

MINUTES
WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE
COMMISSION MEETING

March 9-10, 2012

Civic Center, Council Chambers
Moses Lake, Washington

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Gary Douvia, Vice Chair
Larry Carpenter
David Jennings
Jay Kehne
Connie Mahnken
Chuck Perry
Rollie Schmitt
Bradley Smith

COMMISSION STAFF:

Tami Lining
Erin Gariépy

DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Phil Anderson, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
Joseph Shorin, AG
William Frymire, AG
Nate Pamplin
Dave Ware
Steve Pozzanghera
Donny Martorello
Jerry Nelson
Don Kraege
Kevin Robinette

Dennis Beich
Jeff Korth
Dave Price
Matt Monda
Chris Doran
and other department staff

Public:

Al Stover
Matt Gutzwiler
Michael Caillier
Ren Sarns
Matt Anderson
Jim Craighead
Thomas Fritsch
Stan Hansen
Don Brown
Vern Wimer
Jim Reinbold
Mike Meseberg
Gerald Hickman
Liane Hickman
Tony Bernsen
Bruce Feagan
Raymond Borbon
Robert Cook
Dick Hemore
Ed Forslof
Michael Crowder
Kelly Singer

John Phillips
John Bruce
Mike Harris
Stewart Mitchell
Frank Adams
E. Reynolds
Geoff Hirschi
Mark Ellis
Jim Hope
Don Fabrao
Gene Spooner
Joshua Papenbrock
George Streepe
Jerry Neilan
Art Meirez
Dale Sharp
Jerry Hickman
Mike Estes
Morris Owen
Stuart Turner
Dennis Clay
Duane Fink

Mark Krcma
Don Lovell
Mike Britton
Rick Harwood
Herb Troxel
Aaron Pennose
Krystin Moore
B.J. Thorniley
Phil Aigner
Diane Gallegos
Matt Mont
Kelly Sutton
James Gimlin
Roger Hurst
Norm Gutzwiler
Everett Burts
Jason Humphrey
Tim Johnson
Ken Shields
Col. Tom O'Dell
Jim Sutton
Dave Gimlin

Friday, March 9, 2012

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

1. Call to Order:

a. Commissioners' Discussion

- Game Management Advisory Committee meeting
- Pond monitoring program
- Compliments for the Department from the Audubon Society annual dinner
- Windmills and wildlife
- Wolf Plan and community
- Planning annual meeting with Governor Gregoire

b. Director's Report

- Fish Presentation
- Wolf Conservation and Management Plan funding
- Sturgeon Sanctuary
- Hunter Education

c. Budget & Operations Update

- Enforcement bill
- Discover Pass
- Hydraulic project
- Carnivore bill

2. Open Public Input:

The Commission is a direct link between citizens of Washington and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Comments on Department programs and topics of concern are welcome during this portion of the meeting. The following individuals provided testimony during this portion of the meeting:

Matt Gutzwiller: horn hunters/youth
pheasant hunt

Tom Fritsch: turkey hunts

Mike Harris: wolves

Jerry Hickman: turkey hunts

Mike Estes: Master Hunters

Tony Bernsen: youth waterfowl
season

Bob Cook: yellow signs/paid hunting

Don Dashiell: wolves/turkey

Geoff Hirschi: falconers/small game

3. Hunting Practices – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on Hunting Practices by Dave Ware, Game Division Manager and Don Kraege, Waterfowl Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amendments:

WAC 232-12-047 Unlawful methods for hunting

WAC 232-12-054 Archery requirements –archery special use permits

WAC 232-12-257 Use of decoys and calls

WAC 232-12-264 Baiting of game birds –unlawful

Proposed Adoption:

WAC 232-12-063 Hunting at night-regulations-penalties

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Ren Sans: lighted nocks	Raymond Bordon: lighted nocks
B.J. Thorniley: lighted nocks	Jay St. Charles: lighted nocks
Stewart Mitchell: baiting	Dale Sharp: bow hunters/archery
Mike Meseberg: battery operated decoys	Ed Forscof: archery/lighted nocks
Tony Benson: battery operated decoys	Michael Crowder: waterfowl/decoys/calls
Bruce Feagan: battery operated decoys	Chris Dorow: waterfowl/decoys/calls

4. 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 Small Game Seasons – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:
The Commission was briefed on small game seasons by Dave Ware, Game Division Manager and Don Kraege, Waterfowl Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amend:

WAC 232-28-342 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 Small game seasons

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Jim Hope: upland birds	Michael Crowder: crow season
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5. Landowner Hunting Permits – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:
The Commission was briefed on Landowner Hunting Permits by Dave Ware, Game Division Manager and Kevin Robinette, Region 1 Program Manager, Wildlife Program. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Adopt:

WAC 232-28-296 – Landowner hunting permits

Repeal:

WAC 232-28-295 – Landowner hunting permits

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

John Phillips	Stuart Turner
Gene Spooner	Bob Cook
John Bruce	

6. 2012-2014 Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat Seasons and Permit Quotas – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:
The Commission was briefed on moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat seasons by Donny Martorello, Ph.D., Carnivore, Furbearer, and Special Species Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amend:

WAC 232-28-273 Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat seasons and permit quotas

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Jim Craighead: goat permits

7. 2012-2015 Cougar Seasons and Regulations and Public Safety Cougar Removals – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on cougar seasons and public safety cougar removals by Donny Martorello, Ph.D., Carnivore, Furbearer, and Special Species Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amend: WAC 232-12-243 Public safety cougar removal

Adopt: WAC 232-28-297 2012-2013, 2013-2014, and 2014-2015 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations

Repeal: WAC 232-28-287 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 Cougar permit seasons and regulations

WAC 232-28-272 2009 Black bear and 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 Cougar hunting seasons and regulations.

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Al Stover: season length & harvest

Kelly Singer: quota system North East

Stuart Turner: proposed regulations

WA

Morris Owen: management

Bob McCoy: hunt limits

8. 2012-2015 Black Bear Seasons and Regulations – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on black bear seasons and regulations by Donny Martorello, Ph.D., Carnivore, Furbearer, and Special Species Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amend:

WAC 232-28-286 2012-2014 Fall black bear hunting seasons and regulations

WAC 232-28-288 2013, 2014, 2015 Spring black bear seasons and regulations

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Don Dashiell – bear intake

Don Lovell – bear intake

Kelly Singer – bear population in North East

9. Deer and Elk Boundaries – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on deer and elk area boundaries by Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Amend:

WAC 232-28-337 Deer and elk area descriptions

No one signed up to provide public testimony on this item.

10. 2012-2014 Deer General and Special Permit Seasons – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on deer general and special permits seasons by Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Adopt:

WAC 232-28-357 2012-2014 Deer general seasons & definitions

WAC 232-28-359 2012 Deer special permits

Repeal:

WAC 232-28-351 2009-2011 Deer general seasons & definitions

WAC 232-28-355 Deer special permits

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Stan Hansen: doe deer permit in Grant
County

Mike Estes: Master Hunters

Don Dashiell: archery antlerless season

Kelly Singer: archery antlerless season

11. 2012-2014 Elk General and Special Permit Seasons – Rule Briefing and Public Hearing:

The Commission was briefed on elk general and special permits seasons by Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager. The Wildlife Committee reported on this item. The Commission will consider final adoption at its April 13-14, 2012 meeting.

Adopt:

WAC 232-28-358 2012-2014 Elk general seasons and definitions

WAC 232-28-360 Elk special permits

Repeal:

WAC 232-28-352 2009-2011 Elk general seasons and definitions

WAC 232-28-356 Elk special permits

The following people provided public testimony on this item only:

Don Lovell: Lowes closure

Jim Craighead: date changes

Mike Britton: Master Hunters

Don Dashiell: Stevens County

Rick Harwood: Master Hunt

Ray Barr: archers

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 5:55 pm.

Saturday, March 10, 2012

Chair Wecker called the meeting back to order at 8:01 am.

12. Proposed Water Transfer – Decision:

The Commission considered a proposal for the transfer of Future Interest in Water Rights in Okanogan County presented by Dennis Beich, Regional Director, Region 2.

Commissioner Douvia motioned, seconded by Commissioner Perry to approve the proposal for the transfer of Future Interest in Water Rights in Okanogan County as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Commission's Position Statement "Wolves in Washington"– Briefing:

The Commission discussed a draft of the wolf position statement.

14. Commission Work Session:

Bill Frymire, Assistant Attorney General presented the Commission with information on various aspects of serving on the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

15. Open Public Input:

The Commission is a direct link between citizens of Washington and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Comments on Department programs and topics of concern are welcome during this portion of the meeting. **NOTE:** During this portion of the meeting, the public is encouraged to comment on issues that are not on the agenda for decision action.

The following individuals provided testimony during this portion of the meeting:

Jim Craighead: wolves

Everett Burts: wolves, Colockum elk

Norm Gutzwiler: Colockum elk herd

Diane Gallegos: wolves

Herb Troxel: wolves, Colockum elk

Jim Sutton: lighted nocks

16. Commission Committee Reports:

Deferred to the March 16, 2012 conference call.

17. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief:

The Commission discussed the following items:

- Delegation of Authority
Commissioner Carpenter motioned, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Delegation of Authority with amendments. Motion carried unanimously.
- Performance Agreement, Commission Role & Strategic Planning
Commissioner Carpenter motioned, seconded by Commissioner Jennings to approve the performance agreement as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.
- Commission Request
Commissioner Douvia motioned, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter to request an analysis of the Threatened and Endangered WAC 232-12-297. Motion carried. One opposed.

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 1:40 pm.

EKG

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Erin Gariépy, Administrative Assistant

Approved 04/06/12 conference call