

**Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission**  
**2024 STANDING COMMITTEES**  
**1.27.24**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
<p><b>Executive</b>  Review Commission operation, effectiveness, and rules affecting Commission function; lead the development of Director performance measures, and review budget, licensing issues and related matters including emergency actions by Dept.</p>	<p><b>Commissioners</b>  Barbara Baker (Chair)  Tim Ragen  Molly Linville  Jim Anderson</p>	<p><b>Staff</b>  Amy Windrope   cc: Jamie Caldwell  Tami Lininger</p>
<p><b>Habitat</b>  Review regulatory and voluntary aspects of the Habitat Program and the intersection with Wildlife Program around technical support for property owners to increase conservation benefits, landscape level planning, forest health, fish passage, HPA, and science related to habitat and landscape level issues. Review land acquisition, habitat management &amp; enhancement activities, potential income generation, relations/agreements with other landowners, easements, land exchanges &amp; related matters.</p>	<p><b>Commissioners</b>  Molly Linville (Chair)  John Lehmkuhl  Lorna Smith  Tim Ragen</p>	<p><b>Staff</b>  Margen Carlson- Habitat  Cynthia Wilkerson - Wildlife   cc: Jenna Rosenfeld</p>
<p><b>Fish</b>  Review all marine and migratory species related fish conservation and management issues. Review all lake and resident stream fish conservation and management issues.</p>	<p><b>Commissioners</b>  Jim Anderson (Chair)  Molly Linville  Tim Ragen  Steve Parker</p>	<p><b>Staff</b>  Kelly Cunningham   cc: Cathy Davidson</p>
<p><b>Wildlife</b>  Review all wildlife, hunting, recreation, damage, conflict, and related issues.</p>	<p><b>Commissioners</b>  Lorna Smith (Chair)  Jim Anderson  Woody Myers  Melanie Rowland</p>	<p><b>Staff</b>  Eric Gardner   cc: Heather Bonagofski</p>
<p><b>Big Tent</b>  Seeking common ground and promoting collaborative work among fishers, hunters, wildlife appreciators, and the conservation community. Work to increase the cross - programmatic interface within the agency.</p>	<p><b>Commissioners</b>  John Lehmkuhl (Chair)  Barbara Baker  Lorna Smith  Steve Parker</p>	<p><b>Nate Pamplin</b>  <b>Margen Carlson</b>   cc: Jamie Caldwell</p>

## COMMISSION COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

*FWC approved: December 2008*

The Commission establishes standing committees from time to time as well as ad hoc or special committees when the need arises. Committees are advisory in nature and do not set policy for the full Commission.

The Commission Chair, subject to Commissioner consensus, appoints members of committees. Appointments should be made in January of odd numbered years following election of the Commission Chair and otherwise only as necessary. Standing committees typically will include two (2) to four (4) Commission members. Committee members select the committee chair and vice chair, if necessary. Committees should meet as often as necessary, as determined by the committee chair or a majority of the committee members. The Commission Chair can also request a committee to meet. The Department shall designate a Department employee to facilitate the committee's work, including scheduling, keeping the committee apprised of relevant issues and coordinating staff or other presentations at committee meetings.

Within their purview, committees are to address issues brought by the Department, referred by the Commission or raised at the committee level. Items originating with the committee shall not involve or result in significant staff or committee time and effort until the committee has received Commission approval to proceed.

The purpose of established committees is to allow a more detailed analysis of issues than can be accomplished during regular Commission meetings. Committees are designed to provide a forum that allows for more informal discussion with staff, interested individuals or groups. Committees may evaluate issues to determine if the full Commission should hear and consider them. Committees should explore potential impacts of suggested policies or direction and when appropriate, explore alternatives. Enforcement does not have a stand-alone committee as their work is integral to all of the standing committees and their engagement will be sought by those committees.

Committee chairs shall provide regular reports, at scheduled Commission meetings, regarding the committees' activities. Such reports should include topics addressed, policy direction considered, alternatives explored and committee recommendations. Committees cannot make decisions binding on the Commission. Rather, committee decisions or agreements are merely recommendations for full Commission consideration or action at open public meetings.

**NOTE:** If the committee process is to work effectively, it is absolutely critical that there be a considerable level of trust among and between Commission members. Committee makeup should include, where possible, members with diverse views. Committee members need to be willing to consider various proposed alternatives or directions. The Commission must have faith that the committees will examine details, ramifications and alternatives, and present the committee views fairly and completely to the Commission.

If the necessary level of trust does not exist, it will result in the full Commission making its own evaluation. This will render the committee's work and time of little value. This does not imply that the Commission should not ask questions to understand the issues. However, if the committee work is replicated at the Commission level, it will negate the need and usefulness of the committee structure.