

MINUTES

WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING

January 11-12, 2008

Red Lion Hotel at the Quay
100 Columbia Street
Vancouver, Washington

ATTENDANCE:

Commission

Jerry Gutzwiler, Chair
Miranda Wecker, Vice Chair
Ken Chew
Gary Douvia
Conrad Mahnken
George Orr
Chuck Perry
Will Roehl
Shirley Solomon

Commission Staff:

Susan Yeager
Nancy Burkhart

Department

Jeff Koenings, Director
Phil Anderson, Deputy Director – Resource Policy
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director – Operations
Guy Norman
Bill Frymire-AGO
Dave Brittell
Lew Atkins
Bruce Bjork
Mike Cenci
Bill Phillips
Steve Pozzanghera
Murray Schlenker
Dan Ayers
Craig Bartlett
Steven Jeffries
Jo Wadsworth
Brian Calkins
Dean Pyzik
Eric Holman
Lauren Ridenour
Pat Frazier
Ron Warren
Melani Gonzalez
Jim Scott
Margaret Ainscough
Bill Joplin
Jim Skalski

Department (continued)

Joey McCanna
Gary Wiles
Kirt Hughes
Karen Varshock
Sandra Jonker
Dave Ware
Derek Stinson
Mick Cope
Rocky Beach
Mik Mikitik
Mike Kuttel
John Wisner
Heather Bartlett
Cindy LeFleur
Andy Appleby
Pat Pattillo
Sara LaBorde
Other Department Staff

Public

Steve Wood
Jeremy Warter, Fish NW Commission
Chris Doumit, Bristol Pacific Fish Co.
Tony Kastella, Vancouver Wildlife League
Todd Dielman, Dielman's NW River Guides
Don Swartz
Jim Malinowski, Fish First
Scott Atkinson
Turner Odell
Larry Passart
Alex Mattila
Les Greear, Fish First
Mike Larocco, Fish First
Bruce Hunter, Fish First
Darryl Jones, Fish First/Coastal Cons. Assn.
Bob Groger, Fisherman's Marine
Richard Williams, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Steve Fick, Salmon For All
Kevin A. Kuhel
Ross Logan, NWMP
Kent Berry, Fish First
Larry Hoehne, NW Steelheaders

Public (continued)

Mike Harris
Don Overby
Steve Grutbo
Buzz Ramsey, NW Sport Fishing Industry
Steve Fransen
John Grocott, Salmon For All
Hank Mills, NW Steelheaders
Jason Kohl
Mike Wullger
Randy Doucet, 3 Rivers Marine
Alan Nelson
Derek Clare
Arlene Andreason
Nathan Burck
Larry Whalen
Jerry R. Thorp
Brent Wilson, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Jack Mattice
Steve Harrison
Dale Dean
Kent Martin
Bruce Buckmaster
Les Clark
Heather Bartlett
Kenneth P. Campbell
Roy Dowell
Pete Morris
George Trott, Wahkiakum County
Ryan Bigley, 3 Rivers Marine
Russ Fowler
Dave Autrby, Fish First
Jerry Larson
Marshall W. Tarrents
Allen Estes
John Divittorio, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Brad Schoenborn, Bob's Sporting Goods
Bill Weeks, Mt. St. Helens' Rescue
Joan Lambert, Fred's Marina
Michael Stockman
Louis Porter
Larry Mann
Ed Orcutt
Gregg Cowles
J. Roy Pickner, Fish First
Jack Glass
Richard Erickson, Lower Col. Economic Council
Thad Tyler
Jack Kaeding, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Jim Wells, Salmon For All
Mark Stetz
Bob Schneider, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Glen Johnson, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Gary Geis, NW Guides & Anglers Assn.

Joe Schwab
Steve Bailey
Peter Roscoe, City of Astoria
Chris Vertopoulous, NW Angling Experience
Jay Daly
Lyle Cabe, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Hank Mills
Hobe Kytr, Salmon For All
Vern Dower, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Scott Warter, Fish NW Commission
Eric Towers
Dennis Pyles
Ron Andreason
Jack L. Baxter
Richard S. Littell
John Huddleston, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Steve Leonard, NW Guides and Anglers Assn.
John McKinley
John Cleary
Edward L. Barnes
Gary L. Johnson, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Clint Muns, Puget Sound Anglers, RFA
Frances Clark
Tom Marinett
Robert Sudar
Francis Estalilla
Marshall Allen, Fish First
Jesse Mattila
Brian Adams
Bob Suhlecht, Bob's Sporting Goods
Bill Hunsinger, Port of Astoria
Al Jenkins
Jim Harmon, SW Washington Anglers
Lynda Estes
Bryce Divine
Paul Schreiber
Bill Leistriz, Fish First
Jerrie Munson, Takin' Line Guide Service
Rosie Smith
Robert Toews
Richard Potenski, Fish First
Bruce Barnes, Mt. St. Helens' Rescue
Cheryl McKellar, PSA, CCA, LLBC
Tom Effber, Fish First
Brandon Glass
David Goodroe, Lower Col. Economic Council
Gene Laddusow, SW Washington Anglers
Tom Peacher, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
John Hanson
Tony Roozen, Puget Sound Anglers
Alan Fulcer, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Pat Resser
Richard Hunt, Wild Steelehead Coalition

Public (continued)

Paul Mattila	Brian Tarabochia
Paul W. Larson, Fish First	Douglas Peacher, Fish First
Larry Swanson, Vancouver Wildlife League	Joe Salvey
Randy Woolsey, NSIA, Coastal Cons. Assn.	Chuck Bryan
Kevin Newell	Lacey DeWeert
Greg Frogner	David Eng, Frank Amato, Inc.
Dave Lane	Gary Kish
Jason Matthiessen	Bob Rees, NW Guides & Anglers Assn.
Steve Clark	Barney Currigan
Ted Fountain, NW Steelheaders	Dan Porter
Marty Keller	Fred Ostling
Mark Pearsall	James E. Marks
Desmond Dean	Ken Willis
Walter Wright	Ken Wirkkala
Stephen Gray	Wayne Ritter
Roger Stecker	Matthew Clark
Chuck Halva	John Clark
Ron I. Pritchard	Keith G. Sakai
Mike Rythar	Brandon McGarran
Scott Landis	Leonard Parson
Mark Cedergreen, WA Charterboat Assn.	Matt Olson
Harry Barber, Lower Col. Fish Enhancement Group	Bob Morgan, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Bob Fehlen, Coastal Cons. Assn.	Ed Wickersham
Rick Andersen, Coastal Cons. Assn.	Joe Broz, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Robert Graf, Coastal Cons. Assn.	Jim Pearson, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Dean Swanson, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.	Del Swanson, Fish First, Coastal Cons. Assn.
Larry Swanson, Vancouver Wildlife League	Scott Atkinson
John Wisner	Ron Vely
Bob Holtfreter, AHE Focus Group	Al Thomas
Don Goetschius	Jim Davis, North Cascades Cons. Council
Wendy Gardner	John Blankenship, Wolf Working Group
Polly Dyer, Olympic Coast Alliance	Carl Burke, NSIA-Fish NW
Jessica Walz, Gifford Pinchot Task Force	Julia DeGraw, Gifford Pinchot Task Force
Steve Link, WA State Bowhunters Assn.	M. Dennis Way, Clark-Skamania fishermen
Kent Martin	John Grocott
Dan Grogan	

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

Chair Gutzwiler called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Roehl, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2007, Joint Meeting with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION:

Commissioners discussed recent activities and items of general interest and provided status reports on Commission committees.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Koenings and Deputy Director Anderson reviewed significant Department issues and activities.

