



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Fish and Wildlife Commission

**Preliminary Meeting Agenda
MARCH 18-19, 2016**

Moses Lake Civic Center
401 S Balsam Moses Lake, Washington 98837

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

- 8:00 AM** **1. Call to Order** *15 min*
 a. Commissioners' Discussion
 b. Meeting Minute Approval
- 8:15 AM** **2. Open Public Input** *30 min*
 The Commission is a direct link between the 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.
 NOTE: During this portion of the meeting, the public is encouraged to comment on issues that do not already have public input time on the agenda.
- 8:45 AM** **3. Director's Report** *30 min*
 The Director will brief the Commission on various items.
- 9:15 AM** **4. Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries Plan – Briefing** *45 min*
 Department staff will brief the Commission on actions taken in the lower Columbia River to implement the Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy C-3619.

 Staff Report: Cindy Le Fleur, Region 5 Fish Program Manager and Pat Frazier, Region 5 Policy Coordinator
- 10:00 AM** **Break** *15 min*
- 10:15 AM** **5. Hunter Education Deferrals - Briefing and Public Hearing** *20 min*
 Department staff will brief the Commission on the hunter education deferral process and seek approval to amend WAC 232-12-228 in an effort to improve rule clarity and enhance customer service.

 Staff Report: Dave Whipple, Hunter Education Division Manager
- Public Input – This Item Only**
- 10:35 AM** **6. Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations and Closures – Briefing and Public Hearing** *30 min*
 Department staff will brief the Commission on the proposed updates and amendments to migratory bird hunting seasons and regulations and on an amendment to the boundary description of a closure on the Snake River.

Staff Report: Don Kraege, Waterfowl Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

11:05 AM **7. Small Game Seasons– Briefing and Public Hearing** *15 min*

Department staff will brief the Commission on proposed dates, bag limits, and other rules for small game and other wildlife hunting.

Staff Report: Mick Cope, Game Division Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

11:20 AM **8. Bighorn Sheep Special Permits – Briefing and Public Hearing** *20 min*

Department staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to bighorn sheep permit levels and opportunities.

Staff Report: Rich Harris, Ph.D., Special Species Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

11:40 AM **9. Auction Tags and Landowner Hunting Permits – Briefing and Public Hearing** *15 min*

Department staff will brief the Commission on new auction opportunities and calendar date adjustments to the landowner hunting permit seasons for 2016.

Staff Report: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager and Rich Harris, Ph.D., Special Species Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

11:55 AM **Lunch** *65 min*

1:00 PM **10. Deer Areas, Elk Areas, Special Closures and Firearm Restriction Areas, and Hunting by persons with a Disability – Briefing and Public Hearing** *20 min*

Department staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to deer and elk area descriptions, firearm restrictions in Grays Harbor County, and conditions under which hunters with disabilities may shoot from a vehicle.

Staff Report: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

1:20 PM **11. Possession and Importation Dead Wildlife and Transport of Elk Hooves – Briefing and Public Hearing** *45 min*

Department staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to legally salvage road killed deer and elk, restrict importation and retention of dead nonresident wildlife from Michigan due to chronic wasting disease, and allow the legal transport of elk hooves to facilitate Treponema associated hoof disease research.

Staff Report: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

- 2:05 PM** **12. Baiting of Deer and Elk – Briefing and Public Hearing** *60 min*
Department staff will brief the Commission on three alternate proposals regarding the baiting of deer and elk.

Staff Report: Mick Cope, Game Division Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

- 3:05 PM** **Break** *15 min*

- 3:20 PM** **13. Deer General and Special Permit Seasons and Regulations – Briefing and Public Hearing** *45 min*
Department staff will brief the Commission on deer general seasons and definitions, and special permits.

Staff Report: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

- 4:05 PM** **14. Elk General and Special Permit Seasons and Regulations – Briefing and Public Hearing** *30 min*
Department staff will brief the Commission on elk general seasons and definitions, and special permits.

Staff Report: Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

- 4:35 PM** **15. Initiative I-1401 – Protection of at Risk Species of Extinction – Briefing** *30 min*
I-1401 was designed to protect species at risk of extinction around the world and in the U.S. The initiative makes it illegal to buy, sell, trade or give away most products made from those and other endangered species. The department will need to request supplemental appropriations to enforce this initiative.

- 5:05 PM** Recess

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2015

- 8:00 AM** **16. Open Public Input** *30 min*
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8:30 AM **16. Predator-Prey Management – Briefing** *45 min*
Department staff will provide the Commission with an overview of the complex issues related to predator/prey management in Washington. This briefing will focus on predator/prey issues concerning deer, elk, moose, and big horn sheep populations and how the Department is implementing objectives outlined in the 2015-2021 Game Management Plan.

Staff Report: Mick Cope, Game Division Manager

9:15 AM **18. Spring Black Bear Season – Briefing and Public Hearing** *15 min*
Staff will brief the Commission on proposed amendments to spring black bear hunting seasons to address damage and wildlife conflict issues.

Staff Report: Anis Aoude, Carnivore Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

9:30 AM **19. Cougar Biology Overview – Briefing** *60 min*
Department staff will brief the Commission on the research, biology, and ecology associated with the cougar harvest management objectives published in the 2015-2021 Game Management Plan.

Staff Report: Rich Beausoleil, Wildlife Biologist

10:30 AM **Break** *15 min*

10:45 AM **20. Cougar Hunting Seasons and Regulations – Briefing and Public Hearing** *90 min*
Department staff will brief the Commission on cougar harvest and human-cougar conflict trends, and how these topics are incorporated into the Department’s cougar management strategies. The Commission will also be briefed on the proposed 2016–2017, and 2017–2018 cougar hunting seasons and regulations.

Staff Report: Anis Aoude, Carnivore Section Manager

Public Input – This Item Only

12:15 PM **21. Annual Wolf Management Report – Briefing** *60 min*
Department staff will provide the Commission with an annual briefing regarding the wolf plan implementation from 2015.

Staff Report: Donny Martorello, Ph.D., Wolf Policy Lead

1:15 PM **22. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief** *15 min*
The Commission will discuss items that arise immediately before or during the meeting and after the preliminary agenda is published.

1:30 PM **Adjourn**

MEMBERS

Contact the Commission office with questions at (360) 902-2267, or by email to commission@dfw.wa.gov

Bradley Smith, Ph.D., Chair, Bellingham
(Western Washington position, Whatcom County)
Occupation: Dean Emeritus, Environmental Science
Western Washington University
Current Term: 01/01/2015 - 12/31/2020

Larry Carpenter, Vice-Chair, Mount Vernon
(Western Washington position, Skagit County)
Occupation: Owner, Master Marine Services, Inc.
Term: 12/06/2011 - 12/31/2016

David Graybill, Leavenworth
(Eastern Washington position, Chelan County)
Occupation: Owner FishingMagician.com LLC
Term: 03/23/2015 – 12/31/2020

Jay Holzmiller, Anatone
(Eastern Washington position, Asotin County)
Occupation: Equipment Operator, Asotin County Public Works, Rancher
Term: 06/10/2013 – 12/31/2018

Jay Kehne, Omak
(At-large position, Okanogan County)
Occupation: Okanogan Outreach Associate, Conservationist
Term: 04/16/2013 - 12/31/2018

Robert Kehoe, Seattle
(At-large position, King County)
Occupation: Executive Director, Purse Seine
Vessel Owners' Association
Current Term: 01/01/2015 – 12/31/2020

Conrad Mahnken, Ph.D., Bainbridge Island
(At-Large position, Kitsap County)
Occupation: Retired fisheries biologist
Current Term: 06/07/2011 - 12/31/2016

Kim Thorburn, MD, MPH, Spokane
(Eastern Washington position, Spokane County)
Occupation: Retired public health physician
Current Term: 03/23/2015 - 12/31/2016

Miranda Wecker, Naselle
(Western Washington position, Pacific County)
Occupation: Attorney/Administrator/Consultant Retired
Current Term: 07/08/13 – 12/31/2018

Contact the Commission Office with questions and to identify special accommodation needs:

Phone (360) 902-2267; TTY (800) 833-6388, Email: commission@dfw.wa.gov.

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