Wenas Wildlife Area
WTS Advisory Committee – Ground Rules

1. All Advisory Committee Members have equal opportunities to participate; committee members agree to work together, treat other members with respect, and work together to help ensure one another’s voices are heard and to avoid individuals dominating the conversation.

2. Advisory Committee members agree to work within the framework of the process and not work behind the scenes to undermine the process. This means, ideas, proposals, and concerns generated during conversations outside Committee meetings should be brought to the process, so we have a chance to work on them together.

3. Advisory Committee members agree to the basic premise of the effort – development of recommendations for how WDFW can best provide target shooting on the Wenan Wildlife Area consistent with WDFW’s mission to “preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems, while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities” and agree to work in good faith toward this outcome. Members will strive for honest and direct communication, allow open discussion and the right to disagree, and look for opportunities to find common interests, agreements, and solutions. The underlying effort emphasizes joint problem-solving rather than attempting to change other peoples’ values.

4. Committee members acknowledge that WDFW has provided a copy of the Department’s mission statement, and that the Department has asked for recommendations which are within the mission and: (1) are supported by the local communities; (2) reduce risk to Wildlife area users and neighbors; (3) improve habitat protection; (4) reduce fire risk; (5) are financially attainable and manageable; (6) provide predictability for all users; and (7) if new rules or regulations are recommended, provide for clear and concise standards.

5. The Committee is being asked to make recommendations for the Wenas Wildlife Area; the Committee may choose to address in its report if and/or how it sees its recommendations as relevant to other areas where dispersed shooting also occurs on other public lands.

6. Advisory Committee members agree to attend meetings.

7. Advisory Committee members agree to stay current with information provided to the group and come to meetings prepared to participate fully, including in discussions of whether they can agree to the specifics of emerging and draft Committee recommendations.

8. Advisory Committee members agree to focus on clarifying their own needs and interests, providing objective, fact-based comments and alternatives during discussions, and to refrain from personal criticisms.

9. Advisory Committee members and/or the facilitator may request a caucus break at any time during a meeting. In order to keep the flow of meetings on track, individual caucus breaks may not exceed 15 minutes.

10. Meetings are expected to start and end on time.

11. At the end of each meeting the facilitator will summarize for Committee review: key discussion points, areas of agreement or emerging agreement, remaining topics, next steps (including who is doing what), and anticipated future meeting topics.