

June 14, 2013

WDFW ADA Committee supplemental to the WDFW Commission Re: Palmer Petition.

Working with the information provided in the Palmer petition, and in a subsequent phone conversation with Mr. Palmer, it was brought to my attention that he had been in contact with the Director; Western Region, (United States, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Territories, etc.) Shelli Kallie, of the U.S. Department of the Fish and Wildlife Service/U.S. Department of the Interior, regarding a petition and emergency rule change he had submitted to the WDFW in May 2013.

Based upon the information Mr. Palmer provided to me in that conversation, I had to use due diligence to assure that the WDFW ADA Committee and Commissioners were being provided unbiased and correct information. (full disclosure) Upon my conversation with The U.S. Fish and Wildlife/Department of Interior Regional Civil Rights Diversity Director Dana Perez and Angela Butsch, Regional Accessibility Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Diversity and Civil Rights, I learned a few pertinent facts. If Mr. Palmer were to be denied his petition for reasonable access/methods, and that the emergency rule was not applied based upon "his" petition" to the Commissioners for WDFW, then, upon Mr. Palmers filing a complaint with their (USFWS) agency, through Secretary Sally Jewell who was sworn in as the 51st Secretary of the Interior on April 1, 2013, They could immediately file on his behalf in the U.S. District Court a TRO and ask for immediate Injunctive relief, (making implementation of this hunting season a court order effective now) for possible ADA discrimination by the WDFW. This would not include other actions taken by the Department of Justice, or the U.S. Attorney General, once they become aware of the filing(s). During that process, I was informed that Secretary Jewell may/can initiate a stop and hold of Federal Funding, to include a freeze of Federal Grants as did her predecessor Secretary Ken Salazar, to eight states during his administration, under similar proceedings/circumstances, and to further require federal audits and as a possible sanction, - future WDFW agency over-site.

The key here is that Mr. Palmer only has to prove one-one hundredth of a percent so to speak, to tip the scale, and (factually) WDFW loses.

Based upon this additional information and the actual reasonableness of Mr. Palmer's petition request, the WDFW ADA Committee still stands in support of his petition, and refutes Wildlife management's contention that this is "just a Wildlife Management Issue."