

## SUMMARY OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE DEPARTMENT

DRAFT UPDATE *March 13, 2008*

REQUEST	LEAD COMMISSIONER	DATE OF REQUEST	REQUEST DUE	PROGRAM(S) (* Lead)	STATUS
Department to provide updates on effectiveness of hunter access regulations and any proposals for change.	Fred Shiosaki	11/18-19/05	June 2006 December 2006 mtgs.  Dec. 7-8, 2007 mtg.	*Wildlife Program	<b>COMPLETED</b> ; Briefing at Jan. 11-12, 2008, Commission meeting. Briefings also occurred at June 2006 (via Director's Report), and December 2006 meetings.
Department to evaluate alternative branch-antlered strategies for general bull seasons on the East Side. Develop opportunities to integrate with damage control initiatives where appropriate. Evaluate season timing and length and permit levels for black bear and cougar; alter as necessary to improve calf survival. Provide a new report and presentation.  Additional direction to Dept: Explore opening damage hunts to broader user group. Put together definitions (Jerry will follow-up Dave Brittell).	Jerry Gutzwiler	3/10/06	Jan. 2007 meeting	*Wildlife Program	<b>COMPLETED</b> ; Briefing at Jan. 12-13, 2007, Commission meeting.  <b>Follow-up, COMPLETED:</b> Specifics included in Goals and Objectives adopted by Commission at Jan. 11-12, 2008, meeting.
Department to develop a management plan for Fir Island that results in safe, ethical hunting and other associated recreation by the public and residents. It should result in safety for local residents and their families. Consider ideas and input from all interests to find good solutions that can be practically implemented; work with Wildlife Committee.	Chuck Perry	8/4-5/06	Aug. 3-4, 2007 meeting	*Wildlife Program, Enforcement	<b>COMPLETED</b> ; Briefing at March 9-10, 2007, meeting.  <b>Follow-up COMPLETED:</b> Fir Island comprehensive plan briefing at Aug. 3-4, 2007, meeting. Additional issues continue. Management Plan is not yet completed. Phil Anderson will follow-up with Bridget Moran.  <i>Also see request by Shirley Solomon on quality hunts, next page ⇒</i>

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Department to provide a description of WDFW's role in responding to natural disasters and potential terrorist events.	Miranda Wecker	8/3-4/2007	Nov. 2-3, or Dec. 7-8, 2007	*Enforcement	<b>COMPLETED</b> ; Briefing at Jan. 11-12, 2008, meeting.
Commission Wildlife Committee to gather ideas from other groups on ideas for funding/supporting quality hunt programs. Provide update in March 2008.	Shirley Solomon	8/3-4/2007	March 2008	*Commission Wildlife Committee, with Wildlife Program,	<b>Postponed</b> ; staff briefing scheduled for April 11-12, meeting.
Department to provide a briefing on Puget Sound recreational crab fishery to include information on enforcement issues, problems with lack of compliance, tribal harvest, and a status report on data compiled from the first half of the season.	Miranda Wecker	9/21/2007	Nov. 2-3, or Dec. 7-8, 2007  Apr-May 2008	*Enforcement, IRM/Fish  IRM	<b>Partially completed</b> ; Briefing at Feb. 1-2, 2008, meeting.  Second briefing scheduled for April or May 2008 for full-season and catch accounting.
Department to provide a report on the public elk hunt at Mount St. Helens. Report to include participation and effectiveness of volunteers. Additional direction: Briefing should include a panel of landowners and timber company representatives.	Chuck Perry	11/2-3/07	March 7-8 or April 11-12, 2008	*Wildlife Program	<b>Postponed</b> ; briefing scheduled for June 6-7, 2008, meeting in Ocean Shores.
Department to provide a cougar/human interaction presentation (including Project CAT briefing).	Shirley Solomon	11/2-3/07	March 7-8 or April 11-12, 2008	*Wildlife Program	<b>Postponed</b> ; briefing scheduled for May 2-3, 2008, meeting in Colville.
Department to provide a briefing on the feasibility of setting opening dates for freshwater fishing on the "Saturday before Memorial Day" instead of June 1st.	Gary Douvia	12/7-8/2007	Feb. 1-2, 2008	*Fish Program	<b>COMPLETED</b> ; Briefing at Feb. 1-2, 2008, Commission meeting.

