Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
October 27-28, 2017 - Olympia

September 8-9, 2017 Regular Meeting

Commission: Brad Smith, Chair
Larry Carpenter,
Vice-chair William Frymire, AGO
Kim Thorburn
Bob Kehoe
Barbara Baker
Dave Graybill
Jay Kehne
Don McIsaac
Jay Holzmiller
Commission Staff: Tami Lininger

Department Staff: Greg Sallis
Chris Donley
Julie Sandberg
Richard Tveten
Steve Thiesfeld
Chad Jackson
Aaron Dufault
Edward Eleazer
Craig Bartlett
Tina Nisbet
Faith Sexton
Cynthia Wilkerson
Mick Cope
Ben Power
Craig Burley
Kelly Henderson
Kristin Nielsen
Raquel Crosier

Attendance
Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:28 a.m.

1. Call to Order
a. Commissioners’ Discussion
   • Commissioner Holzmiller – Montana’s Range Rider school
   • Commissioner Thorburn – ADA Committee updates and trip to Africa
   • Commissioner Kehoe – Idaho’s Rangeland Fire Protection Association
   • Commissioner McIsaac – Looks forward to working with fellow Commissioners and Staff and the public involvement

b. Meeting Minute Approval
   The Commission considered approval of the revised minutes of the September 8-9, 2017 meeting and the September 28, 2017 conference call minutes.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehoe to approve the minutes from the September 8-9 meeting (Commissioners Smith, Carpenter and Holzmiller abstained)
and the September 28, 2017 conference call (Commissioner Kehne abstained) as proposed. Motion passed.

c. Committee Reports
Commissioner Kehne reported out on the Wildlife Committee topics:
- Diversity Advisory Committee
- Wolf lethal protocol
- Sharp-tailed Grouse – fires
- Committee structure
- 3 year hunting cycle
- Recovering America’s Wildlife Plan

Commissioner Carpenter reported out on the Wildlife Committee topics:
- Columbia River overview – commercial fishing
- Observer program
- South sound chum management
- Guide meeting in Forks
- Sportfish rule simplification overview

2. Open Public Input
The following people provided input on various topics:
- Patty Carter – Puyallup Hatchery
- Richard Johnson – Puyallup Hatchery
- Don Wallace – American Dipper
- Shawn Cantrell – Marketing Plan, Orcas, Bear Identification
- Robert Sudar – Columbia River
- Ron Garner – Crab Season
- William Brown – Prospectors

3. Director’s Report
The Director provided a written report and briefly discussed various issues including:
- Diversity Advisory Committee
- Centennial Accord & Natural Resource meetings
- Upcoming Atlantic Salmon net pen briefing

Nate Pamplin - Budget and Proviso update and Budget and Policy Advisory Group

Donny Martorello - Wolf update, New staff and vacancies, Wolf Advisory Group

Joe Stohr – Reported on the follow up items from September:
- Hunting in residential areas
- Elwha land and boat launch

Michele Culver - Halibut update

Eric Kinne - Douglas County PUD hatchery transition

Kelly Cunningham - Guide proviso

Ron Warren – Commercial crab seasons

4. Land Transactions – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision
Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager requested approval of various land transactions. James Schroder, Nature Conservancy spoke in support of the transaction in Kittitas County.
Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to accept the land transactions as presented. Motion passed.

5. Geoduck Divers License Rule – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision
This item was postponed until a future meeting.

6. Amending Commercial Fishing Rules to Implement HB 1597 - Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision
Deputy Chief Mike Cenci and Trisha Anderson, Licensing Business Analyst provided a briefing and heard public comments on the proposed changes to the Commercial Fishing rules needed to implement HB 1597.

Public Input - Robert Sudar

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to amend and repeal the WACs as presented by staff. Motion passed.

7. Marketing Plan Briefing
Peter Vernie, Licensing Program Manager and Greg Sallis, Sales and Marketing Manager provided a briefing on the agency’s proposed marketing plan.

8. Scatter Creek Project – Briefing and Decision
Richard Tveten, Forest Management Team Lead briefed the Commission and requested approval for forest restoration projects in the Scatter Creek Wildlife Area.

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to approve the proposed timber harvest projects as presented. Motion passed.

9. Update on Northern Pike Distribution and Control Measures in the Upper Columbia
Chris Donley, Region 1 Fish Program Manager updated the Commission on the current distribution and abundance of Northern Pike in the Upper Columbia Basin.

10. 2018-19 Sportfishing Rule Simplification – Briefing
Steve Thiesfeld, Inland Fishery Manager, Chris Donley, Region 1 Fish Program Manager, and Chad Jackson, Region 2 Fish Program Manager provided an overview on proposals under consideration to simplify and improve sportfishing rules.

11. Baker River Sockeye Fishery Management – Briefing and Public Input
Aaron Dufault, Fish Anadromous Resource Policy Analyst and Edward Eleazer, Region 4 Fish Program Manager provided the Commission with an overview of the Baker River sockeye fishery management and an update on this year’s fishery.

Public Input:
Frank Urabeck Al Senyohl Roger Goodan Ron Garner
Norm Reinhardt

12. Open Public Input
The following people provided input on various topics:
Denis DeSilvis – Marketing plan
Don Wallace – American Dipper
Ron Garner – Hatchery fish and reform
Ray Brown – Sea Lion predation
Al Senyohl – Sea run cutthroat regulations
Chair Smith recessed the meeting at 4:59

Saturday, October 28, 2017
Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

13. Open Public Input
The following people provided input on various topics:
- Jim Goldsmith – Committee structure
- Irene Martin – Committees and Fish recovery
- Kent Martin – Alternative gear
- Greg Mueller – Committee structure
- Jon Munsterman – Nuisance wildlife control

14. Pound Nets in the Columbia River - Briefing
Adrian Tuohy, Biologist, and Jamie Glasgow, Director of Science and Research, Wild Fish Conservancy, provided a briefing on the pound net test fishery being conducted on the Columbia River and discussed results from the two-year study and the plans moving forward in 2018.

15. Committee Structure and Process – Discussion
The Commission discussed the current committee process and the pros and cons of modifying the process. Further discussion will take place during upcoming meetings.

16. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief
The Commission discussed the following items:
- Commissioner Thorburn reported out on the Big Tent Committee topics:
  - Website update
  - Diversity and Inclusion Committee
  - Budget and Policy Group
  - Department’s Operating Principles
- Commissioner Baker made a motion for a briefing on Atlantic salmon net pens at the December meeting. Commissioner Kehoe seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.
- 2018 meeting calendar, locations, and agenda items
- Possible joint meeting with Oregon
- November 17 conference call agenda review
- December 8-9 meeting agenda review
- Deputy Director Stohr ran through his list of to do items – at each meeting
- Retreat/workshop planning
- Further discussion on committee structure is needed
- Commission’s role in diversity discussions

17. 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, and the public was not permitted to listen to the executive session.

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting immediately following the executive session.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant