



Meeting:
Friday, January 15, 2021 – 8:00 AM
Oregon Department Fish and Wildlife
Virtual Meeting
4034 Fairview Industrial DR SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

1 *Commission minutes are considered draft until approved by the Commission.*

2

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

5

Mary Wahl, Chair	Curt Melcher, Director
Greg Wolley, Vice-Chair	Erica Kleiner, Deputy Director
Bob Spelbrink, Commissioner	Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director
Mark Labhart, Commissioner	Mike Harrington, Interim East Region Manager
Jill Zarnowitz, Commissioner	Bernadette Graham Hudson, West Region Manager
Becky Hatfield-Hyde, Commissioner	Anika Marriott, Assistant Attorney General
	Erin Donald, Assistant Attorney General
	Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant
	Cedric Cooney, Interim Fish Division Administrator
	Doug Cottam, Wildlife Division Administrator
	Casey Thomas, Captain Oregon State Police

6 **MEETING**

7

8 On Friday, January 15, 2021 at 9:00 AM, Chair Wahl called the Oregon Fish and Wildlife
9 Commission (the Commission) meeting to order.

10

11 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

12

13 Field Reports – in written form only; *this report is available in the meeting materials and at*
14 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Field%20Report%201.15.2021.pdf

15

16 Expenditure Report

17 Staff: Erica Kleiner, Deputy Director for Administration

18 Erica provided the Commission with a report that Revenue from license sales remains healthy.

19 Customer retention planning efforts continue and nearly 10,000 customers (20% of recipients)

20 responded to the retention survey that was distributed in December. Preparations are underway for

21 ODFW’s budget presentation to the Ways & Means Natural Resources subcommittee.

22

23 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*

24 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Commission%20Financial%20Re](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Commission%20Financial%20Report%20January%202021.pdf)
25 [port%20January%202021.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Commission%20Financial%20Report%20January%202021.pdf)

26

27

1 **Adopt Temporary Rules**

2 Curt Melcher, Director, requested the Commission ratify the following temporary rules. The seven (7)
3 temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under his emergency action authority.
4

5 **1.) 635-067-0000**

6 **Cancel hunting opportunity for the Burnt River Canyon 2021 bighorn sheep hunt #551**

7 Adopted: December 22, 2020 – Effective Dates: December 22, 2020 through June 29, 2021

8 Oregon Administrative Rules establishing tag numbers for 2021 controlled bighorn sheep hunts were
9 adopted September 2020. Tag numbers adopted at that time did not anticipate the level of disease-
10 related mortality and the low wildlife population levels observed through this fall-winter 2020-2021.
11 This rule amendment is needed to reduce the number of tags that may be issued for the purpose of
12 hunting bighorn sheep during the Burnt River Canyon 2021 controlled hunt #551.
13

14 **2.) 635-023-0125**

15 **Modify Hatchery Steelhead Bag Limit for Columbia River upstream of The Dalles Dam**

16 Adopted December 22, 2020: effective January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021.

17 This amended rule maintains a one-hatchery steelhead bag limit in the Columbia River
18 upstream of The Dalles Dam through March 31, 2021.
19

20 **3.) 635-019-0090, 635-023-0134**

21 **Reduce Steelhead Bag Limit on Grand Ronde and Snake River and Their Tributaries**

22 Adopted December 22, 2020: effective January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021.

23 These amended rules reduce the daily bag limit for steelhead to two from three hatchery fish
24 per day in the Grand Ronde and Snake Rivers and tributaries from January 1 to April 30, 2020.
25

26 **4.) 635-016-0090**

27 **Prohibit Retention of Wild Spring Chinook in the Mainstem Umpqua River**

28 Adopted December 22, 2020: effective January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

29 This amended rule prohibits retention of all wild Chinook salmon on the Mainstem Umpqua
30 River while allowing for retention of hatchery Chinook salmon from February 1, 2021 through June
31 30, 2021.
32

33 **5.) 635-023-0095**

34 **Close White Sturgeon Recreational Retention in The Dalles Pool**

35 Adopted January 4, 2020: effective January 5, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

36 This amended rule closes the retention of white sturgeon in The Dalles Pool of the Columbia
37 River. Catch projections indicate retention of white sturgeon after January 4, 2021 for The Dalles Pool
38 would further exceed the allowable quota. Catch and release sturgeon fishing remains open in these
39 waters, except for within the sturgeon angling sanctuaries as specified in permanent rules.
40

41 **6.) 635-023-0095**

42 **Close White Sturgeon Recreational Retention in Bonneville Pool**

43 Adopted January 7, 2020: effective January 8, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

44 This amended rule closes the retention of white sturgeon in Bonneville Pool of the Columbia
45 River. Catch projections indicate retention of white sturgeon after January 7, 2021 would further
46 exceed the allowable quota. Catch and release sturgeon fishing remains open in these waters, except
47 for within the sturgeon angling sanctuaries as specified in permanent rules.