CAPITAL PLANNING, LICENSE SYSTEM REVIEW, AND BUDGET UPDATE:

Deputy Director Stohr, Bill Joplin, Bill Phillips, and Jim Skalski updated the Commission on capital planning, the license system, and the Department's budget.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

The following individuals provided oral testimony on issues of concern during this portion of the meeting:

Matt Olson (Vancouver) – Salmon/steelhead recovery
Harry Barber (Washougal) – Salmon/steelhead conservation
Bob Morgan (Washougal) – Salmon/steelhead conservation
Robert Fehlen (Washougal) – Selective fisheries
Joe Broz (Camas) – Conservation of wild fish
Ed Wickersham (Ridgefield) – Derelict nets; salmon/steelhead conservation
Rick Anderson (Vancouver) – Derelict nets; salmon/steelhead conservation
Scott Atkinson - Small-scale mining

WILDLIFE CLASSIFICATION – RULE ACTION:

Rocky Beach presented proposed permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-011, Wildlife classified as protected shall not be hunted or fished, which would down-list the bald eagle from threatened to sensitive in Washington state based on the biological status of the species. The Commission held a public hearing regarding these proposed rules at its December 7-8, 2007, Commission meeting in Port Angeles.

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to adopt the permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-011, Wildlife classified as protected shall not be hunted or fished, as proposed. The motion carried unanimously.

MASTER HUNTER PROGRAM – RULE ACTION:

Chief Bruce Bjork presented proposed permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-073, Master hunter program, to address deficiencies in the requirements for certification and penalties for unethical or unlawful behavior by Master Hunters. The Commission held a public hearing regarding these proposed rules at its December 7-8, 2007, Commission meeting in Port Angeles.

Commissioner Roehl moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to adopt the permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-073, Master hunter program, as filed with the Code Reviser's Office and amended by staff. The motion carried unanimously.

MASTER HUNTER PROGRAM OVERVIEW – BRIEFING:

Mik Mikitik and John Wisner briefed the Commission on the status of plans for future development within the Master Hunter Program.

HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – BRIEFING:

At the request of the Commission, Deputy Chief Mike Cenci briefed the Commission on its role in homeland security and responses to natural and man-made disasters.

PRIVATE LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM UPDATE – BRIEFING:

At the request of the Commission, Mick Cope and Joe McCanna provided a status update on the Department's Private Lands Access Program.

RAZOR CLAM GROWTH AND MORTALITY STUDY – BRIEFING:

Dan Ayers briefed the Commission on the highly popular recreational razor clam fishery and discussed ongoing work the Department is conducting to better understand razor clam growth and natural mortality.

WOLF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN – BRIEFING:

At the request of the Commission, Steve Pozzanghera, Rocky Beach, Virgil Moore (Deputy Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game), Fred Trevey (Idaho Fish and Game Commissioner), and Steve Nadeau (Wolf Coordinator, Idaho Department of Fish and Game) briefed the Commission on the current status of the wolf in Washington state and development of a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

The following individuals provided oral testimony on issues of concern during this portion of the meeting:

Polly Dyer (Seattle) – Wolves
Kent Martin (Skamokawa) – Commercial fishery and selective harvest
Robert Sudar (Longview) – Columbia River spring/summer chinook
John Blankenship (Tenino) – Wolves
Steve Link (Seattle) – Habitat acquisition; wolves
Jim Davis (Seattle) – Wolves
Wendy Gardner (Portland, OR) – Wolves
Julia DeGraw (Portland, OR) - Wolves

Chair Gutzwiler recessed the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

Chair Gutzwiler called the meeting back to order at 8:06 a.m.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

DRAFT

The following individuals provided oral testimony on issues of concerning during this portion of the meeting:

Tony Kastella (Vancouver) – Hunting access on private lands
Bruce Barnes (Vancouver) – Elk herd feeding; creek restoration; Washougal River
Frances Estalilla (Aberdeen) – North of Falcon fisheries process`
Jack Kaedings (Vancouver) – Selective harvest; ESA-listed fish
Edward L. Barnes (Vancouver) – Mount St. Helens' elk herd
Robert Graf (Selah) – Hunting permits on private lands
Richard Hunt (Everett) – Co-management meeting with tribes in November 2007
Paul Mattila (Battleground) – Chinook salmon

COLUMBIA RIVER SPRING AND SUMMER CHINOOK ALLOCATION POLICIES – BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Cindy LeFleur, Heather Bartlett, and Bill Tweit briefed the Commission on the current Commission Policies C-3615 and C-3616, which expired on December 31, 2007. The Commission will consider the approval of new policies at its February 1-2, 2008, Commission meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the proposed policies:

Kenneth Campbell (Vancouver)	Nathan Burck (Kalama)
Roy Dowell (Washougal)	John Grocott (Ilwaco)
Francis Estalilla (Aberdeen)	Hank Mills (Milwaukie, OR)
Joe Schwab (Columbia City, OR)	Jim Hermon (Vancouver)
Randy Woolsey (Tigard, OR)	Dan Grogan (Vancouver)
Peter Roscoe (Astoria, OR)	Chris Doumit (Cathlamet)
Chris Vertopoulos (Tillamook, OR)	Clint Muns (Shelton)
Buzz Ramsey (Klickitat)	Scott Atkinson (Vancouver)
Dave Lane (Seattle)	Bryce Divine (Longview)
Lacey DeWeert (Woodland)	Bill Hunsinger (Astoria, OR)
Kevin Newell (Woodland)	Don Swartz (Milwaukie, OR)
Steve Grutbo (Portland, OR)	Walter Wright (Cathlamet)
Rayn Bigley (Lynnwood)	Steve Clark (Kenai, AK)
Randy Doucet (Lynnwood)	Rev. Irene Martin (Skamokawa)
Robert Graf (Selah)	Barney Currigan (Portland, OR)
Steve Fransen (Olympia)	John McKinley (Skamokawa)
Bob Rees (Tillamook, OR)	Marty Kuller (Cathlamet)
Gary Kish (Sauvie Island, OR)	Fred Ostling (Cathlamet)
Steve Bailey (Garden Home, OR)	Mark Pearsall (Wilsonville, OR)
Paul Mattila (Battleground)	John Cleary (Portland, OR)
Richard Hunt (Everett)	Steve Fick (Astoria, OR)
Brian Tarabochia (Astoria, OR)	Steve Gray (Seaview)
James Wells (Astoria)	Liz Hamilton (Oregon City, OR)
Joe Salvey (Scappoose, OR)	Carl Burke (Olympia)
Gregg Cowles (Lake Oswego, OR)	Roger Stecker (Longview)
Glen Johnston (Aberdeen)	Cheryl McKellar (Bremerton)
Richard Erickson (Cathlamet)	Brandon Glass (Troutdale, OR)
Jack Glass (Troutdale, OR)	Jason Matthiessen (Tacoma)
Gene Laddusaw (Vancouver)	Ed Orcutt (Kalama)
Kent Martin (Skamokawa)	Jay Daly (St. Helens, OR)
George Trott (Cathlamet)	Bruce Buckmaster (Astoria, OR)
Scott Warter (Tacoma)	Steve Wood (Vancouver)
Jack Baxter (Battleground)	Hobe Kytr (Astoria, OR)
Mike Wullger (Chinook)	

NORTH OF FALCON FISHERY – BRIEFING:

Pat Pattillo provided a briefing on the Commission's current North of Falcon Policy (C-3608) which has a termination date of December 31, 2008.

ALL "H" INTEGRATION – BRIEFING:

Sara LaBorde and Andy Appleby briefed the Commission on the coordination of actions among the "H-sectors", Harvest, Hatchery and Habitat (inclusive of hydro), which work together toward the goal of recovering self-sustaining, harvestable salmon runs.

HATCHERY REFORM PROGRESS – BRIEFING:

Jim Scott, Ron Warren, and Sara Laborde briefed the Commission on the status of hatchery reform implementation, including systematic application of scientific principles to help recover and conserve naturally spawning populations and to support sustainable fisheries.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Commission discussed activities of the various Commission committees.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

No oral testimony on issues of concern during this portion of the meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS AND MEETING DEBRIEF:

Commissioner Gutzwiler moved, seconded by Commissioner Wecker, to request the Department provide a briefing to the Commission after passage of the Farm Bill. The briefing is to include information on funds available from 2008 Federal Farm Bill for hunter access on private lands and action steps/time frames to secure these funds. Explore all possible avenues for securing funds to achieve: (1) additional support for securing additional access to private lands by the hunting public; (2) increased value of habitat provided by private lands for wildlife; and (3) improved communications and hunting administration between private landowners and the hunting public. The motion carried unanimously. (Commissioners Orr and Roehl were absent during discussion and vote on the motion.)

Commissioner Gutzwiler moved, seconded by Commissioner Wecker, to request the Department provide a briefing to the Commission at the June 6-7, 2008, meeting in Ocean Shores. The briefing is to include an expansion of hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and conservation activities. Possibilities for collaborating on road use and/or closure policies, recreation access, or other items of mutual interest that further Department's agenda are to be included. Contact state and regional BLM offices, USFWS, and NPS to obtain information per the President's directive to Federal agencies to advance "Hunter Heritage". The motion carried unanimously. (Commissioners Orr and Roehl were absent during discussion and vote on the motion.)

POLICY DOCUMENT – DECISION:

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken, to adopt the October 25, 2007, Policy Document as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (Commissioners Orr and Roehl were absent during discussion and vote on the motion.)

2008-09 DEPARTMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – DECISION:

Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Perry, to adopt the January 8, 2008 Goals and Objectives for the Department as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
(Commissioners Orr and Roehl were absent during discussion and vote on the motion.)

The Department will provide a status report to the Commission at the November 7-8, 2008, or December 5-6, 2008, meeting.

Chair Gutzwiler adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m..

nb

DRAFT

These minutes, plus the audio recording, constitute the full minutes.

Nancy Burkhart

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**MEMOS AND AUTHORITIES FROM THE JANUARY 11-12, 2008,
FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING, VANCOUVER**

- Approval of Commission Minutes - Motion by Wecker, second by Roehl, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2007, Joint Meeting with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. **The motion carried unanimously.**
- Approval of Wildlife Classification Rules - Motion by Wecker, second by Orr, to adopt the permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-011, Wildlife classified as protected shall not be hunted or fished, as proposed. **The motion carried unanimously.**
- Approval of Master Hunter Program Rules - Motion by Roehl, second by Orr, to adopt the permanent amendments to WAC 232-12-073, Master hunter program, as filed with the Code Reviser's Office and amended by staff. **The motion carried unanimously.**
- Commission Requests to the Department - Motion by Gutzwiler, second by Wecker, to request the Department provide a briefing to the Commission after passage of the Farm Bill. The briefing is to include information on funds available from 2008 Federal Farm Bill for hunter access on private lands and action steps/time frames to secure these funds. Explore all possible avenues for securing funds to achieve: (1) additional support for securing additional access to private lands by the hunting public; (2) increased value of habitat provided by private lands for wildlife; and (3) improved communications and hunting administration between private landowners and the hunting public. **The motion carried unanimously.** *
- Motion by Gutzwiler, second by Wecker, to request the Department provide a briefing to the Commission at the June 6-7, 2008, meeting in Ocean Shores. The briefing is to include an expansion of hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and conservation activities. Possibilities for collaborating on road use and/or closure policies, recreation access, or other items of mutual interest that further Department's agenda are to be included. Contact state and regional BLM offices, USFWS, and NPS to obtain information per the President's directive to Federal agencies to advance "Hunter Heritage". **The motion carried unanimously.** *
- Approval of Policy Document - Motion by Wecker, second by Mahnken, to adopt the October 25, 2007, Policy Document as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.** *

Approval of 2008-09 Department Goals and Objectives - Motion by Wecker, second by Perry, to adopt the January 8, 2008 Goals and Objectives for the Department as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.** *

* Commissioners Orr and Roehl were absent during discussion and vote on the motion.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Jerry Gutzwiler, Chair
Miranda Wecker, Vice Chair
Ken Chew
Gary Douvia
Conrad Mahnken
George Orr
Chuck Perry
Will Roehl

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