



**Minutes**  
**Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting**  
 December 11-12, 2015

**December 11-12, 2015 Regular Meeting**

**Commission:**

Brad Smith, Chair  
 Larry Carpenter, Vice Chair  
 Miranda Wecker  
 Connie Mahnken  
 Jay Holzmilller  
 Dave Graybill  
 Kim Thorburn  
 Jay Kehne  
 Bob Kehoe

**Commission Staff:**

Tami Liningier

**Attendance**

**Department Staff:**

Jim Unsworth, Director  
 Joe Stohr, Deputy Director  
 William Frymire, AGO  
 Nate Pamplin  
 Steve Thiesfeld  
 Craig Burley  
 Annette Hoffman  
 Chris Donley  
 Michele Culver  
 Dan Ayres

Dayv Lowry  
 Rich Childers  
 Mike Cenci  
 Donny Martorello

**Guest:**

Dan Tonnes, NMFS  
 Francine Madden  
 Representative, Hans  
 Dunshee

**Public:**

Jerry Kabelac	Donna Kabelac	Dennis O'Hara	Richard Kincaid
Dorothy Reinhardt	Robert Overly	Norm Reinhardt	Gene King
Nick Chambers	Ward Norden	Steve Tucker	Ron Garner
Ken Kumasawa	Jerry Johnson	Brian Mackey	Don Dybeck
David Johnson	John McMillan	Mike Carna	Tristan Baurick
Tom Naones	Jerome Twogood	Raymond Ramirez	Laurence Bucklin
Doug Rogers	Michael Carter	Ken Rathburn	Chuck Gauthier
Linda Owens	Gregg Kanyer	Gary Smith	Sam Brenkman
Andy Fish	JD Love	Dave Steinbaugh	John Vanderale
Aaron Barnett	Ken Townsend	Phil Kennedy	Brian Halin
R Pabst	Mike Boucher	BJ Jones	Dick Burger
Tom Nelson	Donna Hafner	Arvilla Ohlde	Robert Hough
Louie Morton	Phyllis Kanyer	Mike Noren	Ron Shuts
Der Roupe	Judy Roupe	Glen Jurges	William Anderson
Bill Mars	Carol Hafner	Dave Croonquist	Karl Pohlod
Sherry Anderson	Walt Blendermann	Ryan Melvin	Chris Wichers
Brian Melvin	Dave Wichers	Joe Verdoes	Troy McKelvey III
David Reebe	Karl Brackmann	Brian Allban	Ron Hayes
Dave Allard	Ray Frederick	Art Bruner	John Gillespie
Tom Wehnert	Oscar Hyman	Laurie Kincaid	BD Ackley
Jeff Nickelson	Thom Johnson	Diane Gallegos	Wendy Spencer

**Friday, December 11, 2105**

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**1. Call to Order**

**a. Commissioners' Discussion:**

No discussion

**b. Meeting Minute Approval**

December 4, 2015 – conference call

**Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Wecker to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2015 conference call as presented. Motion passed.**

**2. Open Public Input**

The following people provided input on various topics:

Chris Wichers – crab policy	Ryan Melvin – crab policy
Ward Norden – bottom fishery	Joe Verdoes – shrimp
Ron Garner – halibut	Dave Croonquist – thanks & kids fishing day
Brian Mackey – crab policy	Don Dybeck – salmon & halibut seasons
Ron Hayes – halibut safety	Brian Haling – halibut & crab
Dave Steinbaugh – sportfishing rules	John McMillan – steelhead rules

**3. Director's Report**

The Director provided an update on various issues:

- Wild Future Initiative
- Wolves
- Grizzly Bears
- Steelhead, HGMPs, Wild Steelhead Gene Banks – Kelly Cunningham

**4. 2016/17 Sportfishing Regulation Proposals - Decision**

Department staff requested approval 2016-17 Sportfishing rules and regulations.

**Commissioner Wecker made the main motion, seconded by Commissioner Holzmilller to adopt the proposed rules as presented. Commissioner Carpenter moved to amend the rule package by deleting staff proposal #34 relating to North Fork Nooksack River (Whatcom Co.), Commissioner Wecker seconded the motion, and it passed by vote. The main motion, as amended, then passed unanimously. Commissioner Mahnken stated that the public needs to remember that the lakes belong to the people of the state and not the property owners. Commissioner Wecker shared her concerns regarding the Olympic Steelhead rules.**

**5. Puget Sound Rockfish Conservation Action Update – Briefing**

Dayv Lowry, Research Scientist and Dan Tonnes, NMFS briefed the Commission on WDFW's active role in research and monitoring the recovery of rockfish within Puget Sound in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service for the preparation of a rockfish recovery plan.

**6. Transaction Fee WAC – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision**

Deputy Director Stohr briefed the Commission and requested approval for amendments to WAC 220-55-180, relating to point-of-sale transaction fees as provided in RCW 77.32.050. No one signed up to provide testimony.

**Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Wecker to approve the proposed amendments to WAC 220-55-180. Motion passed.**

**7. Shellfish Enforcement from Harvest Grounds to the Illicit Market Place – Briefing**

Deputy Chief Cenci briefed the Commission on the Enforcement Program's responsibilities and challenges associated with shellfish enforcement, with a focus on bi-valve species.

**8. Point No Point Status Update – Briefing and Public Input**

Michele Culver, Regional Director and Tim Burns, Assistant Director briefed the Commission on the status of the Department's proposed boat launch at Point No Point.

The following people provided public input:

Jerry Johnson	Laurence Bucklin
Thom Johnson	Michael Carter
Charles Gauthier	Gregg Kanyer
Ron Hayes	Judy Roupe
Ray Frederick	Glen Jurges
Arvilla Ohlde	Robert Overby
Norm Reinhardt	

**9. 2015 Major West Coast Harmful Algal Bloom - Briefing**

Dan Ayres, Coastal Shellfish Manager briefed the Commission on the impacts to commercial and recreational fisheries and emerging information about possible causes of this year's harmful algal bloom.

**10. Commission Tour – Western Flyer at the Port Townsend Shipwrights coop**

The Commissioners toured the restoration project underway on the historic Western Flyer.

Chair Smith recessed the meeting immediately following the tour.

**Saturday, December 12, 2015**

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:26 a.m.

**11. Open Public Input**

No one signed up to provide public comments.

Note: Item #13 was heard before Item #12.

**13. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief**

The following items were discussed:

**12. Meeting with Francine Madden – Briefing**

The Commission was briefed on recent meetings of the Wolf Advisory Group and heard an overview of wildlife conflict transformation.

Representative Hans Dunshee spoke in support of the work the Wolf Advisory Group is doing.

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

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Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant