

1 Northwest Region

2 Chris Wheaton, Region Manager, said a sea otter was spotted in Depoe Bay last month
3 at the whale watching center. ODFW biologists and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4 (USFWS) confirmed the sea otter's presence in the harbor, but it has not been observed
5 since mid-February. He said staff visited the South Yamhill River to assess potential fish
6 liberation sites for the new trout fishery that opens May 23. Wheaton said the railroad
7 between Portland and Astoria is damaged near Svensen and being used for rail car
8 storage, which blocks movement of elk. A landowner in the Brownsmead area noticed
9 increased elk use and damage to his lands. The railroad company appears to be
10 amenable in resolving this matter.

11
12 Wheaton said on April 16 the Commission will tour a habitat project, Thompson's Mills
13 State Park, and the Oregon Hatchery Research Center in the Corvallis area.

14
15 Southwest Region

16 Russ Stauff, Acting Region Manager, discussed implementation of the Rogue Spring
17 Chinook Conservation Plan adopted by the Commission in August 2007. He discussed
18 changes to fishery regulations, modification of brood stock collection, and modification
19 of flow management out of the reservoir. He said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
20 (USACE) is moving forward with ODFW's recommendations. Stauff said the Diamond
21 Lake Management Plan proposal will be before the Commission in May. He said
22 stocking 300,000 to 400,000 fingerlings should produce a fishery with approximately 70
23 percent of the fish stock being available to the fishery the next year.

24
25 Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program

26 Tom Rien, Columbia River Coordination Program Manager, said in October 2007, the
27 Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) opened its Columbia River Basin
28 Fish and Wildlife Program for amendment. The Council solicited recommendations from
29 Columbia Basin fish and wildlife managers and the public. ODFW led an effort by the
30 Governor's Office and natural resource agencies to develop state recommendations
31 that were submitted to the Council on April 4, 2008. He reported on the highlights of the
32 program and its significant concerns. He said legal staff is preparing findings on the
33 program that the Council will vote on in April 2009.

34
35 Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

36 Captain Walt Markee, Division Director, said two senior troopers from The Dalles office
37 investigated and cited three hunters who killed three elk about 12 air miles outside their
38 hunt boundary in the Wamic area on the White River Wildlife Management Area. He
39 also said a Ford Expedition was traveling on Interstate 5 when a red-tailed hawk hit the
40 bumper and got stuck between the radiator and the plastic grill of the vehicle. After the
41 driver called 9-1-1, Trooper Mike Hanson retrieved the bird and drove it to the Audubon
42 Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center. The hawk survived, and Trooper Hanson will
43 receive the People for Ethical Treatment of Animals' (PETA) Compassionate Police
44 Officer Award for helping save the red-tailed hawk.

1 Information and Education

2 Roger Fuhrman, Administrator, said a "Learn to Take a Child Fishing" pilot program will
3 be conducted by ODFW angling education instructors on April 11. He said two new
4 Outdoor Skills Workshops that involved hunting pheasants were held in February and
5 were successful. He said "Grant's Getaways", a weekly television segment with Travel
6 Oregon, will be broadcast on KGW television and Northwest Cable News Network.
7 Another pilot project is being conducted with the Oregon State Marine Board to contact
8 lapsed boaters to renew their registrations. He discussed Hunting Heritage Partnership
9 grants, development of a marketing campaign to promote the Mentored Youth Hunter
10 Program, and funding for Responsive Management to study the hunter license
11 database to determine whether changes in hunting license types affect license sales.
12

13 **Fish, Wildlife and Habitats Adaptation Strategy for Climate Change**

14 Holly Michael, Conservation Strategy Leader, introduced Sara O'Brien, Climate Change
15 Adaptation Associate for Defenders of Wildlife.
16

17 Sara O'Brien referred to a handout, "Preparing Oregon's Fish, Wildlife, and Habitats for
18 Future Climate Change: A Guide for State Adaptation Efforts", prepared by the
19 Subcommittee on Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat Adaptation Oregon Global Warming
20 Commission. Principal authors were Michael and O'Brien. During a slide presentation,
21 O'Brien talked about efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change on ecological
22 systems. She said temperatures are projected to increase one-five degrees Fahrenheit
23 by the year 2050, and a best guess for rising sea levels is 55 inches by 2050. O'Brien
24 talked about four key guiding principles:

- 25 1. Maintain and restore key ecosystem processes.
- 26 2. Establish an interconnected network of lands and waters that support fish and
27 wildlife adaptation.
- 28 3. Acknowledge, evaluate, and weigh the risks involved with proposed management
29 actions in the context of anticipated climate conditions.
- 30 4. Coordinate across political and jurisdictional boundaries.

31
32 O'Brien discussed the subcommittee's recommendations for policy development:

- 33 1. Address key adaptation funding needs, building capacity within natural resource
34 agencies and investing in the Oregon Conservation Strategy.
- 35 2. Review, revise, and add policies and see what makes sense in the context of
36 enabling "adaptive management" and how to move forward.
- 37 3. Develop new institutions for collaboration, such as a statewide monitoring work
38 group. She said the Western Governor's Association (WGA) has developed a set of
39 recommendations for regional collaboration that combines climate change issues
40 with wildlife issues.

41
42 Chair Rae said a written report suggests implementation of some recommendations
43 from the WGA, which makes her wonder whether to adopt them. O'Brien advised
44 against adopting them.
45

46 O'Brien said some of the potential changes by 2050 in Oregon's habitats are so
47 overwhelming it's hard to imagine how to get those changes on the ground; but a

1 document is needed that gives priorities. She appreciates the collaborative partnership
2 with ODFW.

3
4 Holly Michael said she attended five national climate change workshops in the last
5 month; the key topic is still funding and resources. She said others have noted that
6 Oregon's Conservation Strategy is the first in the nation. A national revision process for
7 state wildlife action plans to address climate change is being developed. She said under
8 the guidance of Dr. Michael Pope of ODFW, and with Oregon Forest Industry Council,
9 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Audubon Society, and Nature Conservancy they have
10 started a mini-revision of the conservation strategy to elevate the priority of climate
11 change. Michael touched on Vulnerability Assessments, and said Oregon, Washington
12 and Idaho are applying for a grant to access the species and habitat vulnerability at the
13 one-kilometer scale for the entire region. She will sit on the Technical Review
14 Committee for the national program, and promises to keep the Commission updated.

15
16 Commissioner Edge said this issue continues to be a high priority to the Commission.

17
18 Commissioner Klarquist referred to a statement in the document that the success of
19 some conservation actions will depend on the validity of the climate predictions, and
20 that O'Brien had underscored the uncertainty of these predictions. He emphasized
21 moving very carefully before acting on these uncertain predictions. Michael said they
22 will take this issue very seriously on how to look at adaptation strategies over time.

23 24 **Sea Lion Management Briefing**

25 Steve Williams said Robin Brown, Marine Mammal Program Leader, was working with
26 the animals trapped last week by staff, who removed individual California sea lions
27 below Bonneville Dam that feed on protected runs of spring Chinook and steelhead.
28 Two animals captured were transferred to a location where they received medical
29 exams. He said this week three more animals were trapped and two will likely be
30 transferred; homes have been identified for seven animals if they meet the health
31 inspection. He said USACE observed over 500 sturgeons taken by sea lions since the
32 first of the year, and that ODFW staff will continue hazing and trapping operations
33 through mid-May with help from USACE, Oregon State Police and other agencies.

34
35 Rick Hargrave reported on the recent media coverage of the trapping. He said last year,
36 NOAA granted Oregon and Washington authority to trap, transfer or euthanize
37 California sea lions. He said staff is getting the message per the authority been given.
38 Hargrave added that restricted media access is important since these are wild animals.

39
40 Chair Rae asked if the zoos paid for transporting the animals to them. Williams said yes.
41 Commissioner Edge asked whether staff had apprised the zoos and aquariums on how
42 to explain the situation to the public that will view these animals. Williams said the zoos
43 are very interested in working with the ODFW to tell that story.

44
45 Chair Rae moved to the Expenditure Report. She discussed reducing Commission
46 expenses, such as less handouts, and fewer staff and legal counsel attending meetings.

1 **Expenditure Report**

2 Tom Ruddiman, Deputy Director for Administration, presented the financial statement
3 for the period ending February 29, 2009. He said revenues are at or above projections,
4 while expenditures are below projections. Due to current economics, ODFW has
5 implemented hiring freezes and delays, and put off unnecessary purchases.

6
7 Chair Rae asked Director Elicker to report on the recent Ways and Means hearings.

8
9 Director Elicker commended Ruddiman and staff for their work and said ODFW was
10 well prepared for the hearings. He said during the Way and Means Committee hearings
11 on March 18 and 19, it was gratifying to see support from the agency's constituency;
12 over 30 external partners testified in support of ODFW. He said legislators are very
13 concerned about the economy, and that state agencies have been asked to make yet
14 another cut in their General Fund and Lottery Funds.

15
16 Ruddiman said the Legislative Fiscal Office asked agencies to prepare an additional
17 10% revised reduction list. He said at a recent Agency Head meeting, folks speculated
18 whether the state's \$3.1 billion budget shortfall is the final number; so, staff is preparing
19 for a 40% reduction in the event that shortfall increases. He said the Department of
20 Administrative Services will push some of its functions to state agencies.

21
22 Commissioner Smith asked whether ODFW would receive funds from the federal
23 economic stimulus package. Director Elicker asked the Commission to allow Steve
24 Marx, South Willamette Watershed Manager, to report on the American Recovery and
25 Reinvestment Act at the Commission's April 17 meeting in Corvallis, Oregon.

26
27 Chair Rae agreed.

28
29 **Annual Reports for the North Umpqua Fish Passage**

30 Director Elicker asked the Commission to move this report by Russ Stauff to the
31 Commission's April 17 meeting. Chair Rae agreed to his request.

32
33 **Adopt Temporary Rules**

34 Director Elicker requested the Commission ratify the following twelve temporary rules.
35 The twelve temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under his
36 emergency action authority.

37
38 **635-004-0016.**

39 **Commercial Directed Sardine Fishery Closed Through June 30, 2009**

40 Adopted February 20, 2009; effective February 23, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

41 Amended rule adopts management measures for the 2009 commercial directed fishery
42 for Pacific sardines that are consistent with federal regulations approved by the Pacific
43 Fishery Management Council (PFMC). In accordance with PFMC management
44 measures, these rule modifications close the fishery through June 30, 2009.

1 **635-018-0090**

2 **Hood River Spring Chinook Sport Fishery**

3 Adopted February 24, 2009; effective April 15, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

4 Rule modifications allow the sport harvest of adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon in the
5 Hood River beginning April 15, 2009.

6
7 **635-006-1085**

8 **Change to Limited Entry Fishery Permit Lottery Application Deadline**

9 Adopted February 24, 2009; effective February 26, 2009 through August 24, 2009.

10 Amended rule changes the date by which applications for Limited Entry Fishery Permit
11 Lottery participation must be postmarked or date stamped at the ODFW Salem
12 headquarters office. By permanent rule the established deadline is June 30. Rule
13 modifications set the new deadline as March 31.

14
15 **635-004-0033**

16 **Cumulative Trip Limits for Greenling Reduced Effective March 1, 2009**

17 Adopted February 25, 2009; effective March 1, 2009 through August 27, 2009.

18 Amended rule reduces the cumulative trip limit for greenling in the commercial fishery
19 for black and blue rockfish, with or without a nearshore endorsement, from 450 to 250
20 pounds.

21
22 **635-041-0065**

23 **2009 Treaty Indian Winter Salmon Season in the Columbia River**

24 Adopted March 4, 2009; effective March 6, 2009 through July 31, 2009.

25 Amended rule closes the ongoing Treaty Indian Winter gill net fishery in The Dalles and
26 John Day pools at 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 6, 2009. The ongoing platform/hook-and-line
27 fishery continues as previously scheduled. White sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches in fork
28 length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence use only. Modifications are
29 consistent with action taken March 4, 2009 by the Columbia River Compact agencies of
30 Oregon and Washington in coordination with the Columbia River Treaty Tribes.

31
32 **635-042-0180**

33 **2009 Commercial Salmon and Sturgeon Fishery for the Deep River Select Area**

34 Adopted March 4, 2009; effective March 6, 2009 through April 30, 2009.

35 Amended rule adds three 12-hour fishing periods (Mondays) to the ongoing Chinook
36 salmon season in the Deep River Select area of the Columbia River. Modifications are
37 consistent with action taken March 4, 2009 by the Columbia River Compact agencies of
38 Oregon and Washington.

39
40 **635-004-0019**

41 **In-season Actions Implemented by the Federal Government for Commercial
42 Groundfish Fisheries**

43 Adopted March 6, 2009; effective March 18, 2009 through May 1, 2009.

44 Amended rule adopts in-season actions implemented by the federal government on
45 March 6, 2009 for commercial groundfish fisheries, including changes to cumulative trip
46 limits and RCA boundaries.

1 **635-042-0145**

2 **Youngs Bay Select Area Commercial Salmon Fishery Boundary Change March**
3 **11, 2009**

4 Adopted March 10, 2009; effective March 11, 2009 through July 31, 2009.

5 Amended rule expands the fishing area boundaries for the fishing period from March 11
6 through March 12, 2009 to include the entire Youngs Bay Select Area of the Columbia
7 River. Modifications are consistent with action taken March 10, 2009 by the Columbia
8 River Compact agency of the State of Oregon.

9
10 **635-013-0009**

11 **Oregon Ocean Sport Salmon Fishery to Remain Closed**

12 Adopted March 10, 2009; effective March 15, 2009 through September 10, 2009.

13 Amended rule keeps closed all Oregon ocean sport salmon fisheries previously
14 scheduled to open on March 15, 2009. Modifications are consistent with action taken by
15 the National Marine Fisheries Service in consultation with the Pacific Fishery
16 Management Council.

17
18 **635-003-0004**

19 **Oregon Ocean Commercial Salmon Fishery to Remain Closed**

20 Adopted March 10, 2009; effective March 15, 2009 through September 10, 2009.

21 Amended rule keeps closed all Oregon ocean commercial salmon fisheries previously
22 scheduled to open on March 15, 2009. Modifications are consistent with action taken by
23 the National Marine Fisheries Service in consultation with the Pacific Fishery
24 Management Council.

25
26 **635-055-0035**

27 **Capture and Transportation of Raptors**

28 Adopted: March 10, 2009. Effective Dates: May 15, 2009 through August 31, 2009

29 The proposed rule amendments have been developed to be consistent with the
30 changes in federal regulations and the *Final Environmental Assessment, Take of*
31 *Raptors from the Wild under the Falconry Regulations*, US Fish and Wildlife Service.
32 These amendments where for post-fledge peregrine falcons to be taken until August 31,
33 2009. This actions will provide additional opportunity for falconers to take older post-
34 fledge peregrine, and will reduce the need for these falconers to enter the nest in order
35 to acquire the bird which will result in reduced disturbance to these nest sites.

36
37 **635-008-0147**

38 **Rules Regarding Public Use for Sauvie Island Wildlife Area**

39 Adopted: March 11, 2009. Effective Dates: March 11, 2009 through August 10, 2009

40 This action is necessary due to wintering Canada geese migrating through the month of
41 April. Extending the closure of portions of Sauvie Island Wildlife Area during this time
42 will preserve habitat necessary at this time of year, provide security for the geese and
43 attract geese on public lands helping to avoid depredation issues on private lands.

44
45 Chair Rae asked for a motion.

1 *Action: Commissioner Edge moved to ratify the twelve temporary administrative*
2 *rules. Commissioner Levy seconded the motion. The motion passed*
3 *unanimously.*

4
5 Elicker asked the Commission to introduce Mary Wagner before lunch and move the
6 Exhibits up on the agenda.

7
8 Chair Rae agreed. She recessed the Commission at 9:50 a.m., and reconvened the
9 meeting at 10:10 a.m.

10 11 **PUBLIC FORUM**

12 *Note: This part of the agenda is for comments on topics not scheduled elsewhere on the*
13 *agenda. Please contact the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of the*
14 *Director at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the public forum. If you*
15 *bring written summaries or other materials to the meeting please provide the*
16 *Commission Assistant with 20 copies prior to your testimony. The Commission is unable*
17 *to take action on items brought to their attention in this forum.*

18
19 Chair Rae said there were no public comments and moved to Exhibit A.

20 21 **Exhibit A: COMMISSION MINUTES**

22 Chair Rae asked if there were any questions or edits to the February 20, 2009 minutes.
23 She said Commissioner Edge provided Teri Kucera with revisions. Hearing no
24 comments to review those *revisions, she asked for a motion.

25
26 *Action: Commissioner Smith moved to adopt the minutes of the March 20, 2009*
27 *Commission minutes as amended. Commissioner Klarquist seconded the*
28 *motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

29
30 *Revisions included:

- 31 • Page 4, line 2, change “He” to “Bowles”.
32 • Page 4, Dan Hardin’s testimony, delete the phrase “number one”; delete the phrase
33 “the national average is 3.7 percent”; delete “Oregon, which are Dungeness”; add “in
34 2007” after the phrase “Oregon had the highest fatality rate..”.
35 • Page 14, delete the motion in lines 35 through 45; a duplicate of lines 23 through 33.
36 • Page 15, line 27, change “opportunism” to “opportunities”.

37 38 **Exhibit B: FISH PASSAGE WAIVER REQUEST**

39 Greg Apke, Fish Passage Program Coordinator, introduced Todd Confer, Supervising
40 Fish and Wildlife Biologist in the Gold Beach Field Office, and Oregon Department of
41 Fish and Wildlife (ODOT) biologist Julie Orsley. Apke described ODOT’s fish passage
42 waiver request out of Tuttle Creek Culvert, in exchange for mitigation at Joe Hall Creek.
43 Fish passage must be addressed at artificial obstructions prior to a “trigger event”. He
44 said only the Commission may grant such a waiver.

45
46 Todd Confer laid out the details of the proposal, including the location of Tuttle Creek,
47 which is just inside the southern Oregon border. He said the fish passable structure is

1 failing, and ODOT concluded it is not fixable. Hall Creek, the mitigation site, is in Curry
2 County. It does not meet fish passage criteria either, and ODOT proposes to replace
3 that culvert with a fish friendly bridge. He said staff concluded the proposed mitigation
4 site at Joe Hall Creek provides a net benefit to native migratory species.

5
6 Apke said staff recommends approval of ODOT's request for a Fish Passage Wavier at
7 Tuttle Creek Culvert. He said they went through a three-week public comment period
8 and received no comments to date.

9
10 Commissioner Smith expressed concern about what might occur if another project
11 appeared that would eliminate the need for this mitigation. Apke said it is a problem
12 statewide. If applicants do seek a waiver, they need, by statute, to bring a mitigation
13 plan to the agency. He said ODOT does consider whether there are other applicants out
14 there that would fix that mitigation site. Commissioner Smith said it would be a good
15 idea to reveal that situation in staff's write-ups.

16
17 Chair Rae said there was no public testimony. She asked for a motion.

18
19 *Action: Commissioner Edge moved to grant the Oregon Department of*
20 *Transportation a waiver from providing fish passage at Tuttle Creek in exchange*
21 *for the proposed mitigation on Joe Hall Creek, and authorize ODFW to enter into*
22 *an agreement with ODOT to this effect. Commissioner Smith seconded the*
23 *motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

24 25 **Exhibit C: 2009 PRELIMINARY OPTIONS FOR OCEAN SALMON SEASON**

26 Ron Boyce, Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program Manager, during a slide
27 presentation, briefed the Commission on ocean salmon regulations that were adopted
28 the prior week by the Pacific Fishery Management Council. He overviewed:

29 30 Preliminary Options for 2009 Salmon Regulations

- 31 • PFMC and Near-shore Ocean Fisheries
- 32 • Columbia River and Buoy 10

33 34 2008 Salmon Regulations for Ocean and Coastal Waters.

- 35 • Process Schedule
- 36 • Abundance Forecasts
- 37 • Key Constraints
- 38 • Season Options

39
40 Boyce explained the 2009 Ocean Commercial Troll Season options, and the Ocean
41 Sport Season options. He summarized the quotas for fisheries, and the Emergency
42 Rules for 2009 Ocean Commercial and Sport Fisheries. He said the 2009 forecast for
43 Columbia River Summer Chinook is much improved over recent years. He said he will
44 return in May with the proposed regulations.

45
46 Chair Rae thanked Boyce and said she was impressed that his staff could keep track of
47 all the nuances in the PFMC process; both for the resources and users. Boyce

1
2 acknowledged the leadership of Steve Williams and the good work of other staff.

3
4 Chair Rae said there were no public comments and asked for questions.

5
6 Commissioner Smith asked if Boyce had responded to Hans Blom's correspondence
7 and his suggestion to increase the bag limit for hatchery Coho. He said Mr. Hans noted
8 that Washington has a bag limit of three hatchery Coho, while Oregon has only two.

9
10 Boyce said there is consideration for Oregon fisheries for increased bag limits for Coho.
11 He said as indicated for the Marked Selected Fishery off the Oregon Coast in Option 1,
12 there is a three bag limit for Coho. Staff is considering additional bag limits for hatchery
13 Coho in some systems like the Tillamook and Trask River Hatchery Coho systems.

14
15 Chair Rae asked staff to respond to Mr. Blom's suggestion.

16
17 **Exhibit D: RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT**
18 **APPROVALS**

19 Laura Tessler, Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Program Coordinator, presented
20 eleven projects totaling \$131,042 that were reviewed by the R&E Board on February 20.
21 She said the R&E Board recommended funding the following projects: an access
22 project (Wilson River); a Miscellaneous project for a fish cleaning station (Pendleton);
23 two STEP propagation projects (Umpqua and Winchester Creek); one Habitat project
24 (Shelvin Park); an Education project (Thurston Middle School); and five Research and
25 Monitoring projects (LaGrande, Coos County, Medford, Portland, and Gold Beach).
26 Tessler said Program Accomplishments of 2007-09, included 92 projects statewide.
27 She noted that she had distributed a department brochure, "Fish Restoration and
28 Enhancement Program, 2007-2009 Legislative Report".

29
30 Chair Rae referred to Project 07-148 – Thurston Middle School Fly Fishing Clinic, and
31 said the title is misleading because it says that it is a middle school fly fishing clinic,
32 when it is actual field work by the children. Chair Rae asked Tessler to convey to the
33 R&E Board that with dwindling financing for public education, to not let them think that
34 this project is a precedent that must be followed in similar types of projects in the future.
35 She said they need to continue to review this case-by-case basis with the goal of the
36 R&E program mission and statutory direction in mind each and every time. Chair Rae
37 said she doesn't oppose the project; she opposes the title of it.

38
39 Tessler said the funding issue for each case is discussed at the Board meeting, and she
40 promised to relay Chair Rae's comments to the R&E Board.

41
42 Chair Rae asked for a motion.

43
44 *Action: Commissioner Smith moved to approve the recommendations of the Fish*
45 *Restoration and Enhancement Board as presented by staff. Commissioner Edge*
46 *seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

1 Tessler noted that Cycle One for the next biennium closed and that she has 42 project
2 applications on board; those projects will come before the Commission in July.

3
4 **EXHIBIT E: ACCESS AND HABITAT (A&H) PROJECT FUNDING**

5 Matthew Keenan, Access and Habitat Program Coordinator, introduced A&H board
6 members: Duane Bernard, hunter representative; and Robert Jaeger, landowner
7 representative. He presented eight project proposals, seven access-only projects, and
8 one access and habitat project. He reported that the first six are access leases, where
9 the landowner would be paid \$2 to \$2.50 per acre to allow hunting for one year. The
10 seventh project is a gate opening process, where OHA volunteers would be reimbursed
11 to open and close gates. Keenan noted for the Jordan project, A&H would support three
12 years of hunting access, and would fund 50% of the cost to fence the meadows to
13 protect them from trespassing domestic sheep. The landowner originally asked A&H to
14 pay 100% of the fencing cost. Keenan said staff recommends that the Commission
15 approve the expenditure of \$92,488 for hunting access, and \$2,750 for habitat
16 improvement, for a total cost of \$95,238 from the A&H sub-account.

17
18 Chair Rae said there was no public testimony, and asked if there were questions.

19
20 Commissioner Smith asked about funding fencing in the Jordan project. He asked who
21 was responsible for such a fence. Keenan said it is not the responsibility of the
22 trespasser to prevent his livestock from entering this free range project area. This
23 project is not designed to help the landowner; it is to protect the habitat.

24
25 Keenan said the landowner said he would pay half of the cost of the fence, although
26 there have been no discussions about maintenance. Duane Bernard said the
27 landowner asked for 100% of the fencing, which A&H declined. Robert Jaeger said the
28 money shortage was the reason for asking the landowner to put up half of the money.

29
30 Chair Rae said the Commission expressed their appreciation to Bernard and Jaeger.

31
32 Commissioner Smith suggested that ODFW and the Commission write to the landowner
33 and thank him for his willingness to put up half the fence. Keenan said they weren't
34 sure just yet that Jordan was willing to put up half the fence; that was only approved by
35 the Board; Jordan still might not do it. Commissioner Klarquist said to tell Jordan that
36 he's getting \$4,800 for hunting access, and \$2,750 Access and Habitat Funds on
37 fencing. Keenan agreed.

38
39 Chair Rae said public access is important to the Commission, and asked for a motion.

40
41 *Commissioner Edge moved to approve the recommendations of the Access and*
42 *Habitat Board for project funding. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.*
43 *The motion passed unanimously.*

44
45 **Recognition of Fish Passage Task Force Members**

46 Chair Rae presented a plaque to Steve Mason and thanked him for his eight years of
47 service on the task force. Richard Craven and Larry Trossi were not present to receive

1 their plaques. Steve Mason said it had been a pleasure to serve on the task force.

2
3 Chair Rae asked Commissioner Smith to introduce the Commission's next guest.

4
5 **Introduction of Mary Wagner, New Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region,**
6 **USDA Forest Service**

7 Commissioner Zane Smith introduced Mary Wagner, who is responsible for 17 national
8 forests and an outreach program for state and private forests. He said Wagner has held
9 a number of key regional and national positions in the Intermountain Region.

10
11 Mary Wagner said she is a 25-year veteran with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), but
12 has only been the Regional Forester in the Pacific Northwest for five months. She said
13 their partnership and relationship with ODFW is important and has been outstanding.
14 She talked about coordinated efforts, such as the Blue Mountain Elk Initiative. Wagner
15 said partnerships are critical to their success; for every \$1 in appropriated funding it is
16 leveraged with \$2-3 dollars of partner funding.

17
18 Wagner said Congress recently passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,
19 and allocated \$1.5 billion to USFS, who will put people back to work improve forest
20 health, reduce catastrophic wildfires, and move toward energy independence. She said
21 the first 10% of funding has been identified. Wagner said the first project funded in
22 Oregon is a six-county hazardous fuel reduction project. The second project is "The
23 Oregon Youth Employment Initiative" that will put 1,500 youth to work. She said the
24 other 90% is expected to be announced soon. The emphasis is to create jobs in
25 counties that need it the most. Wagner also talked about other areas of common
26 interest: Salmon and Watershed Restoration, expanding coordination in relation to
27 climate change, and updating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from 1990.

28
29 Chair Rae said Wagner is welcome any time to come before the Commission. She
30 agreed the MOU needs to be reviewed and updated, and said the Commission looks
31 forward to reviewing that with her organization.

32
33 Commissioner Edge said he appreciates the work Wagner has done in the past and her
34 willingness to work with the Commission.

35
36 Chair Rae said this concludes the business portion of the meeting.

37
38 **OTHER BUSINESS**

39 Chair Rae said during the Commission's lunch, they would meet with Brandon Reishus,
40 Upland Game Bird and Water Fowl Assistant, and view the 2009 Upland Stamp Artwork
41 entries. The Commission selected a ruffed grouse painting by Kregi Jacque of
42 Riverside, Iowa as the winning entry.

43
44 **ADJOURN**

45 Chair Rae adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.