Commission minutes are considered draft until approved by the Commission.

Notice of these meetings had been made by press release of statewide media circulation. Those attending part or all of the meeting included:

Mike Finley, Chairman
Bob Webber, Vice-Chair Commissioner
Holly Akenson, Commissioner
Greg Wooley, Commissioner
Laura Anderson, Commissioner
Bruce Buckmaster, Commissioner
Jim Bittle, Commissioner
Curt Melcher, Director
Erica Kleiner, Deputy Director
Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director
Mark Vargas, Interim Deputy Director
Bruce Eddy, East Region Manager
Bernadette Graham-Hudson, West Region Manager
Anika Marriott, Assistant Attorney General
Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant
Ed Bowles, Fish Division Administrator
Doug Cottam, Wildlife Division Administrator
Jeff Samuels, Captain Oregon State Police

MEETING

On Friday, January 18, 2019 at 8:00 AM, Chair Mike Finley called the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (the Commission) meeting to order.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Field Reports – in written form only; this report is available in the meeting materials and at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/Field%20Report%20January%202019.pdf

Expenditure Report

Staff: Erica Kleiner, Deputy Director for Administration
The Commission Financial Report for the 2017-19 biennium as of November 30, 2018 is provided as an attachment. Revenues continue to be strong. Federal revenues are still leaning towards flat funding or reductions. The department has only been minimally impacted by the partial Federal government shutdown. Our major funding sources are still intact and we continue to be able to draw Federal Funds. Other Funds spending is currently below projections. The department still expects expenditures in the last part of the biennium will be higher but still be below budgeted amount barring unforeseen costs. The Department is currently preparing the Governor’s Recommended Budget document,
which should be completed around the end of January. The Secretary of State’s audit of 2018 financial statements continues and should be completed soon.

This report is available in the meeting materials and at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/2017-19%20(2019-01)%20Commission%20Financial%20Report.pdf

Big Game Hunting Review
Nick Myatt, Big Game Hunting Review Project Lead

Presentation: Nick provided the Commission with a presentation on the Big Game Hunting Review that the department is currently undergoing. This presentation included information on project background, goals and objectives, project timelines, hunter survey and public outreach.

This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/Big%20Game%20Hunting%20Review_Commission_1_18_19.pdf

PUBLIC FORUM
This part of the agenda is for comments on topics not scheduled on the agenda. The Commission will be unable to take action on items brought to their attention in this forum.

The Elimination of all Commercial Crabbing in the Columbia River Estuary
Larry Dean Sene - did not testify

New Licensing System Changes
Roy Bertolani – did not testify
Jeff Keightley, Astoria Fishing Charter

Columbia River
Jim Wells, Salmon for All

Resource and Market Analysis of Oregon’s Hagfish Fishery
Gway Kirchner; The Nature Conservancy, Project Director
Provided Written Testimony – This testimony is located in the commission material and can be viewed at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/Public%20Forum_Hagfish_January%204%202019.pdf, and https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/Resource%20and%20Market%20Analysis%20of%20Oregons%20Hagfish%20Fishery_January%204%202019.pdf
Adopt Temporary Rules
Curt Melcher, Director

The Commission ratified the following temporary rules. The six (6) temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under his emergency action authority.

1.) 635-019-0090
Extend reduced steelhead bag limit in Snake River tributaries through April, 2019

This rule reduces the summer steelhead daily bag limit from three (3) to one (1), in response to very low observed returns of steelhead to the Oregon Snake River tributaries in 2019.

2.) 635-023-0134
Extend the reduced steelhead daily bag limit in the Snake River through April 30, 2019

Extend the amended rule to reduce daily bag limit of one (1) summer steelhead in the mainstem Snake River. Run projections are exceptionally low, and likely insufficient to provide a harvestable surplus beyond brood stock needs. This rule is needed to reduce angling pressure on wild steelhead stocks, protect production objectives for the Snake River steelhead program, and to ensure rules are consistent with the state of Idaho within an interstate waterway.

3.) 635-005-0465
Commercial Dungeness Crab Season Opening North of Cape Arago
Adopted December 31, 2018: effective December 31, through March 31, 2019.

This amended rule sets the opening date and related management measures for the 2018-2019 ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery from Cape Arago (43° 17’ 00” N. Lat.) northward to the Washington border (46° 15’ 00” N. Lat.) on January 4, 2019. The commercial Dungeness crab fishery will remain closed from Cape Arago (43° 17’ 00” N. Lat.) southward to the California border (42° 00’ 00” N. Lat.).

4.) 635-043-0175
Amend Rules Related to Roadkill Salvage Permit
Adopted: January 1, 2019 Effective Dates: January 1, 2019 through June 29, 2019

This temporary rule is needed to correct only an inadvertent error with the numbering of a rule passed by the Commission on October 12, 2018 that implements SB 372 (2017) permitting the salvage of deer and elk that are accidentally killed as a result of a vehicle collision. The purpose of the salvage is for the human consumption of the meat from the carcasses. Failure to adopt this rule would result in serious prejudice to the public who wish to salvage deer and elk for human consumption of the meat from the carcasses starting on January 1, which was the starting date intended by the Oregon legislature and Commission.
5.) 635-065-0011
Mandatory Reporting Penalty
Adopted: January 3, 2019  Effective Dates: January 3, 2019 through July 1, 2019
A temporary rule is needed to modify 635-065-0011 (1)(a) to extend the reporting
deadline date for hunts ending between April 1 and December 31, 2018. Due to some
components of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s new Electronic
Licensing System (ELS) being unfamiliar to hunters, they are having difficulties trying
to complete the Mandatory Reporting requirement. Extending the deadline to April 15,
2019 will provide customers more time to familiarize with the system and report.

6.) 635-023-0095
White Sturgeon Recreational Fisheries in The Dalles Pool Closed
Adopted January 4, 2019; effective January 7, through July 5, 2019.
This amended rule closes the white sturgeon fishery in The Dalles Pool (The
Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam) of the Columbia River. Catch projections
indicate retention of white sturgeon after January 6, 2019 would exceed the allowable
quota. Catch and release sturgeon fishing remains open in these waters.

7.) 635-043-0150
Ceremonial Harvest of Deer, Elk and Pronghorn by the Burns Paiute Tribe of
Oregon
Adopted: January 11, 2019 Effective Dates: January 11, 2019 through July 9, 2019
A temporary rule is needed to modify 635-043-0150(3)(e) to correct the annual
start date for the pronghorn season. The Department presentation to the
Commission and discussions with the Burns Paiute Tribe outlined a season start date
of January 1st for all authorized species. There is an error in that date in the adopted
and filed OARs. There is not adequate time to go through the normal rulemaking
process before the correct season start date and failure to adopt this temporary rule
would result in serious prejudice to the Burns Paiute Tribe’s authorization to harvest
big game for ceremonial and cultural purposes.

Action:
Commissioner Webber moved to ratify the seven (7) temporary rules set forth in the
today’s tan agenda. Commissioner Akenson seconded the motion, and the motion carried
unanimously, six (6) infavor.

EXHIBIT A: COMMISSION MINUTES
Action:
Commissioner Akenson moved to approve the December 7, 2018 meeting minutes
with continued authority to correct grammer and punctuation. Commissioner Wolley
seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6) infavor.
EXHIBIT B: SCHEDULE OF DAMAGES

The Commission adopted the schedule of damages used in assessing commercial fishing violations during 2018.
Staff: Allen Molina; Natural Resource Economist

Presentation: Allen provided the Commission with an annual update of average market values, changes in values, and recommendations.

This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/B/B_Presentation.pdf

No Public Testimony

Rulemaking

Action:
Commissioner Webber moved to amened the Schedule of Damages for Commercial Fishing Violations contained in OAR 635-006-0232 as propoed by staff in Attachment 3. Commissioner Bittle seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6) infavor.

EXHIBIT C: ROGUE SPRING CHINOOK SALMON CONSERVATION PLAN

COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT AND UPDATE

The Commission was provided an informational briefing on the Comprehensive Assessment and Update for the Rogue Spring Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan.
Staff: Dan VanDyke, Upper Rogue District Fish Biologist

Presentation: Dan provided the Commission with a presentation on 2007 Rogue River Spring Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan’s comprehensive assessment and update. The presentation included objectives, current status compared to conservation criteria, current status compared to desired status, NPCHS abundance 1946 to 2017, genetic information, management strategies, angling regulations proposal, hatchery program improvements, current hatchery loss, and public comment.

This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/C/C_Presentation.pdf

Public Testimony

| Jake Crawford, Native Fish Society |
| Peter Tronquet, Native Fish Society |
| Informational |
EXHIBIT D: PETITION TO MODIFY ANGLING REGULATIONS FOR ROGUE SPRING CHINOOK SALMON – Petition Withdrawn

EXHIBIT E: 2019 COLUMBIA RIVER COMMERCIAL FISHERY REGULATIONS

HOUSEKEEPING
The Commission was asked to approve amendments to rules for commercial fisheries in the Columbia River and Select Areas.

Staff: John North, Fisheries Manager, Ocean Salmon, and Columbia River Programs

Presentation: John provided the Commission with a presentation on the issues being addressed with these regulations changes including housekeeping (non-Treaty); dressed fish reporting (Treaty); E-ticket rules (non-Treaty); Winter Platform (Treaty) and public process.

This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/01_Jan/E/E_Presentation.pdf

No Public Testimony
Rulemaking

Action:
Commissioner Buckmaster moved to adopt new OAR 635-041-0064 as proposed by staff. Commissioner Wolley seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6) in favor.

EXHIBIT F: COMMERCIAL FISHERY PERMIT BOARD APPOINTMENT Cancelled

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Mike Finley adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.