

“GREEN SHEET”

10/23/2009

Meeting dates: November 6-7, 2009, Commission Meeting

Agenda item #13: 2010 Commission Meeting Calendar – Decision

Staff Contact: Susan Yeager, Commission Executive Assistant

Presenter(s): Miranda Wecker, Commission Chair

Background:

The Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) is required to “...hold at least one regular meeting during the first two months of each calendar quarter...”(RCW 77.04.060), and to file with the code reviser its schedule of regular meetings on or before January of each year.

Commission deliberations and actions are conducted in open public meetings, which provide stakeholders with the means of expressing their views directly to the full Commission. Although state law requires just four meetings per year, at least twice that many are needed for accomplishing thorough, transparent, and timely decision-making that includes consideration of viewpoints from a wide variety of stakeholders.

At its September 11-12, 2009, meeting, the Commission discussed potential dates and locations for the 2010 regular meeting calendar. Ideas included scheduling fewer regular meetings than last year and selecting some locations outside of Olympia to increase public access. Most of the Commission’s 2009 meetings took place in Olympia due to statewide restrictions on travel.

After the September meeting, date preferences were adjusted to increase planning time between meetings and avoid dates that conflict with Director Anderson’s duties as a voting member of the [Pacific Fisheries Management Council](#). The updated preferred dates and locations list is included with the meeting materials for this agenda item.

On October 15, 2009, the updated list was distributed to the Department’s program and division leaders with instructions on providing feedback. The responses will be compiled into a supplemental packet and presented during the November 6-7, 2009, Commission meeting.

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

The Commission may consider scheduling some of its 2010 meetings outside the Olympia area to allow easier access to the Commission and increase citizen participation in its decision making processes.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

The Commission held a public hearing on potential 2010 meetings dates and locations during its September 11-12, 2009, meeting in Olympia. No one signed up to testify on the topic.

Action requested:

Continued discussion by Commission and Department staff on preferred dates and locations, followed by Commission adoption of a final 2010 Commission meeting calendar.

Draft motion language:

"I move to adopt the 2010 Commission meeting calendar as presented."

Justification for Commission action:

RCW 77.04.060 Commission – Meetings – Officer – Compensation, travel expenses; and RCW 42.30.075 Schedule of regular meetings – Publication in state register – Notice of change – "Regular" meetings defined.

Communications Plan:

Following adoption, the 2010 Commission meeting calendar will be filed with the Office of the Code Reviser for publication in the Washington State Register.

The list will also be posted on the Internet at the Commission's meeting calendar webpage, <http://wdfw.wa.gov/com/meetings.html>, and published in future agendas for distribution to individuals who have requested Commission notices; as well as to Department staff, the media, other state agencies and legislative contacts.