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Department to provide a briefing on the Federal Farm Bill and its importance to WDFW; benefits for land management and other projects throughout Washington. Also, Identify additional opportunities.	Chuck Perry	12/7-8/2007	Spring 2008 ♦	*Wildlife Program	<b>On schedule;</b> ♦ Briefing to occur at the second Commission meeting following the passage of the Farm Bill.
Additional direction to Dept.: Briefing to include information on funds available from 2008 Federal Farm Bill to for hunter access on private lands and action steps/time frames to secure these funds. Explore all possible avenues for securing funds achieve: a) additional support for securing additional access to private lands by the hunting public; b) increased value of habitat provided by private lands for wildlife; and c) improved communications and hunting administration between private landowners and the hunting public.	Jerry Gutzwiler	1/11-12/2008	“	“	
Department to provide a briefing on the state Agricultural Preservation Commission.	Shirley Solomon	12/7-8/2007	Summer 2008	*Wildlife Program	<b>On schedule;</b>
Department to provide a briefing on the Biodiversity Council Final Report, outcomes and recommendations.	Shirley Solomon	12/7-8/2007	Mar. 7-8, 2008	*Wildlife Program	<b>COMPLETED;</b> Briefing at March 7-8, 2008, Commission meeting

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<p>Department to provide a briefing on expansion of hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and conservation activities. Briefing to include possibilities for collaborating on road use and/or closure policies, recreation access, or other items of mutual interest that further the Department's agenda. Contact state &amp; regional BLM offices, USFWS, and NPS to obtain information per the President's directive to Federal agencies to advance "<u>Hunter Heritage</u>."</p>	Jerry Gutzwiler	1/11-12/2008	June 6-7, 2008	*Wildlife Program	<p><b>On schedule;</b></p> <p>Hunter Heritage link:  <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/08/print/20070817.html">http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/08/print/20070817.html</a></p>
<p>Department to develop a communication plan to educate and advise the public through appropriate information/communication to all news media on the current weather impact and managed plans for winter-feeding of wildlife. Provide update at April 11-12, 2008, Commission meeting.</p>	Gary Douvia	2/1-2/2008	April 11-12, 2008	*Public Affairs, Wildlife Program	<b>On schedule;</b>
<p>Department to provide a presentation on annual statewide salmon forecast data, including implication for fisheries, conservation of stocks, and options for shaping fisheries. Provide information to Commission on an annual basis.</p>	Connie Mahnken	3/7-8/2008	June 6-7, 2008	Fish Program	<b>On schedule;</b>
<p>Review costs of Commission meetings held outside of Olympia, including staff travel, meeting rooms. Include historical data on public attendance at meetings in various locations around the state.</p>	George Orr	3/7-8/2008	July 2008	*Business Svcs, with Commissioners Orr and Douvia, and Susan Y	<b>On schedule:</b>

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Department to provide a briefing assessing the conservation benefits associated with the recent change in lower Columbia spring chinook allocation (Policy C-3617).	Shirley Solomon	3/7-8/2008	April 11-12, 2008	*IRM, Fish Program	<b>On schedule;</b>
Department to present a briefing on the development of salmonid runs spawning above the falls on the south fork of the Skykomish River, e.g., stock origin, makeup of returning fish – marked v. “wild”, is the run self-sustaining?, etc. If unknown, what would we need to do to determine that (cost, etc.).	Will Roehl	3/7-8/2008	June 2008, or as time allows	*Fish Program	<b>On schedule;</b> briefing at June 6-7, 2008, Commission meeting
Department to evaluate possibility of barbless hook rules for sport fisheries to reduce hook & release impacts on listed species (Columbia River salmonids) and present a briefing to the Commission on findings.	Chuck Perry	3/7-8/2008	Late 2008	* IRM, Fish Program	<b>On schedule;</b>