

MINUTES

WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING

March 6-7, 2009

Quality Inn & Conference Center
1700 Canyon Road
Ellensburg, Washington

ATTENDANCE:

Commission

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Gary Douvia, Vice Chair
Ken Chew
Conrad Mahnken
George Orr

Commission Staff:

Susan Yeager
Nancy Burkhart

Department

Phil Anderson, Interim Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
John Andrews
Dennis Beich
Jeff Tayer
Bruce Bjork
Steve Pozzanghera
Dan Budd
Dave Ware
Donny Martorello
Kevin Robinette
Jerry Nelson
Peggy Crain
Mick Cope
Pat Pattillo
John Long
Bill Frymire, AGO
Madonna Luers
Jim Scott
Heather Bartlett
Bill Tweit
Ted Clausing
Jeff Korth
Other Department staff

Public

Jean Courter
Rod Courter
Toby Brandsrud
Dennis Anderson
Leonard Whitney
William Paul Say
Douglas H. Barrett, SCI
Douglas J. Bowen
Rob Husband
Loren Whitney
Gordon E. Blossom
Jay Kinney
Steve Brulotte
David A. French
Cliff Nopp
Steve Jefferson
Curtis Johnson
Ty Johnson
Elery Johnson
Jim Zielaski
Nancy Onura
Clint Mosebar, WA State Bowhunters
Aaron Cooper, WA State Bowhunters
Lee Davis, Kittitas Co. Field & Stream
Ron Poplawski
Jim Cowgill, WA State Archery Assn.
Del Casper, Evergreen Archers
Ryan Swan
John G. McCoy
Chris Humphries
Doug Bourland, WA State Big Game Council
Leta Davis
Bill Essman, Kittitas co. Field & Stream
Bill Humphries
Jack Humphries
Wanda Clifferd, INWC

Public (continued)

Gary Gohr	Aaron Blanchard
Walt Christensen, WA State Muzzleloaders Assn.	Dick Newell
Bruce Barnes, Mt. St. Helens Rescue	Julie Cox
Mary Ann Newell	Chad Spies
Darcy Spies	Tony Delgado
Al Martz	Danny Bell, SCI / SCFWC
John Magart, NE WA Wildlife Group	Reigan Allen
Craig Cleff	Jethro Allen
Freddie Giannecchini, SCFWC	Larry Guenther, SCFWC
Dale Magart, NE WA Wildlife Group	Rodney Blower
Michael Ollis	Stan Christie
Edward Barnes	B. J. Thorniley, WA for Conservation; WA Trappers
Jim Durand	Greg Scott
Jim Pearson, Central WA SCI	Del Towell, Central WA SCI
John Dick	David Johnson
Anton Cebe	Brett Breckenridge
Doug Schlicting	Kelly White
Ray Crisp	Rick Liebel, WA State Bowhunters
Dale Sharp	Kyle Winton
Wayne Morgon	Ron Humerickhouse
Darrell Yeager	Shane Wilkins
Ray Wilkins	Ernest Roberts
Tim LaFontaine	Bob Harriman, Borderline Bassin Contenders
Ken Gettman	Stewart Egman
Ken Courter	Margarito Guzman
Rita Guzman	Bill Curtindale
Mark Krma	Mary Anderson
Dennis Anderson	Jim Ward
John Rhodes	Bill Madison
Gregg Calder	Rick Wakefield
JoAnn Wakefield	George Rainha
Matt Turner	Stuart A. Turner
Morris Owen	Pat Newsome
John Pignotti	Bob Burdick
Al Rinaldi	Rod Blossom
Dan Nouwens	R. V. Miller
Lee Davis, Kittitas Field & Stream	Doug Burnett
Greg Fischer	Valerie Pennington
Mr. Pennington	Ken Hoff, WWC
Brian Hogan	Jody Hickey, The Nock Point
Asa Louis	Aaron Everett
Alice Harper	Tyler Mays
Bernie Knoll	Darlene Mansford
Ralph Kratz	Buzz Chevara
Ron Price	Jamie Price
David Worgum	Allan Charlton
Dan Gamache	Chuck Girtz, WA State Hound Council
Glenn Ward	Harold Harty
Barbara J. Moeller, Puyallup Tribe of Indians	Buzz Chevara
Sharon W. Rose	Ron Oules
Wayne Worgum	Les Richardson

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken, to approve the minutes of the following:

- **February 20, 2009, Commission Meeting via Conference Call; and**
- **February 27, 2009, Commission Special Meeting via Conference Call.**

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:

Interim Director Anderson reviewed significant Department issues and activities.

OPERATIONS AND BUDGET UPDATE:

Deputy Director Stohr provided an update to the Commission on the Department's budget and operational issues.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

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

- Gary Gibbs (Arlington) – Wiley Slough boat launch dedicated funds
- Aaron Blanchard (Ellensburg) – Colockum elk herd
- Julie Cox (Vancouver) – Hunter education
- Bruce Barnes (Vancouver) – Mt. St. Helen's elk herd
- Stan Christie (Curlew) – Rimrock elk
- Rodney Blower (Duvall) – Archery seasons
- Edward Barnes (Vancouver) – Sea lions
- Jim Pearson (Yakima) – Grazing; lead alternatives; enforcement
- Mary Ann Newell (Vancouver) – Hunting/fishing interests of Commissioners
- Leta Davis (Ellensburg) – Enforcement
- Chris Humphries (Yakima) – Master hunters
- Bill Essman (Ellensburg) – Enforcement
- Walt Christensen (Des Moines) – Hunting

SALMON FORECAST DATA OVERVIEW – BRIEFING:

At the request of the Commission, Pat Pattillo and John Long briefed the Commission on a summary of the 2009 salmon abundance forecast and provided some initial general observations about fishery opportunities and the potential problems that may be presented by expected run size predications.

PROPOSED LAND TRANSACTIONS – DECISION:

Dan Budd presented one proposed land transaction: acquisition of the 423-acre Richner property in Okanogan County for \$2,490,000.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the proposed land transaction during this portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Douvia moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to approve the acquisition of the 423-acre Richner property in Okanogan County for \$2,490,000. The motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL SEASONS AND HUNTING RESTRICTIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Dave Ware briefed the Commission on proposed amendments and proposed new section to the following WAC rules which would generate funding to expand the hunter access program into priority areas of the state:

- WAC 232-28-294, Multiple season permits;
- WAC 232-28-291, Special hunting season permits;
- WAC 232-12-055, Hunting—Hunter orange clothing requirements; and
- WAC 232-12-062, Party hunting.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HUNTERS WITH DISABILITIES AND THE TERMINALLY ILL – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Dave Ware briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to the following WAC rules which would authorize the Department to develop criteria for issuing special-use permits:

- WAC 232-12-840, Hunting and fishing opportunities for terminally ill persons; and
- WAC 232-12-828, Hunting of game birds and animals by persons with a disability.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

HUNTER EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Chief Bruce Bjork briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-12-227, Hunter education training program requirements, which would ensure only eligible hunter education graduates or individuals currently identified as hunting-license buyers may purchase a license. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

SMALL GAME SEASONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Mick Cope briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-342, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 Small game seasons, which would provide hunting opportunities for small game seasons. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

B. J. Thorniley (Republic)
Anton Cebe (Spanaway)

LANDOWNER HUNTING PERMITS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Mick Cope briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-295, Landowner hunting permits, which would help address deer and elk damage problems and provide hunter access to private lands. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

DAMAGE PREVENTION PERMIT HUNTS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Mick Cope briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-266, Damage prevention permit hunts, which would help address turkey damage problems and provide hunter access to private lands. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

TRAPPING SEASONS AND REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Donny Martorello briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-516, Trapping seasons and regulations, and repeal of WAC 232-28-515, Trapping seasons and regulations. These changes would liberalize trapping restrictions and bag limits consistent with reduced harvest resulting from passage of the voter Initiative 713. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individual provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

B. J. Thorniley (Republic)

BIG GAME AND WILD TURKEY AUCTION, RAFFLE, AND SPECIAL INCENTIVE PERMITS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Donny Martorello briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-282, Big game and wild turkey auction, raffle, and special incentive permits, which would establish seasons for all big game auction and raffle hunts and expand the bighorn sheep raffle permit consistent with population status. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

No one signed up to provide oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting.

