the recent boat show in Seattle.

b. Meeting Minutes Approval

- February 1, 2013 – Conference Call Minutes
 - Commissioner Jennings and Chair Wecker thanked staff for prompt preparation of meeting minutes

Commissioner Jennings moved, seconded by Commissioner Perry, to approve the minutes from the February 1, 2013 conference call. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Open Public Input

The following people signed up to provide public input during this item:

- Paul Wiltberger – Sportfishing rules/Stillaguamish River
- Bob Lake – Available safe areas in Washington

3. Director's Report

The Director briefed the Commission on various items including:

- New Community Outreach Coordinator – Jason Wettstein
- WDFW staff participating in Winter Sports Shows
- Mazama Pocket Gophers
- Columbia River Policy implementation team
- Grays Harbor – Spring Chinook
- Wolves
 - Update on recent public wolf meetings
 - Upcoming meeting in Northeast Washington
 - New Wildlife Conflict Section Manager – Stephanie Simek
 - New Wildlife Conflict Specialist – Jay Shepherd
 - Paul Frame departing, currently recruiting for his replacement
 - Moving forward with Citizen Advisory Group and Wolf Interagency Committee
 - Field activities – aerial surveys and captures
 - Meetings with livestock producers
 - Wolf hearings/bills
 - Blue Mountains: meetings with livestock producers and aerial surveys
- Director Anderson, Commissioner Carpenter and Jim Scott met with NOAA
 - Puget sound Chinook harvest management plan
 - Hatchery reform
 - Green & Skokomish river
 - Mitchell Act funding
 - Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee appointments: Kevin Lanier
- Governor Inslee
 - Cabinet meetings
 - Legislative liaison group, possible change in FWC conference call timing
- Pacific Salmon Commission
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
 - Requested meeting regarding enforcement
 - Adopted hatchery policy
- Legislative update – Joe Stohr, Deputy Director

4. 2013 North of Falcon Policy C-3608 – Decision

Pat Pattillo, Salmon Policy Coordinator and John Long, Statewide Salmon Manager provided a briefing of the North of Falcon Policy C-3608 and proposed modifications for consideration for the January 2013 through December 2014 policy.

Vice Chair Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, to accept the policy draft as presented with floor amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Climate Change – Briefing

Lynn Helbrecht, Climate Change Coordinator, Habitat Program provided a briefing to the Commission on the impacts of climate change on natural resource management in Washington.

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

6. Proposed Land Transaction – Decision

The Commission considered approval a land transaction recommended by Dennis Beich, Region One Director, and Dan Budd, Real Estate Section Manager, Wildlife Program, for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat, enhancement of public recreation opportunities, and responsible property management.

- Proposed purchase of 24.83 acres on the Wenatchee River in Chelan County for public fishing and boating access.

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

Vice Chair Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten, to approve the proposed land transaction as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Enforcement Program Staffing Study – Briefing

Chief Bruce Bjork and Deputy Chief Mike Cenci of the Enforcement Program provided a briefing to the Commission on current staffing levels.

8. 2013 – 2014 Sportfishing Rule Proposals – Briefing and Public Hearing

Craig Burley, Fish Management Division Manager, Fish Program briefed the Commission on the upcoming Sportfishing rules and regulations for the 2013-14 season. The Colville Tribe made a presentation regarding Lake Roosevelt Walleye regulations and management and Sturgeon.

The following people provided public testimony on this item:

Ron Garner

Michael Jamboretz

Tom Burlingham

Commission Meeting

Norm Reinhart	Eli Michael	Phillipe Gayte
Robert Buckingham	Bob Muhlhauser	Jami Glasgow
Kelly Barnum-Sharms	David Martin	Ken Townsend
Greg Harris	Laurence Bucklin	Steve Watrous
Al Senyohl	Bob Margulis	Marcos Lopez
Wes Hoopler	Jim Schmitz	Scott Cottell
Chris Bellows	Rich Simms	
Rory O'Connor	Dan Stauffer	

9. Puget Sound Recreational Clam and Oyster Season Changes – Briefing and Public Hearing

Rich Childers, Puget Sound Shellfish Manager briefed the Commission on proposed changes to the recreational clam and oyster seasons on Puget Sound public beaches.

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

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Saturday, February 9, 2013

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

10. Open Public Input

The following people signed up to provide public input:

Steve Hastings – Bass and Walleye	Bruce Barnes – Hoof Rot & Disabled Hunters
Burleigh Cubert – Hoof rot	Edward Barnes – Elks
Mark Byrne – Small Mouth Bass, Columbia River	Robert Brown – Elk, restoration of land
Mark Smith – Hoof Rot	Wayne Cline – Catch and Release Education
Brady Wojtowicz – Hoof Rot	Ken Miller – Bear Damage

11. Puget Sound Watershed Characterization Project - Briefing

George Wilhere, Research Scientist and Timothy Quinn, Chief Scientist, Habitat Program briefed the Commission on the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization Project.

12. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Blue Sheet Request - Colockum Elk Habitat Management

Commission requests a presentation from staff by Spring/Summer 13 on the following:

- Results of the Road/Elk Habitat study done on the Colockum Area and Winter-Spring closure study on adjacent WDFW Wildlife Areas.
- Management goals for Colockum Elk herds, damage problems, recreation and how road management may be used to reach these goals
- Effects of antler gathering

Commissioner Perry moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitt, to approve the blue sheet request. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), the Commission met in executive session to review the performance of a public employee. No action was taken in executive session.

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

EKG

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Erin Gariépy, Administrative Assistant