



Washington's Wild Future: A Partnership for Fish and Wildlife

Putting ideas into action

Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison
Department of Fish & Wildlife

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‘Washington’s Wild Future’

Last fall WDFW began a long-term initiative to improve our effectiveness

- We listened,
- Gathered ideas from our partners, and
- Built ideas into a long-term vision.

We’re not done!





We share the same values

- More recreational opportunities of all kinds on public and private land
- Increased law enforcement presence
- Simpler rules and clearer communication
- More habitat restoration and effective land stewardship
- Abundant fish and wildlife for future generations
- Improved outreach to youth and an increasingly diverse population

Washington's outdoor opportunities are key to our quality of life

We're already acting on some of the good ideas we've heard

- Working to simplify and clarify fishing rules through an improved pamphlet and a mobile app
- Improving our website
- Partnering with businesses to establish a statewide trout fishing derby
- Promoting outdoor recreation in addition to fishing and hunting
- Restoring “WildWatch” cameras for the WDFW website



Goals for 2017 and beyond

1. Conserve fish, wildlife, and habitat for future generations
2. Ensure sustainable fishing opportunities
3. Improve the hunting experience
4. Secure reliable funding



Conserve fish, wildlife, and habitat for future generations

- Support fish and wildlife through funding for habitat restoration and fish barrier removal
- Provide assistance and financial incentives to private landowners to promote conservation
- Enforce laws and rules that protect species and their habitats
- Pay counties for the tax revenue they lose when the state buys privately owned land for conservation



Maintain Washington's wildlife

- Monitor wildlife health and diseases
- Partner with communities to develop programs for youth and urban residents to enjoy wildlife
- Recover imperiled species
- Enlist the public's help to collect data on wildlife and habitat
- Protect and restore wildlife habitat



Ensure sustainable fishing opportunities

- Maintain and expand recreational fisheries
- Support commercial fisheries
- Restore habitat and remove fish passage barriers to support salmon recovery
- Develop easy-to-use fishing mobile app – expect to begin testing this year
- Increase enforcement to protect resources and public safety





Support fisheries through hatchery production

- Washington operates the largest hatchery system in the world, but upgrades are needed
- Renovation and improvement plans include:
 - Dungeness Hatchery (Clallam County)
 - Kalama Falls Hatchery (Cowlitz County)
 - Omak Hatchery (Okanogan County)
 - Ringold Hatchery (Franklin County)
 - Spokane Hatchery (Spokane County)
 - Tokul Creek Hatchery (King County)
 - Wallace River Hatchery (Snohomish County)

Improve the hunting experience

- Increase access to private hunting lands
- Improve stewardship of WDFW-managed habitat and wildlife lands
- Develop safe target-shooting ranges
- Develop free mobile app for hunters
- Conserve hunted animals and their habitats





Challenges to our Wild Future

- Increasing public demand for conservation and recreation
- Growing environmental pressures
- Declining state and federal funding
- Inflation is out-pacing license revenues

Wild Future Proposal

- \$60 million in potential investments
- Combination general tax dollars *and* user fees

Funding sources – General tax dollars

WDFW programs improve the quality of life of all Washingtonians, not just hunters and anglers

- Enforcement officers protect natural resources and public safety throughout the state
- Habitat conservation benefits people as well as fish and wildlife
- Recreational and commercial activities support jobs in hundreds of communities

That's why we request general tax dollars



Funding sources – Fishing and hunting license fees

- We have developed license fee proposals that would increase revenue by \$26 million over two years to cover funding gaps
- Last license fee hikes were in 2010
- The fee proposal:
 - Reflects actual costs of hunting and fishing opportunities
 - Responds to customer preferences
 - Promote youth and senior license sales
 - Maintains competitiveness

Recreational fishing and hunting license fee proposals

Projections for the next two-year budget cycle

Projected revenue and proposed investments	Dollars in millions
Projected revenue from current recreational license fees	\$77.8
Proposed investments of new license revenue	
Eliminate recreational license revenue shortfall	\$7.6
Maintain current salmon and steelhead fishing opportunities	\$5.2
Expand salmon and steelhead fishing opportunities	\$3.9
Improve hatchery maintenance	\$2.2
Protect habitat	\$4.2
Improve hunting access and opportunities	\$3.2
Sub-total: New license revenue:	<u>\$26.3</u>
Total recreational license revenue, including proposed increases for 2017-19	\$104.1

How would license fee increases affect you?

Recreational fishing – resident

License type	Current	Proposed
Combination – freshwater, saltwater, shellfish/seaweed, razor clam	\$55.35	\$64.92
Freshwater-only angler	\$29.50	\$34.12
Saltwater angler	\$30.05	\$33.57
Catch record card	Included	\$11.50 to \$17
Shellfish/seaweed	\$17.40	\$26.20
Razor clam	\$14.10	\$17.10
Columbia R. salmon/steelhead	\$8.75	\$9.75
Two-pole endorsement	\$14.80	\$16.50

Hunting – resident

Customer profile	Current	Proposed
Big game hunter	\$95.50	\$104.85
Big game and small game	\$117.50	\$129.05
Turkey and migratory bird	\$73.40	\$87.29
Deer and turkey	\$82.80	\$90.83
Canada goose (SW WA)	\$70.70	\$84.37

All prices are “out the door” – including dealer and transaction fees

* Commercial license package being developed



What's next for 'Washington's Wild Future'?

WF Calendar

August 1-12 th	Regional outreach meetings Aug 2 nd – Spokane Aug 3 rd – Selah Aug 8 th – Vancouver Aug 9 th – Chelan Aug 10 th – Mill Creek Aug 11 th – Montesano
August 5-6	FWC Meeting: Review WF package and other agency request legislation, operating and cap
September 9	Agency request legislation due to Governor's Office.
October – December	Outreach to partners, legislators, staff, etc.

What's at stake without new funding?

- Current fishing and hunting opportunities would shrink
- Enforcement positions would decline
- Hatchery production would fall and facilities could close
- Outdoor opportunities would not keep up with population growth



**Thank you for working with us to
ensure Washington's Wild Future**

Continue the conversation...

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