SPECIAL CLOSURES AND BOUNDARY REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Jerry Nelson briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to the following WAC rules which would provide means to address wildlife damage issues by modifying or creating new deer and elk areas:

WAC 232-28-248, Special closures and firearm restriction areas;

WAC 232-28-333, Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region three;

WAC 232-28-335, Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region five;

WAC 232-28-336, Game management units (GMUs) boundary descriptions—Region six; and

WAC 232-28-337, Deer and elk area descriptions.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Julie Cox (Vancouver)

Dick Newell (Vancouver)

Mary Ann Newell (Vancouver)

Jim Cowgill (Nine Mile Falls)

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

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

Ryan Swan (Leavenworth) - Archery
Wanda Clifferd (Spokane) – Three-point antler rule
Kelly White (Kettle Falls) – Commission responsibilities
Michael Crowder (West Richland) – Crow seasons
Dick Newell (Vancouver) – Archery; muzzleloaders
Julie Cox (Vancouver) – Boundary changes

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Chair Wecker called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m.

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

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

Kelly White (Kettle Falls) – Base proposals on science
Jim Cowgill (Nine Mile Falls) – Archery
George Rainha (Leavenworth) – Archery
Rick Wakefield (Burien) – Budget
Greg Calder (Snohomish) – Archery
Dick Newell (Vancouver) – Archery
Al Rinaldi (Cle Elum) – Archery
Ken Courter (Normandy Park) – Protecting wildlife and habitat
Pat Newsome (Bremerton) – Resource allocation
John Pignotti (Puyallup) – Heritage of hunting
Dr. Robert Burdick (Seattle) – Game Management Plan
Walt Christensen (Des Moines) – Hunting
Tim LaFontaine (Longview) – Elk hunting
Jim Pearson (Yakima) – Thanked Commission
Bill Curtindale (Edgewood) – Resource allocation

NON-TOXIC SHOT REQUIREMENTS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Mick cope briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-12-068, Non-toxic shot requirements, which would expand non-toxic shot requirements to address concerns associated with lead. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Stuart A. Turner (West Richland)
Morris Owen (Dayton)

John Rhodes (Aberdeen)
Mark Krcma (Moses Lake)
Walt Christensen (Des Moines)
Bill Essman (Ellensburg)
Leonard Whitney (Tacoma)
Lee Davis (Ellensburg)

SPRING BLACK BEAR SEASONS AND REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Donny Martorello briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-286, 2010, 2011, and 2012 Spring black bear seasons and regulations. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individual provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Lee Davis (Ellensburg)

MOOSE, BIGHORN SHEEP, AND MOUNTAIN GOAT SEASON AND PERMIT QUOTAS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Donny Martorello briefed the Commission proposed amendments to WAC 232-28-273, Moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat seasons and permit quotas, which would allow hunting through a permit-only system. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Bill Madison (Selah)
Chad Spies (Malaga)

BLACK BEAR AND COUGAR HUNTING REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Donny Martorello briefed the Commission on proposed amendments and a proposed new section to the following WAC rules which would establish 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 seasons:

WAC 232-28-272, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 Black bear and cougar hunting seasons and regulations; and
WAC 232-28-287, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 Cougar permit seasons and regulations.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Morris Owen (Dayton)

Allan Charlton (Ellensburg)
Lee Davis (Ellensburg)
Bill Essman (Ellensburg)
Ernest Roberts (Skamania)
Shane Wilkins (Carson)

