



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
 December 11-13, 2014

December 11, 2014 – Special Meeting

1. Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), the Commission met in executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. No action was taken in executive session.

December 12-13, 2014 Regular Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
 Brad Smith, Vice Chair
 Conrad Mahnken
 Jay Kehne
 Jay Holzmilller
 Bob Kehoe
 Rollie Schmittten
 Larry Carpenter

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Department Staff:

Phil Anderson, Director
 Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
 William Frymire, AGO
 Nate Pamplin
 Clay Sprague
 Heather Reed
 Josh Nicholas
 Dave Ware
 Ron Warren
 John Long
 Paul Dahmer

Steve Thiesfeld
 Craig Burley
 Chris Donley
 Jeff Korth
 John Easterbrooks
 John Weinheimer
 Brad James
 Ron Roler
 Jim Scott

Guest:

Andy Appleby

Public:

Paul Martini	Jason Rolfe	Scott Hagen	Jim McRoberts
Bill Redman	Anne Van Sweringen	Jonathan Stumpf	Shane Anderson
Jason Small	Bruce McCloskey	Elizabeth Rodrick	Donna Snow
Rob Kavanaugh	Marlisa Williams Dugan	Norm Reinhardt	Loren Gee
Ross Barkhurst	Heath Heikkila	Rick Dutra	Bill Osborn
Rich Simms	Wayne Cline	Ray Gilbertson	Butch Smith
Allan Hollingsworth	Charles Sullivan	Steve Fransen	Gregory McMillan
AC Holman	Terry Turner	Ron Schwertz	Diane Gallegos
Andy Marks	Greg Johnson	Brian Kraemer	Frank Haw
Steve Boerner	Brian Lencho	Leland Miyawaki	Brian Bennett
Jack Hollingsworth	James Caron	David Hollingsworth	Steve Gacke
Steve Gray	Dave Hamilton	Tim Hamilton	Joe Kozhi
John Campbell	Bob Mulhauser	Bob Lake	Bill Zytkowicz

Friday, December 12, 2014

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

- Commissioner Carpenter – Selective Chinook fishery
- Commissioner Smith – Chum run in Whatcom Creek

b. Meeting Minute Approval

- December 5, 2014 – conference call

Commissioner Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Holzmilller to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2014 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

3. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Johnathan Stumpf – Wild Steelhead

Shane Anderson – Wild Steelhead

Jason Small – Wild Steelhead

Elizabeth Rodrick – Director selection

Donna Snow – Director selection

4. Director's Report

The Director and Deputy Director briefed the Commission on the following items:

- Federal Duck Stamp
- New Game Division Manager – Mick Cope
- I-594
- Asotin Lands Community Meeting
- Budget – Governor's Budget
- Legislative Activities
- Recreational Fisherman Meeting with Governor's Office staff and AAGs
 - NOAA regarding HGMPs –Part 1
 - AAGs regarding NOF Process – Part 2
- Enforcement Program changes
- Wolf Management Update

5. Petition to Change Rules - Decision

Clay Sprague, Lands Division Manager briefed the commission on a petition regarding grazing pursuant to RCW 34.05.330.

Commissioner Smith moved to deny the petition and enact rules related to livestock grazing on Department owned or controlled lands; and direct the Department to continue its review of the grazing program to determine the appropriateness of any future rule making; it was seconded by Commissioner Schmitten. All in favor - motion passed

6. Coastal Commercial Dungeness Crab Rules – Decision

Heather Reed, Coastal Marine Policy Coordinator briefed the Commission on revisions to coastal commercial Dungeness crab rules that are needed to improve the intent and enforceability of rules for issuing replacement buoy tags and submitting coastal Dungeness crab logbooks. New provisions are needed to implement gear retrieval requirements to

improve enforceability and minimize derelict crab gear. Changes to the pre-season gear set period were also proposed based on recommendations from the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee.

Commissioner Smith moved to adopt the proposed changes to WAC 220-52-041, WAC 220-52-042, and WAC 220-52-045 as proposed by Department staff; it was seconded by Commissioner Mahnken. All in favor - motion passed

7. ALEA Grant Program Overview and Proposal to Offer Grants once per Biennium – Briefing and Public Hearing

Josh Nicholas, ALEA Grants Manager provided the Commission with an overview of the ALEA grants program and proposed a modification to the application submittal requirement from an annual to a biennial timeframe.

No one signed up to provide comments.

8. Game Management Plan – Decision

Dave Ware, Game Division Manager briefed the Commission on the proposed 2015-2021 Game Management Plan and requested adoption.

Commissioner Shmitten moved to adopt the 2015-21 Game Management Plan with floor amendments as presented by staff; it was seconded by Commissioner Kehne. All in favor - motion passed

9. 2015/16 North of Falcon Policy C-3608 – Briefing

Ron Warren, Deputy Assistant Director, Intergovernmental Salmon Management, provided a briefing of the Commission's North of Falcon Policy C-3608 (currently in effect until December 31, 2014) and proposed modifications for the Commission's consideration of a January, 2015 through December, 2016 policy.

Commission provided the following guidance:

- *Page One – no proposed changes*
- *Page Two – Chinook and Coho Salmon Section*
 - 1) Second Bullet - New language - Grays Harbor will be managed consistent with the Commission's Grays Harbor Policy (Policy Number C-3621)
 - 2) Third Bullet – beginning with the second sentence, strike the remaining language and replace it with: Willapa Bay will be managed consistent with the Commission's Willapa Bay Policy (Policy #xxxx)
- *Page Three – Communications*
 - 1) Add a fourth bullet as follows: The Department will make a concerted effort to consult with stakeholders prior to making major decisions with the tribes.
- *Page Three – Other Species*
 - 1) Delete the second sentence that begins with Management of Willapa....

10. 2015 – 16 Sportfishing Regulation Proposals – Breifing and Public Hearing

Regional department staff briefed the Commission on sportfishing regulation proposals that pertain to the Columbia River Basin as part of the approved three-year rotating rule cycle and hear public input.

The following people signed and provided public testimony:

Paul Martini	Scott Hagen	Jason Rolfe
Jim McRoberts	Bill Redman	

Chari Wecker recessed the meeting at 3:52 p.m.

Saturday, December 13, 2014

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

11. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Leland Miyawaki – Skagit River	Wayne Cline – Skagit River
Charles Sullivan – Skagit River	Steve Fransen – Skagit River
Rich Simms – Wild Steelhead	Jack Hollingsworth – Grays Harbor Policy
Butch Smith – Sturgeon	Allan Hollingsworth – Grays Harbor Policy

Heath Heikkila – Budget, Sturgeon

Terry Turner – Columbia River Sturgeon and Nisqually River Steelhead, provided the testimony at the very end of the day.

12. Hatchery Scientific Review Group Willapa Bay Planning Model – Briefing

Andy Appleby, a member of the Hatchery Scientific Review Group briefed the Commission on the principles of hatchery reform and a planning model developed to analyze options for the Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy.

13. Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy – Briefing and Public Hearing

Steve Thiesfeld, Region 6 Fish Program Manager briefed the Commission on Willapa Bay Salmon Management challenges, described the public process, and asked for additional guidance on management options to be considered in the draft policy. In light of the need to develop and model new management options, the Commission directed the Department to delay issuance of the draft policy until the specific management options under consideration can be included. The time period for formal public review should be delayed until specific options are included. Adoption of the policy may need to be rescheduled as a result.

The following person signed up to provide public input on this topic:

Jack Hollingsworth	Allan Hollingsworth	David Hollingsworth
Steve Gacke	Norm Reinhardt	Ross Barkhurst
Steve Gray	Marlisa Dugan	Francis Estalilla
Brian Kraemer	Tim Hamilton	John Campbell
Bob Lake	Andy Marks	Frank Haw

14. Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Population Status and Management Annual Review - Briefing

Brad James, Fish and Wildlife Biologist and Ron Roler, Columbia River Policy Coordinator provided an annual review regarding management and population status of Lower Columbia River sturgeon to the Commission as set forth per policy C-3001.

15. Director Recruitment Discussion – Briefing and Decision

Commissioners discussed the timeline for the Director's recruitment.

16. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Commissioner Schmitten announced he would not be seeking reappointment after his term ends on December 31, 2014. He did however request to stay on until the new Director has been selected.

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant