

**Periodic Status Review: Fisher, Blue Whale, Fin Whale, Sei Whale, Northern Right Whale, and Sperm Whale**

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## Summary Sheet

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**Meeting dates:** September 8-9, 2017

**Agenda item:** Periodic Status Reviews: Fisher, Blue whale, Fin Whale, Sei Whale, Northern Right Whale, and Sperm Whale – **Briefing, Public Hearing, and Decision**

**Presenter(s):** Hannah Anderson, Listing and Recovery Section Manager, Diversity Division, Wildlife Program

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**Background summary:**

Department staff members will brief the Commission on the Periodic Status Reviews compiled for the Fisher, Blue Whale, Fin Whale, Sei Whale, North Pacific Right Whale, and Sperm Whale in accordance with WAC 220-610-110. These Periodic Status Reviews outline the current status of the species and include information and comments provided by peer scientists and the public. Staff will provide their recommendations to the Commission to maintain their current status.

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**Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:**

- Protect and conserve Washington's native wildlife.
  - Continue recovery actions for these state-listed species.
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**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

In February 2015 and 2016, the agency sent out press releases and posted a request on our website to solicit information from the public to be included in the periodic status reviews. In accordance with WAC regulations, individuals and organizations had one year to contribute information for the reviews. Staff included this information, as applicable, in the status review documents. The documents were then reviewed by WDFW staff and external species experts before a 90-day public comment period began on the document and our findings. The comments were collated, responded to, and included in the final Periodic Status Reviews.

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**Action requested:**

Briefing, public hearing, and decision.

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**Draft motion language:**

I move to retain endangered status for the Fisher, Blue Whale, Fin Whale, Sei Whale, North Pacific Right Whale, and Sperm Whale, as presented by department staff.

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**Justification for Commission action:**

Conserve and recover Washington's state-listed species.

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**Communications Plan:**

WDFW Website  
News Release

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