



**WDFW Enforcement Program Advisory Committee
October 2nd, 2010
1000-1300**

Video Conference Call, Director's Conference Room, Olympia, WA

Members in Attendance	
Bob Holtfreter, Chair	Ron Oules, Vice Chair
Lyle Cabe	Don Gulliford
Dean Byus	Robin Hickock
David Croonquist	Eric Granstrom
John Suessman	Jay Webster
Ed Owens	
WDFW Staff:	
Bruce Bjork, Chief	Sean Carrell, Problem Wildlife Coord.
Mike Whorton, Captain, Reg. 1	Chris Anderson, Captain, Reg. 2
Bill Hebner, Captain, Reg. 4	Murray Schlenker, Captain, Reg. 5
Dan Brinson, Captain, Reg. 6	
Members Absent:	
Josh Pearson	Terry Abrams
Andrew Hamilton	Dave Robinson

Chief Bruce Bjork convened meeting at 1000

[July 2010 Meeting Minutes Corrected, Reviewed and Approved](#)

Intro, and/or announcements: Brief introductions through the Regions and in Olympia. Group reviewed July's minutes. Eric Granstrom identified a mistake on page 2 referencing his affiliation. A change had been requested to reference the Wenatchee Valley Sports Council instead. Ron Oules was going to write a letter regarding budget to the Director, but Chief Bjork advised that was not necessary. Minutes needed to reflect change to the history for Dean Byus. A motion was made to approve minutes with edits. Action item from July requesting interface through other agencies was to be provided to Ed Owens. There will be nothing provided as of right now until November. Bob Holtfreter requested if there are any additional agenda items. No additional agenda items suggested.

New Business:

Budget/Legislative – Chief Bjork advised if you hunt or fish, accessing DNR or WDFW land would require a pass for vehicle/person to recreate. The \$5 additional cost would be a part of the license. If you are not a hunter or a fisher, the cost is going to be an individual use pass, above age 16, and would cost \$50. Holtfreter asked if this would be per year and whether or not other states are using as well. Chief Bjork advised that other states are doing this as well. Dave Croonquist asked if this is an individual, or a vehicle with 5 people. Chief Bjork advised that it is per person. Change was made to make it for the combo fishing license and big game hunting license. Oules suggests that the \$50 is going to be too high. Decal needs to be a self adhesive as well that can be placed on the inside of a window. Chief Bjork advised that those comments have been heard before. Chief Bjork advised that the second point the licensee can still list two different vehicles on the placard. Oules advised that the WILD id and name are currently not on the placard. Owens indicated that the stakeholders are saying that the \$50 is nothing and there's been a lot of support. Granstrom advised that this is going to be a heated discussion and that a fee to access public land is going to be difficult. Chief Bjork advised that there are 76 bills going forward for fee proposals. Owens advised that this is a Governor's mandate to look for an additional \$1 billion of new or additional revenue. Chief Bjork advised that there's going to be a \$4.6 billion deficit come 2013, or roughly \$5 billion. Holtfreter advised that bird watching is a big thing and this is a family event. Makes sense to have a fee for an individual and then maybe a family pass. Each person in a family of four could pay \$50. John Suessman asked if there was a way for a licensed group to cover a person that is not participating. Chief Bjork advised that there's reluctance adding language to the bill that would identify that. Chief Bjork advised when the access decal was passed, warnings were issued in the first year as a part of the outreach/education. Chief Bjork advised that the Governor advised all state agencies that there would be a \$6.3 billion reduction for the remaining year (2011). The reduction to WDFW is \$2.2 million of general fund. For enforcement, that equates to \$555K. Chief Bjork advised that vacancy savings from FY10 will account for the cut. Going into the 2013 biennium, WDFW has been asked for a 10% savings in general fund, or \$8.2 million reduction, there are no officer reductions at the 8.2%. There are some reductions in non-commissioned. Owens advised that could increase to 15% to 20% from the budget advisory group. Owens advised you could see another fee based request based on the revenue forecast. There will be some hard discussion come January 2011. Chief Bjork advised that there is no federal stimulus money as well to assist the agency with costs. Owens advised that there are two or three lawsuits filed by the teachers, welfare advocacy groups, and the teamsters in the corrections division over DOC reductions. DOC is looking at \$61 million reduction. There is a potential risk with those lawsuits. Chief Bjork advised as we approach legislative session, merger will be at the height of some of the discussions out there. Holtfreter asked if the hunting licenses were up. Chief Bjork advised that both hunting/fishing licenses are up.

Croonquist would like to discuss whether the legislative package could be done by WAC and set by the Commission. Owens advised that the News Release information has been beneficial and that the outreach/education has proven to be very influential. In addition, the quarterly newsletter has been very important. Chief Bjork discussed leg package. The Title 77 bill has no fiscal impact. Oules asked why not. Chief Bjork advised that the legislators are not interested in moving forward as this is going to be a long session. Chief Bjork advised that there is plenty of time to work it. Chief Bjork advised that the technical clean-up is towards the end of bill and ex-officio language, training requirements at merger, etc. Oules asked why the need to take out ex-officio. Chief Bjork advised that all general law enforcement officers can enforce title 77. Chief Bjork advised that the other bill references the outdoor use pass and WDFW, DNR, and Parks can enter into agreements with WDFW to enforce each agency's WAC's. Chief Bjork advised that WDFW would enter into MOU's. Oules advised under section 18 the last sentence was not missed and is on page 26. Owens suggested that the **Liquor Control Board** would like to expand enforcement authority. Chief Bjork advised that there are general authority and limited law enforcement. WSP & WDFW have full law enforcement authority. LCB and park rangers can only enforce their regulations. Still some controversy allowing limited authority of enforcement to full general authority. DNR recently requested. Owens asked about costs. Chief Bjork advised that there are training costs at **Basic Law Enforcement Academy**. Limited authority can send folks to BLEA, but it is space dependent. General authority is taken first. Training represents the biggest cost. **Law Enforcement Officers & Fire Firefighters** is general authority agencies w/general law enforcement officers. LCB must meet LEOFF requirements, however. Holtfreter asked if training would be mandatory. Chief Bjork advised that training is beneficial. Training would be based upon \$6,000 to \$8,000 per person. Oules advised that's just training and that housing is an additional cost. Oules advised that for one officer the cost is about \$20,000 for five months of training. Oules asked if they could enforce WDFW regulations. Chief Bjork advised that they could and that Brewster PD are ex-officio fish and wildlife officers. Chief Bjork advised to take the information and provide to WDFW Enforcement. Captain Dan Brinson advised that WILDCOMM and WSP staff are made aware. Captain Brinson advised that there needs to be more internal education and a possible CORT training option. Captain Bill Hebner advised that they are different responsibilities, so often can't relay the information. Samplers are reluctant and folks that violate end up walking away. Captain Brinson advised that there was a policy that he wrote that would require WDFW employees to document such violations. Chief Bjork advised that he would resurrect the policy. Chief Bjork advised of a fiscal sustainability bill. A temporary 10% surcharge expires at the end of the biennium for all recreational licenses. WDFW is required to look at additional fees or examining which licenses could have increases. WDFW is working with stakeholders to look at fee structure. Increases on both fish/wildlife; separation of cougar/bear tags and out of state license fees. Owens advised that non-cash consumptive users as well need to be a part of license fees. Chief Bjork advised of the non-

consumptive bill and the use of agency lands, parking, or driving on WDFW owned property.

Old Business:

Subcommittee/Projects - There are not subcommittee updates. Groups have been suspended as discussed from last meeting. Chief Bjork asked if there were any upcoming projects and/or areas of interest anyway. Chief Bjork had advised if there are any pamphlet suggestions to get those to Jay Webster by the end of the year. Croonquist had a comment regarding the fishing derbies and compliance rate was too high using written warnings. On the Naselle River, the fishing weir had been the boundary, but it was not there this year. Where is the boundary identifying the closure/opener. Fishers were told to leave the area because it was closed. Webster asked if there's a way to separate written warnings from CODY. Chief Bjork advised that there is. Webster advised that while riding with the officers he is confronted by those fishing and most of those contacted are in violation.

Conclusion:

If there are additional works and comments, please send those to WDFW. Granstrom identified reference the bear attack in Wenatchee wanted to comment on some of the public comment blogs. Granstrom would like to say something, but felt that there may be conflict of interest as a member of the EAG. Chief Bjork advised as long as those comments are made as a private individual and not an EAG member, then you may do so.

Next meeting: Holtfreter suggested a February 5th, 2011 meeting to get together. Chief Bjork advised that is a good day for legislative drops and budget information. Owens advised that legislative notifications will be every two weeks instead of weekly. A motion was made to adjourn.

Requested Action Items:

- None

Topics for Future Discussion:

- Pre and post legislative issues
- KBD Program
- Update on Wildlife Crime Stoppers by Lieutenant Steve Crown
- Presentation on scope of problems on WDFW land use

Next meeting: *Saturday, February 5, 2010 from 1000-1500. The agenda and meeting location will be sent out before the meeting with information on topics for discussion.*