



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Minutes

Meeting:
Friday, December 2, 2016 – 8:00 a.m.
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Commission Room
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive S.E.
Salem, Oregon 97302

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2 *Commission minutes are considered draft until approved by the*
3 *Commission.*

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5 Notice of these meetings was made by press release of statewide media circulation.
6 Those attending part or all of the meeting included:
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- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Michael Finley, Chair | Curt Melcher, Director |
| Bob Webber, Commissioner | Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director |
| Holly Akenson, Commissioner | Steve Sanders, Assistant Attorney General |
| Greg Wolley, Commissioner | Erin Donald, Assistant Attorney |
| Laura Anderson, Commissioner | Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant |
| Bruce Buckmaster, Commissioner | |
| Jason Atkinson, Commissioner | |

8
9 **MEETING**

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11 On Friday, **December 2, 2016 at 8:05 a.m.**, Chair **Michael Finley** called the **Oregon**
12 **Fish and Wildlife Commission** (the Commission) meeting to order.

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14 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

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16 Field Reports – in written form only; *this report is available in the meeting materials and*
17 *at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp*

18
19 **Adopt Temporary Rules**

20 Curt Melcher, Director, requested the Commission ratify the following temporary rules.
21 The three (3) temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under his
22 emergency action authority.
23

24 **1) 635-004-0355**

25 **In-season Adjustments to Commercial Nearshore Black Rockfish Fishery Trip**
26 **Limits**

27 Adopted November 8, 2016: effective November 10, 2016 through December 31, 2016.
28 The amended rule implements changes to in-season trip limits for the Oregon
29 commercial nearshore black rockfish fishery that were inadvertently omitted from a
30 previous filing of this rule. Trip limits for black rockfish increased from 1600 to 2400
31 pounds in period 4; from 1400 to 2200 pounds in period 5; and from 1000 to 1800
32 pounds in period 6.
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1 **2) 635-005-0505**

2 **Commercial Bay Dungeness Crab Fishery Closes Due to Shellfish Health Closure**
3 Adopted November 21, 2016: effective November 21, 2016 through December 31,
4 2016.

5 This amended rule closes the commercial bay Dungeness crab fishery due to
6 issuance of a shellfish health closure by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Existing
7 permanent rule language does not adequately address closure of commercial
8 Dungeness crab fisheries due to unsafe levels of biotoxins. Rule modifications are
9 needed to close the fishery and to re-open the fishery when the shellfish health closure
10 has been lifted.

11
12 **3) 635-005-0465**

13 **Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishery Opener Delayed Due to Unsafe Levels of**
14 **Domoic Acid**

15 Adopted November 23, 2016: effective November 23, 2016 through May 21, 2017.

16 This amended rule delays the opening of the 2016-2017 commercial Dungeness
17 crab season in the Pacific Ocean and Columbia River due to elevated levels of the
18 biotoxin domoic acid, detected in samples of crab viscera during preseason testing. The
19 season opening set in permanent rule is December 1. A new opening date for these
20 fisheries has not been set, will depend on the results of further testing, and may differ
21 regionally. Commercial Dungeness crab fisheries in bays and estuaries have already
22 been closed in accordance with the provisions of Temporary OAR 635-005-0505(2) (e),
23 which became effective November 21, 2016.

24
25 Commissioner Webber moved to ratify the three temporary rules set out on today's tan
26 agenda. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion carried
27 unanimously.

28
29 **Columbia River Fisheries Reform**

30 Staff: Ed Bowles, Fish Division Administrator
31 Chris Kern, Deputy Fish Division Administrator
32 Tucker Jones, Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program Manager
33 John North, Columbia River Fishery Manager
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35 *Staff Presentation: Tucker Jones and Chris Kern provided a presentation that*
36 *addressed updated 2016 data for full implementation with non-MSF purse seine- update*
37 *2016 data, complete analysis; rebalance options; freeze transition, increase ex-vessel*
38 *scenario.*

39 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
40 http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp

41
42 Commissioner Buckmaster – expressed concern about how accurate the economic
43 base for the commercial fishery was and would ask that you discuss this with Gunner
44 Knapp; Fisheries Economist, University of Alaska. He has specifically worked on local
45 rural fisheries to gain multipliers. I would like him and the McDowell group in Seattle to
46 be considered as resources as we move forward. Also asked that a clear definition for

1 conservation be provided. He also expressed concern about a lot of what is being read
2 in the popular press is the issue of conservation being the saving of ESA listed fish
3 through policy. What is being provided from staff is actually the conservation accrual
4 benefits? There is confusion amongst the public; we need to have that fully fleshed out.
5 Chair Finley ask staff to bring back a 25/75 split in all three seasons as it has been
6 fished.

7
8 Commissioner Buckmaster submitted to staff a document that he had been asked to
9 introduce. The idea being introduced from a local ocean health advocate, is talking
10 about increased use of select areas, and whether or not if long term it was of benefit
11 from an ocean health issue.

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13 *This document is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
14 http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp

17 PUBLIC FORUM

18 Note: This part of the agenda is for comments on topics not scheduled elsewhere on the
19 agenda. The Commission is unable to take action on items brought to their attention in
20 this forum.

22 Hunting Oregon Big Game over Bait Sites

Tom Repko	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
Chris Stewart	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp

24 Traditional Archers of Oregon User Group Growth

Carson Brown, Secretary Traditional Archers of Oregon	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
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27 Pine Grove Archery Hunt

Chuck and Toni Lynde, Traditional Archers of Oregon	Additional written testimony was provided supporting this proposal. Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
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	Thank Director Melcher for the good work and is very impressed with the work he has been doing in the short time he has been Director.
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Proposition 100, Wildlife Trafficking Act

Christopher Marley, Pheromone	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp</i>
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Yaquina Bay Herring Roe Fishery

Bob Rees, NW Steelheaders	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp</i>
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Commissioner Buckmaster reminded that as we look at individual hunts, differing methods of hunting, and times, it is easy to get focused on a specific hunt or time. While we are looking at individual hunts, consider all hunts, times, all means of take, and what is being harvested.

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Exhibit A: COMMISSION MINUTES

The Commission was asked to approve draft June 9 & 10, and August 5, 2016 Commission meeting minutes.

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Action:

Commissioner Webber moved to approve the June 9 and 10, and August 5, 2016 meeting minutes. Commissioner Akenson seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

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Exhibit B: COLUMBIA RIVER FISHERIES REFORM

The Commission will be asked to adopt draft rules to extend the “transition period” for Columbia River Fisheries Reform rules through January 31, 2017

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- Staff: Ed Bowles, Fish Division Administrator
- Chris Kern, Deputy Fish Division Administrator
- Tucker Jones, Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program Manager
- John North, Columbia River Fishery Manager
- Public Testimony
- Rulemaking

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Staff Presentation: Chris Kerns provided a presentation regarding the Extension of the Columbia River Reform Transition Period to February 1, 2017

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This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at
http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp

Tom Wolf, Trout Unlimited	Trout Unlimited opposes the removal of barbless hook on Willamette River.
Jim Wells, SFA	Provided written testimony. <i>This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
Kent Martin, Salmon for All (SFA)	Purse seine Zone 4 &5 is a recipe for a major disaster, there will be conflicts with other users. Water skiers, sail boats, and jet sleds; people that don't have conflict with commercial fishing other than on the warm summer afternoons, they are going to be out there. Any mindless sport priority is incompatible with what the HSRG has said with regard to hatchery surplus. Steelhead, Spring Chinook, and all of the hatchery stocks below Bonneville are going to be in serious jeopardy unless we concentrate on ways to remove these big surpluses of hatchery fish instead of these fish fights. Also believe that if the commercial fishing goes away that the tribes will come down to the area to fish. They won't be fishing just two days a week.
Robert Sudar, SFA	Two initiatives were promoted by sport fishing advocates in the 1990s, one in Washington and one in Oregon. Citizens of both states recognized that it was allocation issues not conservation issues and the initiatives were defeated by 60 to 40 margins. In 2001, things began to change and returns numbers went up in spring, summer, and fall fisheries. ESA listings changed when and where we could fish. We implemented new gear like spring tangle nets. We were able to harvest selectively with gillnets on healthy runs and stay within all of our management constraints. Working group began with the commercial and sports industries, over the years there was varied success in these work groups. In the 2012, working group inquiries about the science behind the plan were made; the group was instructed to focus on implementing the plan not to discuss it. Commissioner Levy talked about ways to make the impact on the Commercial fishery no greater than five percent. Staff produced a comparative model seen on pages C4 and C5. This model did not use the data we have; it was a way to compare different situations. For this plan the process has been different, normally two views are presented to the Commission, staff is utilized to do staff checking and provide answers to Commissioners questions. Senior staff has taken the position of proponent of the policy. It feels like the commercial industry is at the defensive of trying to defend our own fishery. Commissioner Webber said it best at the November 9

	<p>Commission meeting when he stated “It is inconceivable that we could transfer impacts to the sport fishery and remove the main stem gillnet fishery and not cause significant economic harm.” That is exactly the point we have been trying to make for the past four years. Even if things stop right now we will still have lost ground. No matter how many times senior staff tries to spin it, it just isn’t working. You already have a sport priority, it is already. The plan talks about removing non selective gillnets, we fish selectively in every season. There is lots of data to support that. It is time to use adaptive management to turn this policy in to something that is beneficial for all users.</p>
<p>Bryce Divine, SFA</p>	<p>Concerned that the economics in this plan take a view that my economic fishery can be summed up by an X Vessel value. That is a one dimensional view. In moving from the Columbia River into select areas there is other costs that are involved. Another factor involved is time. It is quite a bit of additional expense to go to select areas. The additional time and expense to go to the select areas is something that needs to be considered.</p>
<p>Brian McLauchlan</p>	<p>Focus on the economic analysis prepared by the agency. Using the new model is an improvement. I still have concern if the agency in its economic analysis is getting at what the statute requires. The agencies economic analysis focuses on local personal income impacts. The statute speaks to optimizing overall economic benefits to the state. A major flaw that is inherent in the method that the agency is using. When sport fishing impacts are calculated it includes only trip expenditures such as gas, food and lodging; the method excludes equipment expenditures such as boats, trailers, reals and rods, and tackle. Reports found on the ODFW website indicate that equipment expenditures accounts for 56% of sport fishing expense. Another study on the department website shows that the United States Department of Commerce found that 63% of saltwater sport fishing expense can be traced to goods purchases. If you look at these reports it would suggest that the agency is overlooking 50% to 60% of the economic impacts of recreational salmon fishing. The agency is devaluing the economic contribution of recreational fishing on the Columbia River and the jobs that it brings to Oregon. I do not think that the analysis that the agency has done has gotten to the heart of what SB 830 requires to look at economic benefits for the state.</p>

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Commissioner Buckmaster asks Jim Wells to discuss his proposal.

Jim Wells explained that all user groups must embrace the concept of sharing, no one group deserves 100% of any particular run unless the others are willing to trade their shares. It is difficult to nail down impact shares on each mainstem fishery until safe cuts are made public and future values can be potentially calculated. Jim had provided

1 *handouts during his previous testimony of the hatcheries on the block to be cut. Coho*
2 *are our money fish and they are on the block right now. None of the models that have*
3 *been shown take these cuts into consideration.*

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5 *To have a viable and enhanced fishery, any models that will show a gain for us, shows*
6 *a commercial fishery in all the mainstem seasons. Spring we have a 40% buffer while*
7 *the sport has a 20%. With our tangle nets and recovery boxes which are selective gear*
8 *that we have developed. This is an excessive buffer on us right now, the 40% buffer*
9 *forces us to use a standard gillnet in May. If using tangle nets and boxes at 20% buffer*
10 *that is equivant to the sports buffer, we could go out like we have done traditionally and*
11 *fish in late March, early April. We would be able to fish two possibly three periods, get*
12 *our share of the fish and get out. It's a perfect fishery because there is a high mark rate,*
13 *its cold water, and there is no bi-catch; we work around the steelhead. The buffer needs*
14 *to be reduced to be equal to the sports to allow our tangle nets to be operated. In the*
15 *summer, a non-listed run of fish, there is a six week time period that these fish are*
16 *moving through. In 2016 the Commercial fishery had two eight hour periods, we got our*
17 *fish and we got out. In 2015 we had three periods for a total of 32 hours; we caught our*
18 *fish with no impact on the steelhead. In the fall a big mesh fishery in zones 4 and 5,*
19 *maybe in the lower river if need be, coho tangle net and there may be time on big runs*
20 *that we need to use gillnet. To sum it up, everyone has to accept sharing.*

21
22 Discussion

23 Commissioner Anderson asked that in moving the model output titles to be more
24 natural, Rebalance 1A; Rebalance 1B; and the title of Positive X Vessel vs Policy does
25 not seem to be an accurate representation.

26
27 Commission Wolley asked if all the new materials will be provided prior to the January
28 20th meeting. Some of these materials from this meeting were not seen until today. We
29 would need to see and review the materials prior to the meeting on our own.

30
31 Commissioner Anderson in respect to Washington, we will still act with diligence
32 whether we extend. We are not going to be pressured by an arbitrary time line; in either
33 case will act in similar manner.

34
35 Commissioner Anderson amends the motion as presented. The uncertainties included
36 in the event that the Commission cannot come to agreement of full policy
37 implementation on February 1, 2017, is pretty much a death nail for the commercial
38 fishery. It is of Commissioner Anderson's opinion that it would spark an undue amount
39 of political upheaval and unrest with other states, countries, and tribal interests. Failure
40 to come to an agreement, uncertainty about Washington action that is still pending, a
41 pending workgroup discussion that has yet to happen, the Mitchell Act, and the potential
42 of stalemate amongst this Commission, even the possibility that we don't even bring a
43 quorum together.

44
45 *Action:*

46 Commissioner Anderson moved to amended OARs 635-500-6715 through -6735 as
47 shown in Attachment 3, with changes to the date for extension period as December 31,

1 2017, and long-term will begin January 1, 2018. Commissioner Akenson seconded the
2 motion. The motion was carried 5 in favor, 2 opposed.

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4 Favor: Finley; Akenson; Wolley; Anderson; and Buckmaster

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6 Opposed: Atkinson and Webber.

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8 **Exhibit C: RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT APPROVAL AND**
9 **BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

10 The Commission was asked to approve the Restoration and Enhancement Board's
11 recommendations for project funding from the September 16, 2016 meeting and appoint
12 a new Public At Large member to the R&E Board.

13 Staff: Kevin Herkamp, STEP and R&E Program Coordinator
14 Public Testimony
15 Approval

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17 *Staff Presentation: Kevin Herkamp provided the Commission a presentation*
18 *providing R &E Board Selection Criteria, a Map of Recommended and Existing Board*
19 *Members, the presentation also provided a map of recommended project locations,*
20 *Recommended Enhancement projects, 15-074 Fishing Access Facility Guide, and the*
21 *R&E Budget Statues for the 2015-2017 Biennium.*

22
23 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
24 http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
25 No Public testimony

26
27 Discussion:

28 Commissioner Wolley reinforced the importance of the Department to make as wide of
29 an outreach as possible to provide diversity on these boards.

30
31 Commissioner Webber discussed that statewide representation is another important
32 element in this decision.

33
34 *Action:*

35 Commissioner Wolley moved to appoint Kay Brown to a four year term as the **Public at**
36 **Large** representative on the Fish Restoration and Enhancement Board. Commissioner
37 Anderson seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

38
39 Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the recommendations of the Fish
40 Restoration and Enhancement Board. Commissioner Wolley seconded the motion and
41 the motion was carried unanimously.

42
43 **Exhibit D: REGULATIONS FOR 2017 GROUND FISH FISHERIES AND 2015**
44 **NEARSHORE LOGBOOK REPORT**

45 The Commission will be asked to adopt 2017 Regulations for Recreational and
46 Commercial Groundfish Fisheries and review the 2015 Annual Commercial Nearshore
47 Logbook Report.

1 Staff: Maggie Sommer, Marine Fisheries Section Manager
 2 Public Testimony
 3 Rulemaking
 4

5 *Staff Presentation: Maggie Sommer provided the Commission a presentation providing*
 6 *information related to the 2015 Commercial Nearshore Logbook Report: Geographic*
 7 *Distribution; permit home port; Logbook return rates; distribution of nearshore logbook*
 8 *hails for 2015; and nearshore logbook catch-per-unit- effort indices. The presentation*
 9 *also provided information related to the 2017 Ground fish regulations; 2017 Federal*
 10 *Ground fish rules; 2017 State Harvest Guidelines; 2017 Commercial Nearshore Fishery*
 11 *Regulations; bi-monthly trip limits; Commercial Trip Limits; Commercial Nearshore*
 12 *Landings; factors affecting commercial nearshore attainment Lingcod Fishery; and 2017*
 13 *Commercial nearshore regulations.*

14
 15 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
 16 http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
 17

public testimony

Hank Mills	Supports most of the recommendations in today's proposal. The descending devices are the #1 priority to keep our seasons open longer, the blue and black rockfish proposal, I also support. Allowing up to seven Canary after such a long restriction of not being able to keep any does not really make a lot of sense. I am still not convinced that the populations are healthy enough to allow for retention of seven, it should be reduced down. I don't feel that there has been enough evidence that the China Rockfish that we would be able to add four per day to the bag limit. I think that all the nearshore fish that have been restricted should continue to be restricted. If we are not good stewards of our fishery we are not going to have a fishery for our children and grandchildren. We need to be conservative in our efforts and requirements to keep these fish in the bio mass.
Rod Harder	Supports the proposal for descending device. An increase from one to seven canary rockfish will take some pressure of the rockfish. There will be confusion when it comes to the change of China rockfish going from no fish to four fish. I think that staff will need to provide education to make this successful. Mr. Harder brought several styles of descending devices for the Commission to look at.
Edmond Keene	Provided written materials. <i>These materials are located in the commission material and can be viewed at</i> http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp Rockfish we have been releasing are fish that can live 75-100 years. There is concern that we can now keep these fish. These fish become mature and do not reproduce until 15-20 yrs. old. Skeptical of science made within one year and are now seen to be harvestable. If we harvest old mature fish it

	<p>may take as much as 15 years before we see a renewal.</p> <p>Our organization has given away thousands of these release devices. We have become the model for the United States in some regards. Oregon should be proud that we have been the leader to help reduce and keep our ocean healthy.</p>
Brian MacLauchlan	<p>Supports descending device proposed rule, generally support proposal- Washington has closed rockfish fishery. I urge you to be cautious, regardless to the bag limit it's the opportunity is more important. Be conservative so we do not roll up against emergency closure like last year. Give staff tools need to they need to do in-season adjustments. Complemented staff that worked on the long leader fishery.</p>

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Discussion:

Commissioner Buckmaster is interested in seeing a recommendation from staff regarding compliance requirement.

Commissioner Webber asked that the definition of functional descending device be clarified in the future.

Action:

Commissioner Anderson moved to adopt the recommended recreational and commercial ground fish regulations as proposed by staff in Attachment 3, to direct department staff to add to the adopted regulations the appropriate citations to the 2017-18 National Marine Fisheries Service ground fish rules when those federal rules are adopted, and to direct department staff to wait to file the Commission's adopted regulations with the Secretary of State until after department staff has added the appropriate citations. I would like to add to strike language rules page 5 line 162 except that is not required for black rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*), blue rockfish (*S. mystinus*), deacon rockfish (*S. disconus*), yellow rockfish (*S. flavidus*), or widow rockfish (*S. entomelas*).

Commissioner Buckmaster seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

Exhibit E: SENSITIVE SPECIES LIST

The Commission was provided an update on the changes to the Sensitive Species List that resulted from the most recent review.

Staff: Michele Weaver, Fish Division ESA Specialist
 Martin Nugent, Wildlife Division ESA Coordinator
 Public Testimony
 Informational

1 *Staff Presentation: Martin Nugent and Michelle Weaver provided the Commission with a*
2 *presentation about the 2016 updates to the Sensitive Species List. Included in their*
3 *presentation was information on the background, what a sensitive species is, Fish*
4 *species management units, Wildlife Oregon Conservation strategy ecoregions, last*
5 *update the list, changes to the list, relation of list to the Oregon Conservation strategy,*
6 *species status review process, public involvement, how the sensitive species list is*
7 *used, overview of the list, and next steps.*

8
9 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
10 http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp
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public testimony	
Mary Anne Nash, Oregon Farm Bureau	Did not testify

12 Discussion:

13 Assistant Attorney General Steve Sanders read OAR 635-100-0040 (2) in to the record.

14
15 A wildlife Species shall qualify for inclusion on the sensitive species list if:

16 (a)

17 Its numbers are declining at a rate such that it may become eligible for listing as
18 a threatened species;

19 (b)

20 Its habitat is threatened or declining in quality such that it may become eligible for
21 listing as a threatened species.

22
23 Commissioner Akenson stated: Given our approach looking at alternative funding, both
24 wildlife in the state and federally; we really need much more emphasis on monitoring
25 sensitive species as well as strategy species. So that we will have the data and the
26 transparency to be able to tell our partners - this is what we know, this is why it is on this
27 list, and here is our record from long term changes. I really feel like, because we haven't
28 had the funding for the Conservation Strategy to do an adequate job, this has been de-
29 prioritized. I see this as the number one critical piece for ODFW to spend funding on as
30 we get the funding. Get people on the ground to get real data from the ground and not
31 just model it or try to guess what our populations are doing.

32
33 Action: Informational

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35 **Exhibit F: ACCESS and HABITAT BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS**

36 The Commission was asked to approve the Access and Habitat State Board
37 appointments for the Chair Position and Hunter Representative.

38 Staff: Isaac Sanders, A&H Program Coordinator

39 Public Testimony

40 Approval

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42 *Staff Presentation: Isaac Sanders provided the commission with a presentation relating*
43 *to the appointment of*

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This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/16/12_dec/index.asp

No public testimony provided

Action:

Commissioner Finley moved to appoint Craig Ely as Chair of the Access and Habitat Board. Commissioner Webber seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Finley moved to appoint Dave Stiefvater as Hunter Representative on the Access and Habitat Board. Commissioner Webber seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Director Melcher announced that an Executive Internal Auditor has been hired; we are now working to populate an Audit Committee. Commission Buckmaster will be the Commission representative on this Committee.

Governor Brown has released her budget. For the most part, it looks like the Governor has by-in large taken our recommendation as it relates to general fund. We will be providing you more detail about this.

Chair Finley recognized and thanked Commissioner Atkinson for his work with us that he has done on with the Commission and thanked him for his service.

Chair Finley suggested that the forensic Lab in Ashland be included on the Commission tour along with the Dam Removal when we meet in Klamath Falls in 2017.

Chair Michael Finley adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.