



**MASTER HUNTER ADVISORY GROUP**

**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091**

MEETING NOTES – corrected edition

**Meeting #14**

Cattlemen's Association Offices, Ellensburg  
December 2, 2010  
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**Preliminary Activities**

- Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Cromwell at 9:00 a.m.
- Guest introductions – Visiting guests were introduced by the Chair.

Walt Christensen, Chair of GMAC

Dave Gimlin, GMAC

Ken Harris, GMAC

Dennis Clay, MH

Adam Hargrove, MH

Members present –

Bob Cromwell

Kent Keller

George Coulbourn

Ron Poppe

Bill Vincent

Jim Zimmerman

Richard Mathisen

Mike Britton

Mike Estes

Jim Reinbold

Mike Ward

Members absent –

Harold Costa

Tani Iwashita

WDFW staff present –

Lt. Eric Anderson

Capt. Mann

Anthony Novack

Agenda Change – Chair Cromwell asked members Mike Estes and Mike Britton to excuse themselves in order for a discussion as continuing membership on MHAG. Both were recommended to WDFW Director for reappointment. Both Mike Estes and Mike Britton were asked to return to the meeting. Both returned to the meeting shortly after the completion of the discussion.

### **Agenda Items**

- Approval of meeting notes from August 2010 business meeting. Mike Estes moved for approval of the meeting notes and Bill Vincent seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
  - Volunteer time reporting. Chair Cromwell reminded members to turn in the volunteer hours to Mike Britton.
  - Liaison update - Lt. Anderson handed out a draft progress report for 2010. For two years there have been two progress reports per year. He suggested a single report per year. The final report will be placed on the website. Highlights are as follows:
    - Participant Update – As of 12-02-2010 there are 1956 MH in good standing. In 2010, 806 people applied with 150 passing.
    - Master Hunter Advisory Group – four meetings in 2010 with notes posted on website.
    - Policy and Programmatic – MH program policies were developed and recommended to WDFW which included exams, testing and proctoring. The MH curriculum and study guide will be evaluated and updated.
    - Communications & Outreach – MH applicant orientation meetings were held in Yakima and Olympia. No Information and Outreach (I&O) were conducted in 2010. There is some consideration of one for 2011. The MH website continues to be expanded and refined as a tool for communication and information.
    - Program Refinements – the enrollment time for MH applicants was shortened to 45 days to gain some control of the growth of the program. Also considered is the testing procedures evaluation.
    - Program Integrity – MH violations have significantly decreased as compared with the AHE program.
- Lt. Anderson will continue working on policies dealing with grace periods for expired MH certification and CORT requirements when classes are cancelled.
- Lt. Anderson also reported meeting with Dave Ware, while Walt Christensen and Bob Cromwell met separately to discuss cooperative efforts between GMAC and MHAG.
- Lt. Anderson noted the rule making suspension ordered by the Governor and was waiting to see how it affected WDFW.
- Lt. Anderson stated that there were some minor changes to the MH application and MH recertification application.
- It appears that due to expanded duties within the Hunter Education program, Mike Kuttel may be assigned to MHAG again. Lt. Anderson handed out a draft document created by Mr. Kuttel concerning potential high profile initiatives for MHAG.

- Deer and Elk Damage Specialist update – Anthony Novack gave an update and handout on Hunt Unit 3911.
  - Winter Range Vehicle Closure – Public meeting on January 6, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Hal Holmes Hall in Ellensburg.
  - Green Gate Road – a 5<sup>th</sup> option has been added dealing with ADA access. DNR is also involved and decisions will be made at the Director level.
  - Illegal Behavior Survey – project has not moved due to lack of funding and someone to undertake the project. Notification will be made in January to determine whether to apply for funding.
    - ACTION ITEM – 14-1 Report back to MHAG results of January notification. Novack
  - 3911 Harvest Update – It appears that there was a decline in cow harvest. Bull/Cow ratio is of concern. MH general season may be restricted. It was noted that the 3911 program was and is very successful.
- Report from Capt. Mann – there will be some language clarification on the two tags for elk. There was also a concern about the burned fence due to the Snow Mountain fire in Cowiche, Elk Area 3912 and the movement of the elk. The fence has been repaired. There have been no negative MH comments in Elk Areas 3911 and 3912, and GMU 371. He also alluded to the positive aspects of the Website for information.
- Interview of 2011 MHAG candidates:
  - Jim Fitzgerald        via phone
  - Craig Broadhead    via phone
  - Ted Wolkenhauer    via phone
  - Dennis Clay         in person
  - Mike Estes           in person
  - Mike Britton         in person

Mr. Clay was asked to depart until 10:45 a.m. when he was to be interviewed. Mr. Hargrove was asked to leave and return after the interviews were completed at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Broadhead, and Mr. Wolkenhauer were interviewed via telephone by the present MHAG members and given the expectations of the group those being: time factors and commitments, understanding the program, understanding the goals and objectives, passion for the program, being advisory in nature and by policy, working between meetings, and obtaining consensus with differences of opinions. The candidates were also able to ask the group questions and make comments on the expectations. These expectations were given to all candidates whether via telephone or in person.

A motion was made and passed to recommend all candidates to the Director for membership on MHAG. It was also suggested that appointment letters be sent prior to sending any correspondence. It was also suggested that where possible members of MHAG should meet with the candidates prior to the March meeting.

ACTION ITEM – 14-2 – Forward recommendations to WDFW Director and get appointment letters out prior to March meeting. Lt. Anderson.

### **Old Business**

- ALEA grant update – Member Mike Britton gave an update on the ALEA grant and the amount expended. As of September 2010, \$12,980 of the grant or 50% of the grant was expended. It was also decided to apply for another ALEA grant next year to continue this program and MHAG to review and give input.

ACTION ITEM – 14-3 – Apply for new ALEA grant for 2011. Mike Britton

- **Action Items**
  - ACTION ITEMS 11-4, 10-13, 11-5, 12-3 Quinault Signage – COMPLETED
    - There was discussion on landowners which may also be MH allowing other MH to hunt on property. It was decided that reviews and notations should be written in the game pamphlet about access to MH hunt areas.
      - ACTION ITEM – 14-4 – Review MH hunt areas and get written notes on access to MH hunts to be published in game pamphlet. Bob Cromwell and MHAG members
  - ACTION ITEM 11-3 New Member Recruitment and Selection Policy - COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 11-7 - Certification test redesign – Chair Cromwell presented members with a final draft of a certification examination. This exam is intended to replace the current 100 question exam, effective January 1, 2011. Chair Cromwell explained the process used to replace and reword certain questions. Members Richard Mathisen moved and Mike Estes seconded that the test questions be used for testing 2011. Motion passed with one nay vote. COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 13-1 – Sgt. Anderson compose language covering eligibility of community service volunteer hours for next MHAG meeting. Lt. Anderson presented a hand out with example of community service projects that qualified for hours and some that did not. The activities noted on the website are also still eligible. This was mostly for clarification and addition to the policy. COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 13-2 – MHAG Secretary Reinbold will send corrected contact list out by next meeting. COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 13-3 – Nominations committee provide a slate of officers and new members for the next meeting in December 2010 - COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 13-4 – Chair Cromwell send an invitation to GMAC Chair to attend MHAG meeting. COMPLETED
  - ACTION ITEM 13-5 - The MHAG strongly encouraged WDFW to complete and approve both the Hunt Coordinator Protocols and Guidelines, and the Hunter Contract soon so that they will be in place for the 2011 hunting season. CONTINUED

- ACTION ITEM 13-6 I&O Meetings – Discussion took place on whether to continue with I&O meetings. It was decided that the meetings are of value but that nothing can be done before June 2011. A plan needs to be put in place for future meetings and structure. It was also discussed the ability to use the website and that a mailing should be sent out notifying MH of the information being placed on the website. A committee will be formed to address this issue. CONTINUED
  
- ACTION ITEM 13-7 - It was determined by the MHAG that there should be two New Master Hunter Application Orientation Meetings in 2011 in January. Locations: Olympia and Yakima. – It was decided that no meetings would take place and that there would be work done on the Website to accommodate this information by using the power point developed for the previous meetings. CONTINUED. Bob Cromwell and Lt. Anderson

**New Business**

- Policies and procedures discussions
  - Renewal grace period – Motion made by Members Bill Vincent and seconded by Kent Keller that no grace period be granted for MH renewals unless due to illness or military deployment. Motion passed 7 to 3.
  - Renewal letter – no discussion
  - Proctor training – Accurate information should be given to all proctors about the MH program who are not MHAG members. There was some misinformation given out by a MH proctor. There was earlier discussion on whether proctors can correct the test or tell candidates the questions he/she missed. Proctors are to administer the test only and send to WDFW for correcting and notification.
  
- Bylaws discussions
  - Regional representation – it was decided to leave the structure the way it operates presently with at least 2 qualified representatives for each region.
  
- Proposed changes to Master Hunter hunts in 2011 – No discussion.
  
- The term “Master Hunter”. No discussion
  
- 2011 tasks and committee assignments – Member Kent Keller asked for volunteers to work on various committees:
  - I&O Committee – Mike Ward, George Coulbourn, Mike Estes and Ken Harris (GMAC)
  - ALEA – Mike Britton
  - Hunt Management Description – Bob Cromwell, Ray Boone, Mike Ward and Allan Hargrove
  - Continuing Outreach – Kent Keller

Election of Officers – Kent Keller was elected as Vice Chair for MHAG by unanimous vote.

**Other business:**

- GMAC meetings – it was suggested that members of MHAG attend GMAC meetings to continue and strengthen a working relationship between the two groups. Next GMAC meeting is December 11, 2010 at the Forest Service Ranger Station in Cle Elum from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Gordon Blossom – suggestion to invite Mr. Blossom to a meeting and honor him for his longevity, wisdom and efforts on behalf of hunting and wildlife. An invitation will be extended.
- Next meeting: date and location – March 3, 2011 at Cattlemen’s Association Offices in Ellensburg.
- Good of the Order – Lt. Anderson reviewed the budgetary concerns of the department and also suggested that discussion on CORT classes be placed on the agenda next meeting.  
ACTION ITEM 14-5 – Place CORT classes on agenda for next meeting. Bob Cromwell.
- Adjournment – 4:15 p.m.

## ACTION ITEMS - PENDING

ACTION ITEM – 14-1 Report back to MHAG results of January notification. Novack

ACTION ITEM – 14-2 – Forward recommendations to WDFW Director and get appointment letters out prior to March meeting. Lt. Anderson.

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