



State of Washington
Fish & Wildlife Commission

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

September 14, 2020

Mary Wahl, Chair
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302
odfw.commission@state.or.us

Re: Columbia River Salmon Management Policy

Dear Chair Wahl:

On behalf of the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission (Washington Commission), we wish to communicate the results of our September 10-12, 2020, public meeting regarding the review of Washington's Columbia River Salmon Management Policy (Policy). The Commission would also like to extend an invitation to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Oregon Commission) to meet in the near future as suggested below for the purpose of discussing policy and regulatory concurrency of Columbia River Salmon fisheries.

The Washington Commission adopted changes to the Policy that came out of our Columbia River review public process. The revised Policy approved by the Commission as well as all Columbia River Workgroup (CRW) meeting materials, including the analyses of the suite of alternatives considered and public comment received, can be found on WDFW's website (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/commission/columbia-river-policy-review>). In the coming weeks, the Commission will prepare a "decision document," which will set forth the rationale for the changes to the Policy.

The Washington Commission acknowledges and respects your decision in late 2019 to pause the review of Oregon's corresponding rules regarding salmon fisheries in the Columbia in light of the turnover on the Oregon Commission and the desire to address other important issues. However, the Washington Commission respectfully requests an opportunity to re-engage with the Oregon Commission on this topic of great importance and interest to both of our states. The Washington Commission further acknowledges the September 3 meeting between you and Commissioner Zarnowitz and myself and Vice-Chair Baker and the discussions during this meeting regarding the intent to engage our Commissions in a manner designed to resolve this matter with a long term solution.

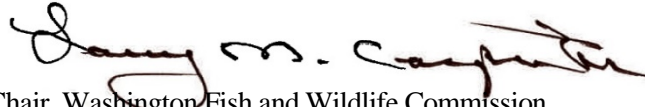
We want to assure you and your colleagues on the Oregon Commission that the Washington Commission has no intent to simply set regulations on our side of the river in accordance with the revised Policy if the Oregon Commission does not agree. Rather, the Washington Commission seeks to have a genuine discussion with our Oregon counterparts that embraces the spirit of compromise. Our two states enjoy a long history of working together in a reasoned approach to fisheries management based on joint scientific assessments and thorough discussions of the pros and cons of policy differences when they occur.

In closing, we respectfully propose we schedule an initial meeting in the immediate future consisting of four Oregon Commissioners and four Washington Commissioners, including myself, Vice Chair Baker, Commissioner McIsaac, and Commissioner Kehoe, as well as our Directors and key staff members. The

Chair Larry Carpenter, Mt. Vernon • Vice-Chair Barbara Baker, Olympia
Brad Smith, Bellingham • Dave Graybill, Leavenworth • Molly Linville, Palisades
Bob Kehoe, Seattle • Don McIsaac, Hockinson • Kim Thorburn, Spokane, James Anderson, Buckley

purpose of this initial meeting will be to answer any questions the Oregon Commission may have regarding the adopted revisions to the Policy, and to discuss how we move forward in achieving policy and regulatory concurrency in a manner that is mutually beneficial to both sides. If this proposal is amenable to you and the Oregon Commission, we ask that Director Melcher contact Director Susewind to discuss arrangements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Larry M. Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" being the most prominent.

Chair, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

C: Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Members

Kelly Susewind

Ron Warren

Bill Tweit