

Summary

Meeting dates: December 9-10, 2016

Agenda item: Draft Policy on Improving the Conservation of Washington's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources – Briefing, Discussion and Public Hearing

Presenter(s): Penny Becker, Diversity Division Manager; Amy Windrope, Ecosystem Services Division Manager; and Jennifer Quan, Government Affairs Director

Background summary:

Department staff will brief the Commission on National (Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources) and Washington State efforts (Washington Wildlife Leaders Forum) seeking additional capacity and funding to conserve species and habitats of greatest conservation need and connect people with nature. The Commission will discuss the draft policy as a response to guidance from Governor Inslee. The Commission will hear public testimony and solicit additional public input to be received in writing before making a decision on the policy at the January meeting.

Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:

The purpose of the policy is to establish strategies for the Department to better preserve and protect our state's diverse fish and wildlife resources. The Commission recognizes that in order to succeed, both the Commission and the Department must engage in active, assertive efforts to involve Washingtonians in achieving the Department's mission to conserve our natural heritage and provide opportunities for its enjoyment. The policy includes actions for the Commission and guidance to agency staff that seek to better fulfill the mission by securing additional resources and better partnerships.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The draft policy was made available on the Fish and Wildlife Commission webpage on November 30th. Public testimony will be heard at the December meeting and further written public comments on the draft policy will be received until January 2nd. Comments received will be collated and shared with the Commission prior to their decision on January 6th.

Action requested:

N/A

Draft motion language:

N/A

Justification for Commission action:

N/A

Communications Plan:

WDFW Website
News Releases
