

**“GREEN SHEET”**


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<b>Meeting:</b>	January 7-8, 2011, Commission Meeting
<b>Agenda Item :</b>	Hunter Education/Turn In A Poacher Trailer, and Turn In A Poacher Program Update – Briefing
<b>Staff Contacts:</b>	Mike P. Kuttel, Management Analyst, Enforcement Program Steve Crown, Lieutenant, Enforcement Program
<b>Presenter(s):</b>	Bruce Bjork, Chief, Enforcement Program Mike P. Kuttel, Management Analyst, Enforcement Program

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**Background:** The purpose of this agenda item is to brief the Fish and Wildlife Commission and the public about the Department’s new Hunter Education/Turn In A Poacher (HE/TIP) trailer, and to provide an update about recent improvements to the Turn In A Poacher (TIP) program.

The WDFW HE/TIP trailer is unique in that it will promote Hunter Education and recruitment of the next generation of hunters needed to continue the heritage of hunting in Washington State. Washington joins many other state natural resource agencies in the effective use of “Help Stop Poaching” trailers to engage the hunting and general public in direct protection of their natural resources. The trailer was purchased by the Enforcement Program during FY2010 with dedicated funding. During the last several months, the internal display of the HE/TIP trailer has been designed and the first rendition has been completed and features a variety of illegally taken game animals, protected wildlife, fish, and shellfish; related pictures; and associated case history information as well as many Hunter Education themes. The trailer will be pulled to venues by a truck confiscated from a poacher.

A number of upgrades have occurred in the TIP program, including: new enforcement-focused phone trees for WILDCOMM and the toll free TIP line; new TIP web pages, including improved online reporting; dedicated TIP e-mail; TIP411 text messaging; and TIP “business cards” depicting all reporting tools. A priority has been placed on the use of 911 to report poaching in progress and emergency dangerous wildlife incidents. TIP information will be consolidated in regulation pamphlets beginning in 2011. An extensive FAQ is also under development to assist WDFW customer service staff in answering some of the public’s most difficult questions. When completed, the FAQ will be posted on the Internet to reduce phone inquiries from the public.

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**Policy issues:** N/A

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**Public involvement process and outcome:**

The Eyes In The Woods Association provided input for the design of the HE/TIP trailer. A WDFW cross-program advisory committee was used to develop the final external artwork and messages.

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**Action requested:** None at this time; briefing only.

Both the HE/TIP trailer and truck will be parked in the circular parking area just outside the NRB foyer before and during the Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. Fish and Wildlife Commission members and the public are welcome to tour the trailer and displays during breaks.

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**Draft motion language:** N/A

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**Justification for Commission Action:** N/A

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**Communications Plan:**

Both the HE/TIP trailer and truck will be a primary community policing and enforcement outreach tool used by Fish and Wildlife Officers in concert with other agency staff and volunteers throughout the state at county fairs, sportsman shows, outdoor events, outdoor businesses, community parades, and other venues, in order to facilitate increased awareness and reporting about resource violations.

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