



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
June 14-16, 2018 – Olympia

June 14-16, 2018 Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Brad Smith, Chair
Larry Carpenter
Kim Thorburn
Barbara Baker
Dave Graybill
Don McIsaac
Jay Kehne
Bob Kehoe
Jay Holzmiller

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Department Staff:

Joe Stohr, Acting Director
Amy Windrope
William Frymire, AGO
Nate Pamplin
Ron Warren
Eric Gardner
Julie Sandberg
Hannah Anderson
Chris Sato
Sam Taylor
Jeff Davis
Irene Goldenberger
Bill Tweit
Annette Hoffmann
Joe Shorin, AGO

Faith Sexton
Raquel Crosier
Kirt Hughes
Cynthia Wilkerson
Kelly Cunningham
Craig Burley
Eric Kinne
Ken Warheit
Heather Bonagofski
Erik Neatherlin
Bruce Botka
Ryan Lothrop
Chris Donley
Chad Jackson
Donny Martorello
Chad Herring

Guests:

JT Austin
Melody Kreimes
Jessica Helsley
Steve Manlow
Scott Brewer

Public:

Karen Kunde	Scott Brewer	Jeff Breckel	Irene Martin
Kent Martin	Keith Dublanica	Harry Barber	Greg Mueller
Richard Wenger	Frank Urabeck	Stan Bartle	Denis DeSilvis
Ilene LeVee	Tom Davis	Jeromy Jording	Christian Iverson
Ron Roler	Butch Smith	Jonathan Sawin	Charles Hulse
Greg King	Woody Woods	John Huntsman	Bruce Forester
Ron Garner	Lee Blankenship	Lyle Cabe	Dale Beasley
Troy McKelvey	Russ Howell	Jerry Johnson	Brian Roe
Larry Bucklin	Dave Johnson	Kevin Banks	Jay Evans
Tim Thompson	Robert Sudar	Jim Wells	Bryce Devine
Kirk Harrison	Marv Chesley	Dave Kellan	Gary Boelter
Liz Hamilton	Randy Woolsey	Steve Shanewise	Garret Ward
Diane Gallegos	Carl Burke	Josh Ashine	Stephanie Kinks

Thursday, June 14, 2018 – Doubletree Hotel in Olympia

1. Call to Order

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and immediately called an Executive Session.

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) met to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. No action was taken in executive session, and the public is not permitted to listen to the executive session.

The Commission came back into open session at 8:10 and discussed the items in the interview packets and how the process was going to work.

2. Executive Session – 9:00 a.m.

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.

At 11:30 a.m. the Commission took 1 hour for lunch.

3. Executive Session – 12:30 p.m.

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.

4. Director Recruitment Process 5:25 p.m.

The Commission discussed the next steps in the Director Recruitment process

Chair Smith recessed the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Friday, June 15, 2018 – Meeting was held at the Natural Resource Building room 172.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

5. Call to Order

a. Commissioners' Discussion

The Commissioners discussed the following items:

- Chinook abundance in Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands)
- Chinook hatchery production enhancements re: SRKW Executive Order
- WAFWA workshops on grouse
- Trout Unlimited meetings
- Article in Bowhunter magazine
- Skagit elk herd
- UW School of Fisheries presentations
- Pygmy Rabbit class
- Proposed pipeline meeting in Swinomish

b. Meeting Minute Approval

The Commission considered approval of the minutes of the June 1, 2018 meeting.

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehoe to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed. Commissioners Holzmilller and Kehne abstained.

c. Committee Reports

Commissioner Carpenter highlighted the topics from the Fish Committee:

Progress on the Columbia River Policy Comprehensive Review

Electronic catch accounting and the possibilities of electronic catch accounting in all fisheries.

6. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:
Frank Urabeck – Skokomish River & Baker Lake sockeye
Stan Bartle – Skokomish River

7. Director's Report

The Director provided a written report and briefly discussed various topics including:
HPA jurisdiction
Tribal hunting agreements
Youth participation and collaboration with Cabela's
Culverts case
Meagan West kudos – working with the Feds
Rockfish recovery
Regional awards ceremonies
WAFWA meeting in Salem

8. Land Transaction

Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager briefed the Commission on the acquisition of property in Pacific County and requested approval.

No one signed up to provide testimony.

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to approve the transaction as presented. Motion passed.

9. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Rule Package – Decision

Sam Taylor, High Risk Programs Manager requested approval on several new regulations and amendments to clarify concerns regarding shooting from the roadway, trapping and creation of an appeals process for suspension of a special use permit.

Commissioner Thorburn moved to adopt WAC 220-200-190, 220-200-180, 220-413-210 and amendments to WAC 220-200-160, 220-200-170, 220-305-120, and 220-413-140, seconded by Commissioner Graybill -. Motion passed.