HUNTING EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Jerry Nelson briefed the Commission on proposed amendments to the following WAC rules which would amend hunting equipment regulations:

WAC 232-12-051, Muzzleloading firearms;
WAC 232-12-054, Archery requirements—Archery special use permits; and
WAC 232-12-047, Unlawful methods for hunting.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Ray Crisp (Olympia)
John Rhodes (Aberdeen)
Bob Harriman (Bellingham)
Walt Christensen (Des Moines)
Dale Sharp (Renton)
Bill Essman (Ellensburg)

DEER GENERAL SEASONS AND SPECIAL PERMIT REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Jerry Nelson briefed the Commission on proposed rule amendments that would make minor adjustments to deer and elk general seasons to address emergent issues and fine-tune hunts designed to alleviate agricultural damage:

WAC 232-28-351, 2009-2011 Deer general seasons and definitions; and
WAC 232-28-353, 2009 Deer special permits.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

George Rainha (Leavenworth)	Dick Newell (Vancouver)
Gregg Calder (Snohomish)	Rick Liebel (Normandy Park)
Kyle Winton (Olympia)	Ray Crisp (Olympia)
Rick Wakefield (Burien)	Mary Anderson (Buckley)
Jo Ann Wakefield (Burien)	Danny M. Bell (Colville)
Matt Turner (Puyallup)	Rod Courter (Burien)
Robert E. Burdick (Seattle)	Rito Guzman (Snohomish)
John Rhodes (Aberdeen)	David Worgum (LaConner)

Mark Krcma (Moses Lake)
Bob Harriman (Bellingham)
Bill Essman (Ellensburg)
Ken Hoff (Colbert)
Larry Guenther (Nine Mile Falls)
Al Martz (Valley)
John Magart (Valley)
Ken Courter (Normandy Park)
Joe and Noah Kiefer (Chewelah)
Kelly White (Kettle Falls)
Pat Newsome (Bremerton)
Lee Davis (Ellensburg)

Ken Gettman (Kent)
Dale Sharp (Renton)
Aaron Blanchard (Ellensburg)
Tony Delgado (Loon Lake)
Dale Magart (Deer Park)
Jethro Allen (Usk)
Freddie Giannecchini (Chewelah)
Jody Hickey (Marysville)
Ron Oules (Brewster)
Ralph Kratz (Ellensburg)
Jay Kinney (Bainbridge Island)

ELK GENERAL SEASONS AND SPECIAL PERMIT REGULATIONS – RULE BRIEFING AND PUBLIC HEARING:

Jerry Nelson briefed the Commission on proposed rule amendments to the following WAC rules which would make minor adjustments to deer and elk general seasons to address emergent issues and fine-tune hunts designed to alleviate agricultural damage:

WAC 232-28-352, 2009-2011 Elk general seasons and definitions; and
WAC 232-28-354, 2009 Elk special permits.

The Commission will consider adoption of permanent rules at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia.

The following individuals provided oral testimony on the above proposed rule amendments during this portion of the meeting:

Ray Crisp (Olympia)	Stewart Egman (Lakewood)
Dale Sharp (Renton)	Wayne Worgum (Yakima)
Aaron Blanchard (Ellensburg)	Chad Spies (Malaga)
Glen Ward (Loon Lake)	Lesley Richardson (Tacoma)
Bernie Knoll (Ellensburg)	Jim Ziclaske (Arlington)
Aaron Everett (Sultan)	Doug Bourland (Kent)
Barbara J. Moeller (Tacoma)	

OPEN PUBLIC INPUT:

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

Chuck Girtz (Sumner) – Coyote and mountain lion hunting
Buzz Chevara (Ellensburg) – Deer populations
B. J. Thorniley (Republic) – GMU 101
Douglas H. Barrett (Naches) – Hunting
Barbara Moeller (Tacoma) – Tribal hunting

MISCELLANEOUS AND MEETING DEBRIEF:

1. **Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Douvia, to request the Department work with Commissioner Mahnken to draft a Commission Policy on Hatchery Reform. Department is to brief Commission at its May 8-9, 2009, meeting in Olympia on implementation of HSRG recommendations and long-term hatchery strategies linked with selective fisheries. The motion carried unanimously.**
2. **Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to request the Department brief the Commission at its June 5-6, 2009, meeting in Olympia on Puget Sound rockfish status and recovery plans, including population status, stock structure, trends, ESA status, life history characteristics, monitoring, cause(s) for decline, impact of listing on fisheries for other species, and research needs. The motion carried unanimously.**
3. **Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia on the economic importance of shellfish aquaculture in Washington state, including the Department's authority and responsibilities.**
 - **Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to amend the motion to include canary and yelloweye rockfish, Pacific ocean perch, and lingcod aquaculture. The motion to amend the motion carried unanimously.**
The motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

At the suggestion of Interim Director Anderson, the briefing to the Commission will be limited to shellfish and geoduck aquaculture.

4. **Commissioner Wecker moved, seconded by Commission Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission by December 31, 2009, on the current citizen advisory groups for effectiveness/relevance, including citizen members' satisfaction with the process, number of meetings, fiscal impacts, etc. The motion carried unanimously.**
5. **Commissioner Chew moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission at its June 5-6, 2009, meeting in Olympia or its July 10-11, 2009, meeting in Olympia on the current status and future plans for the pheasant release program, recognizing budget constraints that could impact this historic and popular small game hunting program. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

nb

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

Nancy Burkhart

**MEMOS AND AUTHORITIES FROM THE MARCH 6-7, 2009,
FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING, OLYMPIA**

- Approval of Minutes - Motion by Douvia, second by Mahnken, to approve the minutes of the following:
- February 20, 2009, Commission Meeting via Conference Call; and
 - February 27, 2009, Commission Special Meeting via Conference Call.
- The motion carried unanimously.**

- Land Transactions - Motion by Douvia, second by Orr, to approve the acquisition of the 423-acre Richner property in Okanogan county for \$2,490,000. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- Commission Requests to the Department - Motion by Mahnken, second by Douvia, to request the Department work with Commissioner Mahnken to draft a Commission Policy on Hatchery Reform. Department is to brief Commission at its May 8-9, 2009, meeting in Olympia on implementation of HSRG recommendations and long-term hatchery strategies linked with selective fisheries. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- Motion by Mahnken, second by Orr, to request the Department brief the Commission at its June 5-6, 2009, meeting in Olympia on Puget Sound rockfish status and recovery plans, including population status, stock structure, trends, ESA status, life history characteristics, monitoring, cause(s) for decline, impact of listing on fisheries for other species, and research needs. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- Motion by Wecker, second by Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission at its April 3-4, 2009, meeting in Olympia on the economic importance of shellfish aquaculture in Washington state, including the Department's authority and responsibilities.

- Commissioner Mahnken moved, seconded by Commissioner Orr, to amend the motion to include canary and yelloweye rockfish, Pacific ocean perch, and lingcod aquaculture. **The motion to amend the motion carried unanimously.**

The motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

At the suggestion of Interim Director Anderson, the briefing to the Commission will be limited to shellfish and geoduck aquaculture.

- Motion by Wecker, second by Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission by December 31, 2009, on the current citizen advisory groups for effectiveness/relevance, including citizen members' satisfaction with the process, number of meetings, fiscal impacts, etc. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Commission Requests to the Department (continued) - Motion by Chew, second by Mahnken, to request the Department brief the Commission at its June 5-6, 2009, meeting in Olympia or its July 10-11, 2009, meeting in Olympia on the current status and future plans for the pheasant release program, recognizing budget constraints that could impact this historic and popular small game hunting program. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioners in Attendance:

Miranda Wecker, Chair
Gary Douvia, Vice Chair
Ken Chew
Conrad Mahnken
George Orr