



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
February 6-7, 2015

February 6-7, 2015 Regular Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Larry Carpenter, Vice Chair
Miranda Wecker
Conrad Mahnken
Jay Kehne
Bob Kehoe

Absent:

Brad Smith, Chair
Jay Holzmilller

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Department Staff:

Jim Unsworth, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
William Frymire, AGO
Joe Shorin, AGO
Mike Grossman, AGO
Nate Pamplin
John Long
Jim Scott
Steve Thiesfeld
Brad James
Ron Roler
Cynthia Wilkerson

Lauri Vigue
Frank Hawley
Penny Becker
Gary Wiles
Steve Crown
Mike Cenci
Eric Gardner

Public:

Bruce Barnes	Mark Smith	Edward Barnes	Patty Carter
Georgia Prossick	Shawn Cantrell	Greg Mueller	Peter Hodum
Thor Hanson	Carl Burke	Heath Heikkila	Emmett O'Connell
Elizabeth Rodrick	Trina Bayard	David Hamilton	Bill Osborn
Allan Hollingsworth	Tim Hamilton	Ryan Godwin	Steve Gray
John Campbell	Brian Kraemer	Ross Barkhurst	Ron Schweitzer
Lance Gray	Greg McMillan	Jack Hollingsworth	Frances Estalilla
Bob Lake	Marlisa Williams Dugan	Norm Reinhardt	Steve Shanewise
Curt Kraemer	Joe Koski	Art Holman	

Friday, February 6, 2105

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

1. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

No items were discussed.

b. Meeting Minute Approval

January 16, 2015 – conference call

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2015 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

2. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Bruce Barnes – Hoof Rot	Mark Smith – Hoff Rot
Edward Barnes – Hoof Rot	Patty Carter – Puyallup Hatchery
Shawn Cantrell – Wolf Management	Heath Heikilla – NOF Policy

3. Director's Report

The Director and Deputy Director briefed the Commission on the following items:

- First Week Activities
- Cowlitz River Smelt Fishery
- Federal Updates
- Wildlife Reports
- Stemilt
- Wolf Management Update
- Legislative Update

4. Geoduck Diver License Rulemaking – Briefing and Public Hearing

Frank Hawley, Licensing and Budget Policy Manager briefed the Commission on repealing WAC 220-52-01904, adopted at the end of 2014 due to changes to state law. WAC 220-52-01905 becoming effective January 1, 2015, makes WAC 220-52-01904 no longer necessary.

No one signed up to provide testimony.

Items 6, 8 & 9 were heard before item 5.

6. 2015 – 16 North of Falcon Policy C-3608 - Decision

John Long, State Salmon Manager, requested adoption of the North of Falcon Policy C-3608 which would be effective through December 2016. The policy provides direction and guidance to the agency as it conducts the annual process for defining salmon fishing seasons throughout the state.

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to approve the North of Falcon policy, C-3608, as presented. Motion passed.

8. Priority Landscapes – Briefing

Cynthia Wilkerson, Lands Conservation and Restoration Section Manager and Lauri Vigue, Environmental Planner, briefed the Commission on the Statewide Priority Landscapes Initiative aimed at identifying and mobilizing WDFW cross-programmatic resources to conserve iconic landscapes whose future status depends on collaboration across multiple jurisdictions and interests.

9. Lands 20/20 – Briefing

Cynthia Wilkerson, Lands Conservation and Restoration Section Manager briefed the Commission on the lands 20/20 process and the list of projects approved through the 2014 Lands 20/20 process. The Department will seek funding for projects approved in the Lands 20/20 process.

5. Columbia River Commercial Catch Area Amendments – Decision

Ron Roler, Columbia River Policy Coordinator, requested approval from the Commission on inclusion of new commercial catch areas to aid in management of existing and emergent commercial fishing opportunities within the Columbia River.

Commissioner Wecker moved to amend WAC 220-22-010 by adding two catch areas, 1E1 and Cathlamet Channel Select Area, and inserting a description of catch area 2S as it is written in WAC 220-330-030 and amend WAC 220-32-050 by adding catch area 1E1 as proposed; it was seconded by Commissioner Kehne. All were in favor. The motion passed.

7. Steller Sea Lion and Tufted Puffin Status Review – Briefing and Public Hearing

Penny Becker, Listing and Recovery Section Manager, and Gary Wiles, Biologist, briefed the Commission on the status review of the Steller Sea Lion and the Tufted Puffin.

The following people provided public testimony:

Thor Hanson	Peter Hodum
Elizabeth Rodrick	Shawn Cantrell
Trina Bayard	

10. Enforcement Program Update - Briefing

Chief, Steve Crown and Deputy Chief, Mike Cenci provided a briefing to the Commission on activities in the Enforcement Program.

An Executive Session was added.

Added – Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), the Commission met in executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency is, or is likely to become, a party. No action was taken in executive session, and the public was not permitted to attend the executive session

Vice Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Saturday, February 7, 2015

Vice Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

11. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Curt Kraemer – Puget Sound NOF Future
Steve Shanewise – Waterfowl Baiting Rules

12. Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy – Briefing and Public Hearing

Steve Thiesfeld, Region 6 Fish Program Manager briefed the Commission on Willapa Bay Salmon Management challenges, described the public process, and asked for additional guidance on management options to be considered in the draft policy.

The following people signed up to provide public input on this topic:

Brian Kraemer	Curt Kraemer	Marlisa Dugan
Norm Reinhardt	Dave Hamilton	Ross Barkhurst
Allan Hollingsworth	Tim Hamilton	Jack Hollingsworth
Andy Mltby	Steve Gray	Francis Estalilla
Bob Lake		

All of the Commissioners agreed that the policy adoption needed to be delayed.

The Commission suggested that staff conduct an analysis of North River natural origin Chinook salmon to determine if those stocks deserve higher levels of protection. It also suggested that the policy include a commitment to conduct a study of the economic value of surplus fish that reach the hatcheries.

Commissioner Wecker made a motion to adopt the proposed Willapa Salmon Management Policy no earlier than June and to provide guidance in April needed for the North of Falcon season setting process. Commissioner Mahnken seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

13. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Two Blue Sheet requests were submitted.

Commissioner Wecker made a motion for a briefing on Statewide Steelhead Plan and Implementation. Commissioner Mahnken seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Mahnken made a motion for a briefing on Marine Survival of Salmon (Salish Sea Program). Commissioner Kehoe seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed.

Vice Chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant