

Willapa Bay Salmon Advisory Group Meeting
September 10, 2019 6 pm – 8 pm
Region 6 Office, Montesano, WA

Staff: Chad Herring, Ron Warren, Kirt Hughes, James Losee, Barbara McClellan, Damon Peterson, Lyle Jennings, Jenny Allan

Advisors: Jack Hollingsworth, Andy Mitby, Ross Barkhurst, Tim Hamilton, Marlisa Dugan, Steve Boerner, Norm Reinhardt, Bob Lake, Mara Zimmerman, Lance Gray, Greg McMillan, Francis Estalilla

Public: 10 Individuals

Chad Herring:

- Opening Statement
- There seems to be a deterioration of this advisory group. We want to talk about roles of the group and establish ground rules for moving forward.
- Advisory group handbook has been provided tonight
- Introduction of the new Regional Program Manager – James Losee
 - James' background and experience
 - Questions from WBSAG for James
 - His experience
 - WB Policy
 - Habitat
 - Hatchery production
 - Chum production
 - Killer whale increased production
- WBSAG Roles and Responsibilities
 - The last advisory meeting was a low point. We are having a difficult time communicating with each other.
 - Conservation is paramount but the agency has a mandate is to provide for fisheries of the state, both commercial and recreational.
 - We originally talked about a goal of sustainable fisheries management. We talked about providing opportunity for both sectors to be successful while still living within our conservation and management objectives.
 - We need to learn to work together because trying to do this separately is not a path forward.
 - We need to establish:
 - Meeting management for consistency
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Your role is to advise the agency regarding time, place and manner regarding the upcoming seasons (during the North of Falcon process)
 - We have committed to talking to the group regarding in-season management. Still committed to doing that.
 - Need to stay on topic in terms of the agenda for each meeting

- Walk through WDFW Advisory Group Handbook specifically page 6, characteristics of an effective advisory group member.
 - Attend meetings
 - Prepared in advance
 - Participate at meetings
 - Transparency
 - Respect others at the table
 - Examine all evidence, have empathy for the other members at the table
 - Understand the authority to advise the department is granted as a whole not to individual members
 - Recognize that individual members will have to compromise to enable the advisory group to reach a recommendation
 - Members need to consider potential impacts on:
 - Conservation of fish and wildlife resources
 - Local communities and their economics
 - Priorities for fish and wildlife management
 - Strong opposing views
 - Ability to effectively enforce state natural resource laws
 - How to maximize effectiveness of the advisory group
 - Include discussion of alternate viewpoints
 - Express ideas and recommendations in a clear, concise manner
 - Propose recommendations that are feasible and cost effective
 - Establish clear procedures for how advisors interact with the public. When providing personal opinions, members should clarify they are not speaking for the entire advisory group.
- Meeting management
 - Staff will provide information
 - Members can ask clarifying questions regarding anything presented, not add feelings or interpretations.
 - Each member will then be asked to provide recommendations, can provide that recommendation later in an email if they need more time to think it over
 - Will set some time aside for other topics at the end of each meeting – may need to come to a consensus of a topic to discuss with limited time. Will need to decide as a group how to do this. Some topics may need to be tabled for certain meetings but should be considered. Should have the opportunity to get that on the agenda at some point.

*How do we determine which topics to discuss and when?

Member comments at this point:

- Operating Protocols for advisory groups – provides how to handle these issues
 - What consequences will there be?

- Will have ground rules determined and developed by this group. If violated, verbal warning, then
 - Staff is supposed to support the members, not the other way around. The problem is staff not the members.
- It goes against people's nature not to include feelings and interpretations.
- Habitat should be woven into recommendations
- Need to stick to an agenda
- Frustrating to deviate from topics that have nothing to do with harvest allocation, which is what the advisory group is supposed to provide comments on.

Habitat Issues - We have put together a work group in the region between habitat, fish program, shellfish, wildlife program, and marine fish to try to deal with habitat issues in the region. This is a much bigger issue to deal with this topic within this group.

- Ground Rules
 - We will establish the ground rules together tonight as a group.
 - Want each member to provide their comment. We are not telling the members what to say or think.
 - ❖ Advisors will have input into the agenda for any particular meeting by providing additional topics for discussion via email prior to meeting directly to Chad over the weekend by each Monday at noon. Chad will compile the list and send the list out to allow members to vote, in priority order, what they would like to discuss. Members have a number of votes based on the list provided by Chad via email. Response is within 24 hours using survey monkey or doodle pool. Whatever is the consensus by the group vote as the priority may be what is discussed as time allows at each meeting.
 - Facilitator to monitor time of topic
 - Park topics for later discussion
 - Provide a deadline
 - ❖ Stick to agenda
 - ❖ If members have comments during the meeting and would like to speak, they just need to raise their hand and let the person who will be keeping a list know so they can be added.
 - ❖ Respect the public, who may be in attendance, when they provide their comments
 - ❖ Limit comments to 3 minutes
 - ❖ Don't interrupt
 - ❖ Don't shout
 - ❖ Advisors should not leave during the meeting unless absolutely necessary
 - ❖ Respect each other
 - ❖ Start on time, end on time

Public Comments

Dave Hamilton

- This is a difficult place to be and participate in
- The advisory group protocols are the WDFW website and it lays out the roles and responsibilities

Joe Durham

- You should be listening to what the public is telling you
- Chad is not an effective leader
- Advisors should talk to their constituents and getting their views and opinions
- Stop the fighting. Be cordial. Listen. Make positive comments.