



Minutes Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting

November 7-8, 2013

Natural Resource Building, Room 172, Olympia, Washington

Attendance

Commission:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Brad Smith, Vice Chair
Jay Holzmilller
Robert Kehoe
Rollie Schmitten
Jay Kehne

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Department Staff:

Phil Anderson, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
William Frymire, AGO
Nate Pamplin
Jim Scott
Randi Thurston
Ron Warren
Brian Calkins

Dave Ware
Dan Budd
Joanna Eide
Mike Cenci
Steve Crown
Lisa Hallock
Marc Hayes
Clay Sprague
Richard Tveten

Public:

Hans Mak
Robert Rao
Bruce Fierke
Brian Walsh
James Schroeder
Mark Green
Carolyn Crowson
Joe Koski
Joe Frewley
Melanie Rabaglia

Patty Carter
Haley Shaw
Bob Muhlhauser
Ed Tharp
Georgia Prossick
Wayne Marion
Tom Bugert
Tim Hamilton
MaryAnn Schweitzer
Ron Rinear

John Rosapepe
David Jennings
Randy Boyington
Dave Hamilton
LeeRoy Wisner
Ron Holtcamp
Jerry Lowe
Loren Gee
Ron Schweitzer

Frank Haw
Ed Wickersham
Darrell Thomas
Stan Brogdon
Heath Heikkila
Francis Estalilla
Allan Hollingsworth
Art Holman
William Kears

Friday, November 7, 2013

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

1. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

- Commissioner Schmitten - Notice to public regarding fishing
 - Fall Chinook in the Columbia River
 - Stemilt meeting
- Commissioner Kehne – Wolf article on non-lethal tactics
- Chair Wecker and Vice Chair Smith - Youth Advisory Board

b. Meeting Minute Approval

- October 2-4, 2013 special and regular meeting

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten approve the minutes as proposed. Commissioner Kehne abstained. Motion passed.

2. Open Public Input

The following people provide input on various topics:

Mark Green – Prospecting
Carolyn Crowson – Prospecting
Patty Carter – Puyallup Hatchery
Haley Shaw – Puyallup Hatchery

Bob Muhlhauser – 7 Gill shark closure
Ed Tharp – Tenkara Flyfishing
Robert Rao – Grays Harbor Salmon
Bruce Fierke – Mining

3. Director's Report

The Director briefed the Commission on the following items:

- Activity Update
 - Pacific Salmon Council – Ketchikan
 - Pacific Fishery Management Council – Costa Mesa
 - Senate Hearing – Mt. Vernon
 - Stemilt Partnership meeting – Wenatchee
 - Upcoming legislative meetings
- Columbia River Management policy update
- Wolf activity report
- Washington Tourism Alliance – paying off already
- Co-management – next steps
- Federal budget update

Deputy Director Stohr provided an update on the 2013 – 15 Revenue Forecast and sales reports.

4. HPA Rules - Briefing

Randi Thurston briefed the Commission on the purpose, scope and timeline for updating the hydraulic code rules.

5. Proposed Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

The Commission considered approval of two land transactions presented by 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. James Schroeder, Nature Conservancy and Wayne Marion, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, were also here to voice support.

The following person provided public testimony for this item:

Ed Tharp

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehne, to approve the proposed land transactions as presented. Motion passed.

6. Technical WAC Amendments and Repeal, Round 6 – Structural Improvements and Updates – Decision

Joanna Eide, Administrative Regulations Analyst requested approval from the Commission on proposed updates, technical changes, and structural improvements to rules in conjunction with the WAC Overhaul project.

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten, to approve the proposed updates, technical changes and structural improvements as presented. Motion passed.

7. Batch 5 WAC Overhaul Technical Changes – Briefing and Public Hearing

Joanna Eide, Administrative Regulations Analyst and Deputy Chief, Mike Cenci briefed the Commission on the 5th batch of WAC overhaul technical changes. These changes include repealing outdated rules, consolidating rules, correcting references, and updating language for clarity.

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

8. Dive Fishery Rules - Briefing and Public Hearing

Deputy Chief Mike Cenci briefed the Commission on proposed changes to commercial scallop, sea cucumber, and urchin dive fishery rules to reduce illegal geoduck harvest and streamline, clarify, and update rule language.

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

The order was reversed in taking up Items 9 & 10 to accommodate audience members.

10. WDFW’s Forest Management Strategy on Department Lands – Briefing

Clay Sprague, Lands Division Manager and Richard Tveten, Restoration Ecologist, Wildlife Program briefed the Commission on WDFW’s forest management strategy on department lands.

9. Washington’s Reptiles and Amphibians - Briefing

At the request of the Commission, Lisa Hallock, Biologist, Wildlife Program and Marc Hayes, Scientist, Habitat Program, presented a briefing on the current status of reptiles and amphibians in Washington.

11. Open Public Input

The following people provide input on various topics:

David Jennings – Amphibians
Darrell Thomas – Columbia River Policy
Heath Heikkila – Columbia River Policy

Ed Wickersham – Columbia River Policy
Stan Brogdon – Columbia River Policy

12. Grays Harbor Salmon Management – Briefing & Public Hearing

Ron Warren, Region 6 Fish Program Manager briefed the Commission on Grays Harbor salmon fishery management and challenges. A panel discussion followed on Grays Harbor salmon issues. Staff are seeking direction from the Commission on Grays Harbor Salmon Management Policy sideboards.

The following people provided public testimony for this item:

Dave Hamilton (panel)	Jerry Lowe
Francis Estallila (panel)	Loren Gee
Allan Hollingsworth (panel)	William Kearse
Randy Boyington	Robert Rao
LeeRoy Wisner	Melanie Rabaglia
Heath Heikkila	

13. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Chair Wecker and Vice-Chair Smith presented a blue sheet request for a briefing to the Commission on the Youth Advisory Council. The briefing should include updates on current activities, future plans for private sector outreach and coordination with other agencies.

Vice Chair Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmitten to approve the request. Motion passed.

The November 15, 2013 commission conference call was cancelled.

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

TLL

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant