



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
June 10-11, 2016

June 10-11, 2016 Regular Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Brad Smith, Chair
Larry Carpenter
Miranda Wecker
Connie Mahnken
Dave Graybill
Kim Thorburn
Jay Kehne
Jay Holzmilller

Commission Staff:

Tami Liningier

Department Staff:

Jim Unsworth, Director
William Frymire, AGO
Mick Cope
Julie Sandberg
Raquel Crosier
Hannah Anderson
Derek Stinson
Gary Wiles
Jeannie Abbott
Jeff Davis
Randi Thurston
Faith Sexton
Tina Nisbet

Lynn Helbrecht
Chad Herring
Jim Scott
Jim West
Sandra O'Neil
Ron Warren
Craig Burley
Mike Kuttel, Jr
Steve Crown
Chris Anderson
Mike Hobbs
Billie Dickinson

Guests:

Rachel Vasak
Meade Krosby

Public:

Pat Allen	Tyler Comeau	Justin Zakariassen	Erin Kincaid
Bob Lake	Tristan Baurick	Pam Haight	Jessica Jetter
Don Jenkins	Rob Kavanaugh	Wayne Cline	Steve Fransen
Charles Sullivan	Heath Heikkila	Andrew Marks	Nello Picinich
Cindy Olson	Jim Olson	Joe Verdoes	

Friday, June 10, 2016

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:59 a.m.

1. Call to Order

Chair Smith read the following statement for the record:

The department had scheduled a briefing and public hearing during the June 10-11 Commission meeting regarding combination fishing licenses. However, after further staff review they have determined that additional discussions and clarification is needed before bringing the proposal to the commission. Therefore, there will not be a public hearing on the proposal today.

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

Commissioner Wecker read a statement to Chief Crown and the Commission thanked him for his outstanding contributions to the agency.

Commissioner Thorburn shared a photo of Washington's newest ungulate – the pronghorn. She also shared that she had attended a fishing derby at Clear Lake and the 4-O Ranch celebration.

b. Meeting Minute Approval

May 20, 2016 – conference call

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Wecker to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2016 conference call as proposed. Motion passed.

2. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Jim Olson – Cherry Valley

Cindy Olson – Cherry Valley

Joe Verdoes – Climate change & prawns

Andrew Marks – North of Falcon

Nello Picinich – Columbia River policy

Heath Heikkila – Wild Future Initiative

3. Director's Report

The Director provided an update on various issues including:

- Snohomish/Skagit Tour
- Prescribed Fire Tour
- 4-O Ranch Dedication
- Northern Wild Sheep & Game

Fish Program – Ron Warren
North of Falcon

Wildlife Program – Eric Gardner
Tours with Director
Wolf update

Habitat Program – Jeff Davis
HPA

Enforcement – Chief Crown
Thank you
NOAA discussions

4. Wild Future Initiative - Briefing

Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison briefed the Commission on the Wild Future Initiative and future plans.

5. Periodic Status Review (Killer Whale and Streaked Horned Lark) - Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Hannah Anderson, Listing and Recovery Section Manager, Derek Stinson and Gary Wiles, Wildlife Biologists briefed the Commission on the Killer Whale and Streaked Horned Lark Periodic Status Reviews and requested that both species retain an endangered status.

The following person provided testimony:

Erin Kincaid - Oceana

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to retain the Killer Whale and Streaked Horned Lark as endangered species as presented. Motion passed.

6. Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (RFEG) – Briefing

Jeannie Abbott, Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups Coordinator and Rachel Vasak, Executive Director, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association briefed the Commission on the recovery efforts of the Regional Fisheries Coalition as it celebrates the 25th year of the RFEG Program and provided an update on current educational programs that have been implemented across the state.

7. HPA Program Listening Sessions - Briefing

Jeff Davis, Assistant Director and Randi Thurston, Protection Division Manager briefed the Commission on the results of the 25 HPA Listening Sessions that were held around the state to get feedback from Tribes and key stakeholders on our HPA Program.

Item 9 was heard before item 8.

9. Ocean Ranching - Briefing

Chad Herring, Willapa Bay Policy Implementation Biologist provided the Commission a briefing on ocean juvenile salmon ranching within Washington which included benefits and issues.

8. Climate Change Effects on Fish and Wildlife Management - Briefing

Meade Krosby of the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group and Lynn Helbrecht, WDFW Climate Change Coordinator briefed the Commission on new tools and resources available to integrate climate impacts into fish and wildlife management.

10. Management Objectives for Salmon and Steelhead – Briefing

Jim Scott, Special Assistant to the Director, briefed the Commission on the types of management objectives and strategies used in Washington to target spawner levels for salmon and steelhead, the implications of alternative choices, estimation challenges, and re-evaluation priorities.

11. Impacts of Residues in Salmon - Briefing

Jim West, Fish and Wildlife Research Scientist and Sandra O'Neil, Fish and Wildlife Research Scientist provided the Commission a briefing on toxic chemicals in Puget Sound salmon, including the occurrence and impacts of pharmaceuticals and legacy chemicals in these fish, and movement of chemicals up the food chain to marine mammals and humans.

12. Hunting Rules Amendment – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Mick Cope, Game Division Manager provided a briefing to the Commissioners and discussions continued regarding a motion made at the April 8-9, 2016 meeting regarding WAC 232-28-357 – Deer General Seasons and Definitions – antlerless deer hunting in northeastern Washington GMUs.

No one signed up to provide comments.

Commissioner Wecker moved to amend the motion that was previously adopted by the Commission on April 8, 2016 regarding WAC 232-28-357 – 2016 Deer general seasons and definitions by changing the archery and muzzleloader antlerless white-tailed deer seasons as proposed, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter. Motion passed.

13. Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager, requested approval for two land transactions.

Commissioner Carpenter moved to approve the acceptance of 3,3613(+/-) acres of the Simcoe project in Klickitat County from Western Pacific Timber, LLC and to grant Cowlitz County PUD a perpetual easement, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn. Motion passed.

14. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Rob Kavanaugh – Willapa mapping and livestock grazing

Chair Smith recessed the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:57 a.m.

15. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Wayne Cline – Occupy Skagit

Charles Sullivan – Occupy Skagit

Steve Fransen – Occupy Skagit

16. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Assistant Attorney General Frymire provided an update on SB 6171 that passed the legislature and the new penalty amounts. He also shared that the AGs website has some great training for Boards and Commissions and suggested the Commissioners review it. The Commissioners requested training on the Ethics Rules yearly.

The July 1, 2016 conference call was cancelled.

Commissioner Wecker made a request for a briefing on Quality Deer Management, it was seconded by Commissioner Kehne, all were in favor and the motion passed.

A draft of the 2017 meeting schedule was handed out and briefly discussed.

There will be an executive session at the August meeting to discuss the Director's Performance Review.

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant