



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
January 22-23, 2016

January 22-23, 2016 Regular Meeting

Commission:

Brad Smith, Chair
Larry Carpenter, Vice Chair
Miranda Wecker
Connie Mahnken
Jay Holzmilller
Dave Graybill
Kim Thorburn
Jay Kehne
Bob Kehoe

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Attendance

Department Staff:

Jim Unsworth, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
William Frymire, AGO
Nate Pamplin
Penny Becker
Joseph Buchanan
Derek Stinson
Gary Wiles
Lynn Helbrecht
Bill Tweit
John Long
Ron Warren

Steve Crown
Mike Cenci
Guy Norman
Ron Roler
Robin Ehlke
Pat Frazier
Brad James
Kelly Cunningham
Craig Burley
Jim Scott
Craig Bartlett

Guests:

Representative Liz Pike
Representative Lynda Wilson

Public:

Robert Alverson
Tom Linde
Cliff Richard
Rob Sudar
Frank Marre
John Anderson
Grant Jensen
Kirk Harrison
Robin Comeau
Trish Johnson
Jim Coleman
Steven Jones
Randy Woolsey
Liz Hamilton
Mike Backman
Cheryl Hutchinson
Larry Cassidy
Chris Connolly
Dick Seaberg
Thomas Dulcich
Benson Lee
Gene Reiwert
Michael Seitzinger
Jim Stewart

Donny Jackson
Allen Thomas
Greg Mueller
Lyle Cabe
Derrick Robbins
Gregg Robinson
Jim Hutchinson
Mike Kiemels
Bill Comeau
Dave Brown
Rodger Jacobs
Christine Schindewolf
John Straub
Diane Barnum
Butch Smith
Nick Horsky
Heath Heikkila
Bill Myers
Michael Laroso
Brian Davern
Steve Cushing
David Irvine
Bruce Barnes
Darrell Thomas

Milton Gudgell
Travis Buck
Ray Coswell
Jim Steelhammer
Ed Wickersham
Steve Long
Craig Mullen
Tom Hester
Brian King
Martel Fish
Kent Gray
Kuni Masuba
Jim Pannell
William Barnum
Brian Lutz
Bryce Divine
Mike Mudgett
Harry Barber
Keith Isaacson
Dean Patterson
Kurt Wallace
Allan Cabe
Gary Villella
Jennifer Stahl

Lee Blankenship
Dave Mackay
Diane Gallegos
Kurt Krege
Mark Heirigs
Joe Klobucnik
Deborah Loewer
Richard Dryland
Rob Bignall
Ross Barkhurst
Steve Emrich
Gerry Glen
Jamie Birkland
Tyler Comeau
Brent Hutchinson
Ken Thistle
Robert Peterson
Bill Jennings
Glen Johnston
Don Kphler
Russ Flaskerud
Steve Carpenter
Jack Matike
Leon Stevenson

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| Robert Fehlen | Donald Rudberg | Ray Coswell | Tom Hoogkamer |
| Jim Schindewolf | Blaine Ackley | Steve Dunstel | Dan Richard |
| Chris Strawn | Jeff Povglite | Chad Price | Linda Masuda |
| Peter Anderson | Tom Effinger | Nathan Rogol | Vern Forsberg |
| Doug White | Kurtis Burley | Josh Seib | Greg Glass |
| Marv Chesley | John Schlecht | Brad Halverson | Alan Wood |
| Kent Martin | Gary Loomis | Bill Chapman | Bob Baker |
| George Barton | Tom Wadsworth | John Baugher | Allen Lungo |
| Justin Zakariassen | John Zakariassen | Doug Forsberg | Tim Heuker |
| Kemper Hall | Robert Kesponen | Jeff Lundy | Arnold Zachariasen |
| Joe Sobolewski | Nello Picinich | Perry Elliott | Martin Fogel |
| Kelly Short | Bill Derch | Steve Moore | |

Friday, January 22, 2016

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion:

- Commissioner Holzmilller – Francine Madden is making a difference
- Commissioner Graybill – Columbia River salmon endorsement
- Chair Smith – WAFWA meeting in San Diego

b. Meeting Minute Approval

January 8, 2016 – conference call

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2016 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

2. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Robert Alverson – Bering Sea halibut surveys and NPC interaction

Donny Jackson - Coyotes

Milton Gudgeall – Sturgeon, Bears and Lingcod in Long Beach

Lee Blankenship – HGMP update

Shawn Cantrell – SWAP and WAG

Travis Buck – Kalama River nutrient enrichment programs

3. Director's Report

The Director provided an update on various issues including:

- Wildlife Conflict staff training
- Legislative topics
- Wild Future updates
- WAFWA meeting
- Tribal hunting
- Salmon and steelhead HGMPs
- Wild Fish Conservancy - Notice of Intent
- The Director described the recent settlement of a lawsuit filed by Matthew and Alex Tarabochia and made the following statement: "The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that WDFW violated the constitutional right of Alex and Matthew Tarabochia. We have settled with the Tarabochias, agreeing to pay them \$130,000."

4. Periodic Status Review (Northern Spotted Owl, Snowy Plover, Western Gray Squirrel, and Greater Sage-grouse) – Briefing and Public Hearing

Penny Becker, Diversity Division Manager, Joseph Buchanan, Natural Resource Scientist, Derek Stinson and Gary Wiles, Wildlife Biologists briefed the Commission on the Periodic Status Reviews compiled for these four state listed species and outlined the comments provided by peer scientists and the public. Staff provided their recommendations to the Commission as to the appropriate classifications for these species (i.e. retain current status, up-list, down-list or de-list).

The following people provided comments on this item:
Shawn Cantrell

5. Washington State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) – Briefing

Penny Becker, Diversity Division Manager, Wildlife Program and Lynn Helbrecht, SWAP & Climate Change Coordinator, Habitat Program briefed the Commission on the final State Wildlife Action Plan highlighting the tools developed to assist in conserving Washington's species and habitats, including the development of a climate watch list and new range maps for several species of greatest conservation need.

6. North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's Bering Sea Halibut Management – Briefing

Bill Tweit, Special Assistant to the Director, briefed the Commission on the recent North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) decision regarding management of halibut bycatch in Bering Sea fisheries and a description of the NPFMC next steps on halibut bycatch management

7. North of Falcon Policy C-3608 – Briefing

John Long, Intergovernmental Salmon Manager provided the Commission with a briefing on the North of Falcon annual salmon fishery planning process, as stipulated within policy C-3608.

8. Wildlife Poaching and the License Suspension Process – Briefing

Chief Crown and Deputy Chief Cenci briefed the Commission on poaching and its impacts on resource management and opportunities for harvest and provided information on the license suspension process, including commercial license suspensions.

An Executive Session was added at the end of the day.

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) the commission met in Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee; No action was taken during the Executive Session and the meeting adjourned immediately following.

Chair Smith recessed the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 23, 2016

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

9. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Bruce Barnes – Hoof rot and chemical spraying

Glen Johnston – Fishing

Jamie Birkland – Importance of youth fishing

10. Review of the Columbia River Fishery Management Policy C-3620- Staff Briefing, Panel Comments and Public Comments

Guy Norman, Region 5 Director, Ron Roler, Columbia River Policy Coordinator and Robin Ehlke, Assistant Columbia River Policy Coordinator provided the Commission an annual briefing on Columbia River fishery management as set forth per policy C-3620. Commercial and Recreational panels provided comments followed by additional public comments.

The following people provided public comments:

Recreational Panel – Heath Heikkila, Jim Martin, Bob Rees, Jennifer Stahl

Commercial Panel – Robert Sudar, Irene Martin, Jim Wells, Greg Johnson

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| Representative Liz Pike | Larry Cassidy |
| Lyle Cabe | Bryce Divine |
| Brad Halverson | Frank Marre |
| Harry Barber | Ed Wickersham |
| Kent Martin | Mark Heirigs |
| Thomas Dulcich | Gary Loomis |
| Michael Setzinger | Ross Barkhurst |
| Rick Quashnick | William Hunsinger |
| Nello Picinich | Randy Woolsey |
| Steve Jones | Tom Hester |
| John Anderson | Mike Backman |

11. Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Population Status and Management Annual Review – Briefing and Public Comment

Pat Frazier, Region 5 Fish Program Policy Coordinator and Brad James, Fish and Wildlife Biologist provided the Commission the annual review on lower Columbia River sturgeon, as stipulated within policy C-3001. The Commission further discussed the impacts of continuing the current catch and release or changing to a non-retention sturgeon policy and instructed staff to engage in conversations with Oregon to discuss the impacts.

The following people provided public comments:

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|---------------|--------------|
| Bryce Devine | Harry Barber |
| Kent Martin | Butch Smith |
| Ed Wickersham | |

12. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Nothing was discussed during miscellaneous and meeting debrief

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant