

“GREEN SHEET”

(Form revised 01/25/05)

Meeting dates: January 11-12, 2008
Agenda item: Homeland Security and Emergency Management – Briefing
Staff Contact: Mike Cenci, Deputy Chief, Enforcement Program
Presenter/s: Mike Cenci, Deputy Chief, Enforcement Program
Dennis Nicks, Lieutenant, Enforcement Program

Background:

The Enforcement Program will provide the Commission with an overview of our role in homeland security and responses to natural and man-made disasters. The Deputy Chief and a Headquarters Lieutenant are designated as the State Agency Liaison and Deputy State Agency Liaison to the Washington Military Department’s Emergency Management Division. This is the mechanism for providing support to the State’s incident command structure.

With much of the homeland security effort focused on high-profile, high-population areas, rural areas such as Okanogan County, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Washington coast remain vulnerable to smuggling and homeland security threats. Suspicious activity is likely to go undetected unless the contacting law enforcement officers have an understanding of what constitutes normal activity. WDFW Officers have that understanding, have broad inspection powers, and are uniquely positioned to detect activities that may jeopardize public safety. Commercial and recreational fishing and other outdoor pursuits are often used as a cover for smuggling and other illegal activity.

The Enforcement Program has provided critical response during major emergencies in the past. Our specialized equipment such as 4x4 vehicles and patrol vessels are strategically located throughout the State. Our equipment is frequently used as primary response platforms during emergency situations. Fish and Wildlife Officers have been an integral part to many successful emergency responses. Some examples of our contributions will be provided.

These contributions have resulted in an increasing recognition of our value. In the future, this may lead to funding opportunities that also further the mission of the agency.

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

None – briefing only

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

N/A

Action requested (identify the specific Commission decisions you are seeking and when):

None – briefing only

Draft motion language:

N/A

Justification for Commission action:

N/A

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS -- HOW TO PREPARE A GREEN SHEET:

Keep green sheets short. One page is best, but complex issues may require more pages. If you can cite material elsewhere under this item, try not to repeat it here. This form is for staff-to-Commission communications and should be suitable for public distribution. You will succeed with this green sheet if you efficiently and effectively focus the attention on the actual Commission action you are requesting.

The material you present on a green sheet should represent your professional advice to the Commission about the decision that lies before it. Give the Commission the information it needs to make a reasoned, considered decision. Give your professional judgment about the policy questions imbedded in your issue. Include the risks or downside of your recommendation. Include the consequences of no action. Give your recommendation for a Commission decision, if a decision is being considered on the item.

Background: This is your chance to capture the essence of the issue you have been working on. In this section you want to frame the issue so a person can see it as a “snapshot” given all the history that got us to this point, current concerns, and, if applicable, probably future development of the issue. This is also a great place to give the Commission any “sound bites” it might need when communicating your issues to the public, other policy makers, and media.

Policy issue(s): Any decision is a “policy”, and any policy is a statement of values. But how to articulate what is the appropriate policy question(s) before us is hard to do. You, as staff, can make an important contribution to Commission decision-making by articulating what “policy” you are bringing to the Commission. Clearly define the policy versus operational issues before the Commission. Present policy issues to the Commission for action. Describe what are the operational questions but don’t present these for decision. Advise the Commission on action steps you propose taking once it makes the policy decision.

Public involvement: The Commission holds a high value on public participation. Tell the Commission what public participation process(es) you used. Be sure to summarize what the public said, both pro and con. If the public is split, say so. If you changed your recommendation because of public input, identify that as well.

Action requested: This is the “punch line” for the green sheet. Avoid re-presenting the discussions described above and then not defining in clear and precise terms the decisions you think need to be made. Give the Commission your professional advice about the decisions you think should be on the table. If decisions are related to one another, arrange them in a logical sequence (i.e., “if you decide this then you also need to decide that...”), arrange them in a logical sequence. In other words, build the overall Commission decision in logical steps. **If Commission action is needed at a future Commission meeting, include that information.** Briefly describe the action you will be seeking at that future time. If no Commission action is needed (now or in the future), indicate “N/A.”

Draft motion language: “I move to...” Help the Commission by thinking through how to convert your requested action into an actual motion. Be specific and precise and include specific WAC numbers. If a motion is not needed, indicate “N/A.”

Justification for Commission action: Articulating a justification helps the Commission streamline its process and helps explain to the public why a decision is being made. This is another good place to describe the most important “sound bite” of your issue.

Contact the Commission Office at (360) 902-2267 with questions.

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