1
2 **7.) 635-017-0095**

3 **Allow temporary use of two-rod validation in lower Willamette River**

4 Adopted January 13, 2020: effective March 1, 2021 through August 15, 2021.

5 This amended rule allows for the usage of the two-rod validation in the lower Willamette
6 River. Modifications allow the use of two-rod validation while fishing for all game and non-game fish
7 species, except sturgeon, in the Willamette River downstream of Willamette Falls (including
8 Multnomah Channel), and that portion of the Clackamas River downstream of the Highway 99 bridge
9 (just upstream of the confluence with the Willamette).

10
11 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Temporary%20Oregon%20Administrative%20Rules%20Report1.13.21.pdf
12

13
14 **Action:**

15 Commissioner Labhart moved to ratify temporary rules numbered 1 through 6 set forth in the today's
16 tan agenda. Commissioner Zarnowitz seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, six
17 (6) in favor.

18
19 Commissioner Labhart moved to ratify the temporary rule numbered 7 set forth in the today's tan
20 agenda. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, five (5)
21 in favor – Wolley, Spelbrink, Labhart, Zarnowitz, Hatfield-Hyde; one (1) opposed - Wahl.

22
23 **OTHER BUSINESS**

24 **COMMISSION UPDATES**

25
26 **PUBLIC FORUM**

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

29
30 Overlap of District Damage tags and General Season Elk Damage Tag areas
31 Chris Heffernan

32
33 South Coast Wither Steelhead
34 Leonard Krug, President of Oregon Anglers Alliance

35
36 Retention of antlers from a harvested animal
37 Jeff Van Winkle

38
39 **Exhibit A: COMMISSION MINUTES**

40 **Action:**

41 Commissioner Wolley moved to approve the December 11, 2020 meeting minutes with
42 continued authority to correct grammar and punctuation. Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde seconded the
43 motion and the motion was carried six (6) in favor.

1 **EXHIBIT B: CONSERVATION AND RECREATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
2 **PROJECT APPROVAL**

3 The Commission approved the Conservation & Recreation Advisory Committee’s
4 recommendations for projects from the Conservation & Recreation Fund.

5 Staff: Davia Palmeri, Conservation Strategy Coordinator

6 Dr. Karl Wenner, Conservation and Recreation Fund Advisory
7

8 Presentation: Davia provided the Commission with a presentation on funding status; the
9 Outdoor Equity Subcommittee; second round expenditures; review criteria; Committee review in
10 November; and final review and recommendations.

11 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*

12 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20B/Presentation_OCRF](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20B/Presentation_OCRF%20January%202021.pdf)
13 [%20January%202021.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20B/Presentation_OCRF%20January%202021.pdf)
14

15
16 No Public Testimony

17 Approval

18 Action:

19 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to approve the seven (7) projects recommended for funding by the
20 Conservation & Recreation Advisory Committee as described in Attachment 2.

21 Commissioner Wolley seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6) in favor.
22

23 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to approve the 22 projects recommended for funding by the
24 Conservation & Recreation Advisory Committee contingent on funds becoming available as described
25 in Attachment 3. Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6)
26 in favor.
27

28 **EXHIBIT C: SCHEDULE OF DAMAGES FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING VIOLATIONS**

29 The Commission amended rules to update existing food fish species market values that will be
30 used to access damages resulting from commercial fishing violations.
31

32 Staff: Dr. Allen Molina, Senior Economist

33 Presentation: Allen provided the Commission with a presentation on ORS 506.730 “Damages
34 for the unlawful take of food fish” and the annual update if average market values.
35

36 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*

37 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20C/_2021_Schedule%2](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20C/_2021_Schedule%20of%20Damages%20Presentation.pdf)
38 [0of%20Damages%20Presentation.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20C/_2021_Schedule%20of%20Damages%20Presentation.pdf)
39

40 No Public Testimony

41 Rulemaking

42 Action:

43 Commissioner Zarnowitz moved to approve the amendments to the Schedule of Damages for
44 Commercial Fishing Violations contained in OAR 635-006-0232 as proposed by staff in Attachment
45 3. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion and the motion was carried six (6) in favor.
46

1 **EXHIBIT D: NON-NATIVE GAMEFISH MANAGEMENT POLICY**

2 The Commission delayed consideration of amendments to OAR 635 Division 7 and to adopt the
3 Non-Native Game Fish Management Policy.

4
5 Staff: Mike Gauvin, Recreational Fisheries Program Manager
6 Gary Galovich, Western Oregon Warm Water Fish Biologist
7

8 Presentation: Mike provided the Commission with a presentation on the proposed Non-Native
9 Game Fish Policy. This presentation included in the purpose and goals of the policy and listed
10 Oregon's non-native game fish. Key elements and policy directives for rivers, streams, and natural
11 lakes were also included in the presentation.

12
13 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
14 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/21/01_Jan/Exhibit%20D/Exhibit%20D_Presentation.pdf
15

16
17 Public Testimony
Jennifer Fairbrother, Native Fish Society
Herb Doumitt, Warmwater Champions
Carol Doumitt, Oregon Bass and Panfish Club

18 Rulemaking

19 Action:

20 The Commission delayed adoption of rule amendments and the Non-Native Game Fish Policy
21 and directed staff to relook at the Non-Native Fish Policy after providing the opportunity to meet with
22 additional stakeholder groups.
23

24
25 Chair Wahl adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.