**Attendance**

**WA Commission:**
- Larry Carpenter, Chair
- Barbara Baker, Vice-chair
- Dave Graybill
- Don McIsaac
- Bob Kehoe
- Brad Smith
- Kim Thorburn
- Jay Holzmiller

**WA Department Staff:**
- Kelly Susewind, Director
- Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
- William Frymire, AGO
- Nate Pamplin
- Ron Warren
- Eric Gardner
- Donny Martorello
- Anis Aoude
- Kyle Spragens
- Ciera Strickland
- Brock Hoenes
- Rich Harris
- Craig Burley
- Ben Maketzje
- Dan Brinson
- Stephanie Simek
- Kirt Hughes
- Mike Scharpf

**Commission Staff:**
- Tami Lininger

**Public:**
- Denis DeSilvis
- Dale Sharp
- Diane Gallegos
- Don Jenkins
- Faye Peebles
- Steve Curtis
- Sophia Ressler
- Shawn Doyle
- Joe Durham
- Harold Brunstad
- Eric Johnson
- Steve Gacke
- Randy Good
- Joe Kozki
- Marcie Mullen
- Charlene Robinson
- Lisa Olsen
- Steve Shanewise
- Bruce Vandervort
- Martha Jordan
- Nick Babich
- Brad Wood
- June Dorning
- Scott Brown
- Kim McDonald
- Ron Schweitzer
- Andy Mitby
- Marlsa Williams Dugan
- Michael Brondi
- Jim Sutton
- Art Holman
- Christi Lipscomb
- Aileen Good
- Robert Katzer
- Brian Lipscomb
- Marc Bush
- Bill Hebner
- Dave Duncan
- Bryan Benkman
- Laurie Arnon
- Bill Bourgeois
- Nancy Brown
- Al Comstock
- Bob Lake
- Lance Gray
- CJ Campbell
- Eddie Hills
- Greg King
- Tim Hamilton
- Janice Schmidt
- Ryan Gray
- Norm Reinhardt
- John Jonasson
- Chris Donley
- Raquel Crosier
- Pat Chapman
- Teresa Scott
- Randi Thurston
- Kelly Cunningham
- Chief Bear
- Rebecca Bennett
- Greg Haw
- Mick Cope
- Julie Sandberg
- Sergeant Erik Olson
- Carrie McCausland
- Craig Bartlett
- Edward Eleazer
- Justin Spinelli
- Chad Herring
- Chris Donley

- Denis DeSilvis
- Bruce Vandervort
- Bill Hebner
- Chris Donley
- Sarah Ryan
- Bill Richardson
- Heather Hilf
- Karen Kautz
- Steve Jones
- Fred Muscato
- Val Mullen
- Greg McMillan
- GW “Bill” Osborn
- Ron Wesen
- Bill Schmidt
- Ross Barkhurst
- George Vojkovich
- Morris Robinson
- Francis Estalilla
- Teresa Jonasson
Thursday, April 4, 2019

**Big Tent Committee meeting** – Commissioners Thorburn, Smith, Baker, Graybill
Location: Director’s Conference Room (537)
Agenda topics
- Public Affairs update – Carrie McCausland
- Strategic Planning update – Rob Geddis

**Fish Committee meeting** – Commissioners Carpenter, Kehoe, McIsaac, Graybill
Location: Room 175 A & B – first floor near the cafeteria
Agenda topics
- Willapa Bay
- Puget Sound Crab and Shrimp Update

Friday, April 5, 2019

**Wildlife Committee meeting** - Commissioners Thorburn, Baker, Holzmiller
Location: Room 175 A & B – first floor near the cafeteria
Agenda topics
- Hunt recommendation update
- Hunting contests

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

1. **Call to Order**
   a. **Commissioners’ Discussion**
      The Commissioners discussed the following items:

      Commissioner Thorburn talked about waterfowl counts.

   b. **Meeting Minute Approval**
      The Commission considered approval of the minutes of the March 15, 2019 meeting.

    Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2019 conference call as presented. Motion passed.

c. **Committee Reports**
   Commissioner Thorburn reported out on the Wildlife Committee topics.

   Chair Carpenter announced that Commissioner Baker is now the Chair of the Big Tent Committee. Commissioner Baker reported that the committee topics were:
   - Introduction of Carrie McCausland, Public Affairs Manager
   - NPR public service announcements
   - WDFW 25th Anniversary
   - Strategic Planning

   Chair Carpenter reported that the Fish Committee topics included an update on Puget Sound Crab and Shrimp and Willapa Bay.
Chair McIsaac reported the results of the Joint-State Columbia River Policy Review Committee meeting of March 14, 2019, the summary of which is found under this agenda item’s meeting materials.

2. **Open Public Input**
The following people provided input on various topics:
Denis Desilvis – marketing  Bruce Vandervort – trapping laws
Jesse Pecor – Skagit elk  Dale Sharp – arrow weight
Martha Jordan – swan update  Dave Duncan – predators
Sarah Ryan – predators  Nick Babich – NOF/chum
Bryan Benkman – NOF/chum

3. **Director’s Report**
The Director provided an overview and highlighted the following topics:
Congressional trip
Website redesign
Hunt of a lifetime
Buttons the elk
North of Falcon
WDFW legislative and budget update

4. **Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision**
Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager, Mike Livingston, Region 3 Director briefed the Commission and requested approval on land transactions recommended by the Department for the protection of critical fish and wildlife habitat and for the enhancement of public recreation opportunities.

Bill Richardson, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation provided input in support of the Cowiche transaction.

**Commissioner Baker moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to approve the land transactions as presented. Motion passed.**

5. **Cougar Update**
The Director provided an update on the existing cougar management policy and provided an analysis of options for addressing potential change to cougar management. Implementation of cougar control for safety reasons will be adjusted to allow the interpretation of threats to citizens to error on the side of safety to citizens, and the statewide approach to cougar management will be opened over the course of 2019 to allow for a decision by the Commission in early 2020 about whether to maintain the status quo or to adjust the status quo, in an open and transparent process with full public input to the Commission decision.

6. **Small Game – Decision**
Anis Aoude, Game Division Manager requested approval from the Commission on proposed dates, bag limits, and other rules for small game.

**Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WACs 220-416-110, 220-430-010, 220-450-010, and 220-417-030 as presented. The motion passed.**
7. **Migratory Waterfowl Seasons and Regulations – Decision**

Kyle Spragens, Waterfowl Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-416-060 and 220-413-090 as presented. The motion passed.

8. **Landowner Hunting Permits – Decision**

Ciera Strickland, Private Lands Access Program Manager requested approval from the Commission on landowner hunting permits.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-412-100 as presented. The motion passed.

9. **Hunter Orange – Decision**

Anis Aoude, Game Division Manager requested approval from the Commission on hunter orange requirements.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-414-080 as presented. Motion passed.

10. **Deer General Seasons and Special Permits – Decision**

Brock Hoenes, Deer and Elk Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on deer general seasons and special permits.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WACs 220-413-030, 220-415-020, and 220-415-030 as presented. Motion passed.

11. **Hunting Boundaries and Equipment – Decision**

Brock Hoenes, Deer and Elk Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on hunting boundaries and equipment.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WACs 220-415-040, 220-410-040, 220-410-060, 220-413-180, and 220-414-070 as presented. Motion passed.

12. **Reducing the Spread of Hoof Disease – Decision**

Brock Hoenes, Deer and Elk Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on elk game management unit changes.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-413-200 as presented. Motion passed.

13. **Elk General Seasons and Special Permits – Decision**

Brock Hoenes, Deer and Elk Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on elk general seasons and special permits.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WACs 220-415-050 and 220-415-060 as presented. Motion passed.
14. **Bighorn Sheep Seasons and Auction, Raffle, and Special Permits - Decision**
Richard Harris, Ph.D., Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on bighorn sheep seasons and on new auction, raffle, and special permit opportunities.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WACs 220-412-070 and 220-415-120 as presented. Motion passed.

15. **Mountain Goat Seasons – Decision**
Richard Harris, Ph.D., Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on mountain goat seasons.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-415-130 as presented. Motion passed.

16. **Moose Seasons – Decision**
Richard Harris, Ph.D., Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, and Moose Section Manager requested approval from the Commission on moose seasons.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt WAC 220-415-070 as presented. Motion passed.

17. **Annual Wolf Report - Briefing**
Donny Martorello, Wolf Policy Lead, Benjamin Maletzke, Ph. D, Statewide Wolf Specialist and Dan Brinson, Conflict Section Manager, Wildlife Program provided the annual wolf update.

18. **Requirements for Testing Commercial Fishing Gear – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision**
Sergeant Erik Olson briefed the Commission and requested approval on changes needed to amend rules to clarify the requirements for testing commercial fishing gear.

No one provided input.

Commissioner Kehoe moved, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt the amended rule as presented. Motion passed.

19. **Abalone Status Review and Preliminary Listing – Briefing and Public Hearing**
Hank Carson, Fish and Wildlife Research Scientist and Chris Eardley, Puget Sound Policy Coordinator summarized the public comment received during the review period and peer review of the preliminary status review document.

The following person provided testimony:
Sophia Ressler

20. **Pass Lake Sport Fishing Rules – Briefing and Public Hearing**
Edward Eleazer, Region 4 Fish Program Manager and Justin Spinelli, Fish and Wildlife Biologist briefed the Commission on proposals to allow harvest of all game fish except trout at Pass Lake in Skagit County.

No one provided testimony.

**HPA Suction Dredging – Briefing and Public Hearing**
Randi Thurston, Protection Division Manager, Pat Chapman, Regulatory Services Coordinator and Teresa Scott, Special Projects Coordinator, Habitat Program briefed the Commission on the proposed amendments to the hydraulic code rules for suction dredging.

The following people provided testimony:

Scott Brown          Steve Jones          Billy Bourgeois          Kim McDonald

Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 4:17.

**Saturday, April 5, 2019**

Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

21. **Future Meeting Planning**
   This item was postponed until an upcoming conference call.

22. **Open Public Input**
The following people provided input on various topics:

Ross Barkhurst – ecosystems    Marlisa Williams Dugan – sturgeon, herring, performance
Tim Hamilton – WBERT          Bob Lake – primary river
Ron Wesen – Skagit elk         George Vojkovich – Skagit elk
Eric Johnson – Skagit elk      Michael Brondi – Skagit elk
Eddie Hills – Skagit elk       Morris Robinson – Skagit elk
Brian Lipscomb – Skagit elk    Randy Good – Skagit elk
Cal Mullen – Skagit elk        Bill Schmidt – Skagit elk
Joe Durham – Wynoochee mitigation

23. **Willapa Bay Salmon Management Policy C-3622 – Briefing, Public Comment and Policy Direction**
Chad Herring, South Coast Fishery Policy Analyst and Kirt Hughes, Statewide Salmon and Steelhead Manager briefed the Commission on progress of the comprehensive review for the Willapa Bay Basin Salmon Management Policy C-3622, and provided options for Commission direction for fishery planning.

The following people provided comments:

Lance Gray          Greg McMillan          Steve Gacke          Ryan Gray
Francis Estalilla  Lisa Olsen            Tim Hamilton          Bob Lake
Joe Durham          Ross Barkhurst        Art Holman            Marlisa Dugan
Norm Reinhardt      Andy Mitby            Greg King


Commissioner Graybill made a motion seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to adopt Option C that was presented by staff, which essentially continues the guidance from 2018, particularly regarding the aggregate impact cap of 20% on natural origin fall chinook.

Commissioner Kehoe made a motion seconded by Commissioner McIsaac to amend the original motion to suspend the Fishery Management #6 in the Willapa Bay Policy. This amendment passed.

Item #6 of the Fall Chinook Salmon Species-specific guidance section on page 6 reads: Fishery Management After 2018. Fisheries in the Willapa Bay Basin will be managed with the goal of:

a. Limiting the fishery impact rate on Willapa and Naselle river natural-origin fall Chinook salmon to no more than 14%.
b. No commercial fisheries shall occur within areas 2T and 2U prior to September 16.
c. No commercial Chinook fisheries shall occur in areas 2M, 2N, 2P and 2R until after September 7.

Commissioner McIsaac made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kehoe to amend the original motion to allow the staff the flexibility to determine the bag limits for Chinook and Coho in the recreational fishery. This amendment passed.

The main motion then passed as amended.

Further, guidance was provided towards the goal of completing the comprehensive review and analysis of possible alternatives to status quo to allow for a Commission decision in early 2020 as to any changes in Policy C-3622.

24. Grays Harbor Salmon Management Policy C-3621 Review – Briefing and Public Comment
Chad Herring, South Coast Fishery Policy Analyst and Mike Scharpf, District Biologist provided the Commission an annual review on Grays Harbor salmon management as stipulated in Policy C-3621, providing guidance for Grays Harbor salmon fisheries.

The following people provided comments:
Tim Hamilton          Bob Lake          Joe Durham          Andy Mitby
Francis Estalilla

This item was postponed until June.

26. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief
The Commissioners and staff discussed the follow up items from the meeting.
• Skagit elk

Chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 12:12 pm.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.