10. Periodic Status Review (Sea Otter) – Briefing and Public Hearing

Hannah Anderson, Listing and Recovery Section Manager and Chris Sato, Wildlife Biologist briefed the Commission on the Periodic Status Review compiled for the Sea Otter in accordance with WAC 220-610-110.

The following person provided testimony:
Denis DeSilvis

11. Periodic Status Review (Pygmy Rabbit) – Briefing, Public Hearing and Decision

Hannah Anderson, Listing and Recovery Section Manager briefed the Commission and requested approval on the Periodic Status Reviews compiled for the Pygmy Rabbit in accordance with WAC 220-610-110.

Commissioner Carpenter moved, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn to maintain the pygmy rabbit as an endangered species as presented. Motion passed.

12. Periodic Status Review (Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse) – Briefing and Public Hearing

Hannah Anderson, Listing and Recovery Section Manager briefed the Commission on the Periodic Status Review compiled for the Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse in accordance with WAC 220-610-110.

The following people provided testimony:

Denis DeSilvis
Tom Davis

13. Canadian Caught Salmon – Briefing and Public Hearing

Kirt Hughes, Statewide Salmon and Steelhead Fishery Manager briefed the Commission on a rule proposal to replace Canadian customs clearance requirements on Canadian-origin salmon brought into Washington ports with a simplified online trip notification directly to WDFW.

14. Regional Salmon Recovery Organizations – Briefing

Steve Manlow, Executive Director, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board; Melody Kreimes, Executive Director, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board; Scott Brewer, Executive Director, Hood Canal Coordinating Council; and Jessica Helsley, Executive Director, Coast Salmon Foundation and Coast Salmon Partnership of the Council of Salmon Recovery Regional Organizations briefed the Commission on the efforts underway to restore the Washington's salmon and steelhead to healthy and harvestable levels.

15. Hatchery Reform Policy (C-3619) and Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG) – Briefing, Public Comment and Possible Guidance

Ron Warren, Assistant Director, Fish Program, Eric Kinne, Hatchery Division Manager, and Ken Warheit, Supervisor, Genetics and Fish Health Laboratories provided the Commission a briefing, as stipulated per policy C-3619, on the progress of implementing statewide hatchery reform in compliance with standards set by the Hatchery Scientific Review Group to further the recovery of wild salmon and steelhead populations while continuing to support sustainable fisheries. They also provided a briefing on the HRSRG guidelines within the agency's existing policies and the comparison to federal ESA regulatory decisions.

The following people provided testimony:

Greg Mueller	Greg King	Ron Garner
Lee Blankenship	Dale Beasley	Butch Smith
Jonathan Sawin	Tim Thompson	Heath Heikkila

Commissioner Mclsaac moved to instruct the Director to initiate a review of all sections and aspects of Policy C-3619 with an expectation that the results be presented back to the Commission within a year. The motion also put policy guidelines 1, 2 and 3 on hold during the period of review, seconded by Commissioner Holzmilller. Motion passed.

Commissioner Mclsaac also gave a short presentation with further considerations for the policy review.

16. Columbia River Summer Chinook – Briefing, Public Hearing and Possible Guidance

Ron Warren, Assistant Director, Fish Program and Bill Tweit, Special Assistant and Ryan Lothrop, Columbia River Fishery Manager provided the Commission with information on summer Chinook natural production escapement objectives, stock status, recent and historical fisheries, and current policies regarding mark selective commercial and recreational fisheries.

The following people provided testimony:

Irene Martin	Lyle Cabe	Harry Barber
Ron Roler	James Wells	Bryce Devine
Robert Sudar	Randy Woolsey	Liz Hamilton

Heath Heikkila

Commissioner Kehoe moved to instruct the Director to work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement a non-treaty commercial gillnet fishery in the Columbia River mainstem using 9 inch mesh targeting 708 Summer Chinook as modeled and agreed to during the 2018 North of Falcon season setting process, seconded by Commissioner Thorburn. Prior to the vote, commissioners discussed their perspectives. The motion failed by a vote of 5 to 4.

Chair Smith recessed the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Saturday, June 16, 2018

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:56 a.m.

Commissioner Thorburn reported on the Big Tent Committee meeting where draft outreach plans and guidance principles were discussed.

17. Future Meeting Planning

Commissioners discussed the July conference calls and the August 2018 meeting agenda.

18. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Steve Shanewise – corn pond hunting

Robert Sudar – commission process and Columbia River

19. Budget and Legislative Workshop

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison provided a briefing about state and federal legislative policy engagement, reviewed draft budget proposals and agency-request legislation for the 2019 legislative session and requested Commission guidance. The Commission requested more time be added to the August agenda to have further discussions on the budget shortfall.

Commissioner Kehne moved to add the Omak Hatchery cut back into the items at risk rather than just off the top, Commissioner Graybill seconded. Motion passed.

20. WDFW Director Recruitment

The Commissioners unanimously voted to appoint Kelly Susewind as the new Director. His effective date is August 1, 2018.

21. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

There was no discussion.

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant