Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
November 7-8, 2014
Natural Resource Building – 1111 Washington Street SE Olympia WA 98501
First Floor Room 172

November 7-8, 2014 Regular Meeting

Commission:
Miranda Wecker, Chair
Brad Smith, Vice Chair
Conrad Mahnken
Jay Kehne
Jay Holzmiller
Bob Kehoe

Commission Staff:
Tami Lininger

Attendance
Department Staff:
Phil Anderson, Director
Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
William Frymire, AGO
Nate Pamplin
Julie Sandberg
Clay Sprague
Jeff Burnham

Jeff Davis

Randi Thurston

Public:
Dennis Karras
Melissa McFadden
Dr. Steven Herman
Rob Kavanaugh
Shawn Yanity
Patty Carter
Bruce Beatty
Dave Hamilton
Dave Knutzen
Dale Scott
Art Holman
Marlisa Williams
Dugan

Marissa Karras
Loretta Swanson
Rosendo Guerrero
Cindy Alia
Gino Alia
Georgia Prossick
Shawn Cantrell
Tim Hamilton
Bob Lake
Ray Gilbertson
Francis Estalilla
Scott Sigmon

James Franklin
Ann Weckback
William Willette
Harley Edwards
Dennis Gregory
Karen Terwilleger
Ron Schweitzer
Ross Barkhurst
James Caron
Chad Herring

Bruce McCloskey
Linda Saunders
Ed Levesque
Bill Hebner
Doug Couvelter
Bill Thomas
Gary Johnson
Brian Kramer
Mike Scharpf
Joe Koski
Heath Heikkila

Friday, November 7, 2014

Chair Wecker called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

1. Call to Order
   a. Commissioners’ Discussion:
      • Commissioner Smith – ADA Committee Meeting
      • Commissioner Kehne – Science Panel on wolves and the Range Rider Rendezvous

   b. Meeting Minute Approval
      • October 17, 2014 – conference call
Commissioner Smith moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahnken to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2014 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

2. Open Public Input
The following people provided input on various topics:
William Willette – HPA Rules Rob Kavanaugh – Grazing
Cindy Alia – HPA Rules Georgia Prossick – Clarks Creek Restoration
Patty Carter – Puyallup Hatchery Robert Cunningham – HPA Rules
William Thomas – HPA Rules Bruce Beatty – HPA Rules
James Franklin – HPA Rules Melissa McFadden – HPA Rules

3. Director’s Report
The Director and Deputy Director briefed the Commission on the following items:
• Pacific Salmon Commission
• Commercial License Fees
• Puget Sound Nearshore Ecological System Restoration
• Tribal Hunting
• Catch Accounting – Puget Sound
• Skagit Valley Elk
• Wolf Management Update
  o Outreach Meetings
  o Science Panel at UW
  o WAG Recruitment
  o Range Rider Rendezvous
• Forest Protection Association Meeting
• Upcoming Meetings
  o PFMC
  o Tribal re: Coastal Crab
  o United Catcher Boats (Whiting)
  o Legislative
  o Bonneville Power
  o Asotin County Lands Committee

4. Proposed Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision
The Commission considered approval of two land transactions recommended by Julie Sandberg for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat, enhancement of public recreation opportunities. Chairman, Shawn Yanity of the Stillagamish Tribe provided comments on the Fortson Pond transaction.

No one signed up to provide testimony:

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the land transactions as presented and it was seconded by Commissioner Kehoe. All in favor - motion passed
**5. Grazing Program Update – Briefing**
Clay Sprague, Lands Division Manager and Jeff Burnham, Range Ecologist briefed the Commission on the department’s grazing program and the results of a recent study conducted by Washington State University regarding grazing on department lands.

**6. Coastal Commercial Dungeness Crab Rules – Briefing**
Heather Reed, Coastal Marine Policy Coordinator and Mike Cenci, Deputy Chief, Enforcement briefed the Commission on revisions to coastal commercial Dungeness crab rules that are needed to improve the intent and enforceability of rules for issuing replacement buoy tags and submitting coastal Dungeness crab logbooks. New provisions are needed to implement gear retrieval requirements to improve enforceability and minimize derelict crab gear. Changes to the pre-season gear set period were also proposed based on recommendations from the Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee.

**7. HPA Rules Update - Briefing and Decision**
Jeff Davis, Assistant Director and Randi Thurston, Protection Division Manager, Habitat Program provided a briefing on the recommended adjustments to the CR-102 rules and requested repeal of Chapter 220-110 WAC and adoption of Chapter 220-660 WAC.

*Commissioner Smith moved to repel Chapter 220-110 WAC and adopt Chapter 220-660 WAC as proposed with proposed changes. The department will implement adaptive management of the HPA Program to assess the success of the rule changes and make adjustments that will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the program; seconded by Commissioner Mahnken. Motion passed 5 to 1.*

**8. Director Recruitment Discussion – Briefing and Public Hearing**
Commissioners discussed the Director’s recruitment announcement and the timeline.

The following person signed up to provide public input on this topic:
Shawn Cantrell – Defenders of Wildlife

**9. Executive Session**
Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), the Commission met in executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. No action was taken in executive session.

Chair Wecker recessed the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

**Saturday, November 8, 2014**

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

**10. Open Public Input**
The following people signed up to provide public input on various items:
Bob Mulhauser – Seven gill shark
Bob Lake – Hatchery surpluses
11. Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy – Briefing and Public Hearing
Steve Thiesfeld, Region 6 Fish Program Manager briefed the Commission on Willapa Bay Salmon Management challenges, described the public process, and asked for guidance on draft policy sideboards. The Fish Committee Chair provided the following input after the public input was received.

1. Prioritize Chinook for the recreational fishers and coho and chum for the commercial fishers.
2. Separate fisheries focusing commercial in the south and recreational fisheries in the north
3. Reverse existing NOS primary stream designations to: Chinook in the Willapa River and Chum/Coho in the Naselle River.
4. In south Willapa Bay, increase chum production through use of RSIs, egg boxes, and sea ranching approaches including those used in Alaska and Japan
5. Fish Committee to meet with Department staff to discuss the range of options presented to the advisors prior to meeting with constituents.

The following people signed up to provide public input:
Dave Hamilton    Gary Johnson    Tim Hamilton
Art Holman        Brian Kraemer    Bob Lake
Francis Estalilla Marlisa Dugan  Ross Barkhurst

12. Open Public Meeting Act - Briefing
Bill Frymire, Assistant Attorney General provided training on open public meeting requirements.

13. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief
- The full commission will interview and make decisions on the Director’s recruitment.
- The Director reminded the Commissioners that any work requests to staff should come through him.

Chair Wecker adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant