



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Minutes

Tour:
Thursday, March 14, 2024; 8:00 AM
Best Western Garden Villa Inn
760 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, OR 97470

Meeting:
Friday March 15, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.
Umpqua Community College
Danny Lang Teaching, Event Center
1140 Umpqua College Rd.
Roseburg, OR 97470

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

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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
Becky Hatfield-Hyde, Vice Chair	Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director of Administration
Bob Spelbrink, Commissioner	Debbie Colbert, Deputy Director of Fish and Wildlife Programs
Mark Labhart, Commissioner	
Kathayoon Khalil, Commissioner- Virtual	Nick Myatt, East Region Manager- Virtual
Leslie King, Commissioner	Chris Kern, West Region Manager
	Bernadette Graham Hudson, Wildlife Division Administrator
	Mike Harrington, Fish Division Administrator
	Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant
	Casey Thomas, Captain Oregon State Police
	Anika Marriott, Assistant Attorney General
	Erin Donald, Assistant Attorney General

6
7 **MEETING**

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9 On Friday, **March 15, 2024, at 8:00 AM, Chair Wahl called the Oregon Fish and Wildlife**
10 **Commission** (the Commission) meeting to order.

11
12 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

13
14 Field Reports – in written form only; *this report is available in the meeting materials and at*
15 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/March%20Field%20Report%20Final.pdf
16

17
18 **EXPENDITURE REPORT**

19 Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director for Administration

20
21 Shannon reported that, for the month ending January 31, 2024, unrestricted cash finished at
22 \$49.5M and restricted cash ended the month at \$64.6M, for a total of \$114.1M. Guidance on 2025
23 Legislative Concepts and 2025-27 Policy Option Packages was provided to agency directors
24 earlier in March. Budget instructions for 2025-27 Agency Request Budget development will be
25 provided by DAS Chief Financial Officer March 14th. The date of ODFW’s first public engagement
26 meeting for building the 2025-27 budget has been shifted to April 4.

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2 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
3 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/Commission%20Financial%20Report%20March%202024.pdf
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6 **2024 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

7 Dr. Debbie Colbert, Deputy Director of Fish and Wildlife Programs
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9 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
10 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/FWC%202024%20Leg%20Update.pdf
11

12
13 **ADAPTING TO CLIMATE AND OCEAN CHANGE REPORT**

14 Advancing Resiliency of Species in the Face of a Changing Climate: Natural and
15 Working Lands – Agricultural and Range Lands

16 Dr. Debbie Colbert, Deputy Director of Fish and Wildlife Programs

17 Davia Palmeri, Acting Lands Program Manager

18 Nick Myatt, East Region Manager

19 Hilary Doulos, NRCS Conservation Liaison
20

21 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
22 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/Adapting%20to%20climate%20change%20and%20ocean%20change%20report.pdf
23
24

25 **STATUS OF THE MULE DEER PLAN REVISION**

26 Josh Smith, Mule Deer Coordinator

27 Dr. Don Whittaker, Ungulate Species Coordinator

28 Brian Wolfer, Wildlife Division Deputy Administrator
29

30 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
31 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/Mule%20Deer%20Management%20Plan%20Revision%20Update%203-15-24.pdf
32
33

34 **HATCHERY RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT 2023 BUDGET NOTE**

35 Dr. Shaun Clements, Fish Division Deputy Administrator
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37 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
38 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/ODFW%20Hatchery%20Preservation.pdf
39
40

41 **SEA OTTER UPDATE**

42 Jane Bacchieri, Executive Director, Elakha Alliance
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44 *This report is available in the meeting materials and at*
45 https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/ODFW%20Commission_Elakha%20Alliance%20Update_15mar2024.pdf
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2 **COMMISSION UPDATES**

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4 **OTHER BUSINESS**

5 The Commission delegated authority to the Director to perform certain duties imposed by
6 ORS 496.182 and associated rules.

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8 Action:

9 Commissioner Labhart moved to approve the delegation to the Director to perform certain
10 duties imposed by ORS 496-182 and associated rules. Commissioner King seconded the
11 motion, and the motion carried unanimously, six (6) in favor.

12
13 **PUBLIC FORUM**

14 This part of the agenda was for comments on topics not listed elsewhere on the March 15,
15 2024, agenda.

16
17 *Fish Restoration*

18 *Representative Court Boice*

19
20 *Native Fish Conservation*

21 *Leonard Krug, Oregon Anglers Alliance*

22
23 *Recognizing Director Melcher & Comments on the Hatchery Evaluation*

24 *David Moskowitz, The Conservation Angler*

25
26 *Winchester Dam*

27 *Mike McCoy*

28
29 *Winchester Dam Fish Passage and continued Wild Steelhead Harvest on the Lower*
30 *Rogue.*

31 *Shane Stalling, Wild Steelhead Coalition*

32
33 *Summer Steelhead and the North Umpqua River*

34 *Kirk Blaine, Native Fish Society*

35
36 *Status of North Umpqua summer steelhead*

37 *Jeffrey Dose*

38
39 *Winchester Dam; Trophy Trout Stocking in the Roseburg area; Take of Browns and*
40 *Tiger trout at Diamond Lake*

41 *Wayne Spicer*

42 *Matt Hill*

43
44 *Damage Tag Program*

45 *John Nichols*

46
47 *Marine Reserve Bill impact on ODFW Budget*

48 *Annie Merrill*

49 *Charlie Plybon*

1
2 **Adopt Temporary Rules**

3 The Commission ratified the five (5) temporary rules set forth on the March 15, 2024, previously
4 adopted by the director under his emergency action authority.
5

6 1) **635-023-0101**

7 **Set recreational retention fishery for sturgeon in The Dalles Pool and adjacent**
8 **tributaries**

9 Adopted 2/23/2024: effective 2/24/2024 through 3/31/2024.

10 This amended rule establishes two retention days for the white sturgeon recreational fishery
11 on the mainstem Columbia River in The Dalles Pool (The Dalles Dam upstream to the John
12 Day Dam) and all adjacent tributaries. Retention will be allowed on Saturday February 24
13 and Wednesday February 28.
14

15 2) **635-023-0125**

16 **Set recreational spring salmon season in the Columbia River**

17 Adopted 2/27/2024: effective 3/1/2024 through 6/15/2024.

18 This amended rule sets the Columbia River recreational spring salmon fisheries and
19 modifies the daily bag limit for Select Area recreational salmon fisheries from March 1
20 through June 15.
21

22 3) **635-017-0500**

23 **Scappoose Bay Marina angling closure**

24 Adopted 2/27/2024: effective 3/1/2024 through 6/30/2024.

25 The rule will temporarily close all angling within the boundaries of the Scappoose Bay
26 Marina from March 1 to June 30.
27

28 4) **635-041-0063**

29 **Modifications to allow sales in Bonneville and John Day pools treaty setline fisheries**

30 Adopted 2/28/2024: effective 3/2/2024 through 4/30/2024.

31 This amended rule allows the sale of white sturgeon landed during treaty setline fisheries in
32 Bonneville Pool (March 2-4) and John Day Pool (March 7-11).
33

34 5) **635-023-0101**

35 **Close recreational sturgeon retention in the John Day Pool**

36 Adopted 3/13/2024: effective 3/15/2024 through 12/31/2024.

37 This amended rule will close the recreational white sturgeon retention fishery on the
38 mainstem Columbia River in the John Day Pool (John Day Dam upstream to McNary
39 Dam) and all adjacent tributaries.
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41 **Action:**

42 Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to ratify the five (5) temporary rules set forth in the March
43 15, 2024, agenda. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion carried
44 unanimously, six (6) in favor.
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1 **Exhibit A: COMMISSION MINUTES**

2 Action:

3 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to approve the February 16, 2024, meeting minutes with
4 continued authority to correct grammar and punctuation. Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde seconded
5 the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, six (6) in favor.

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7 **Exhibit B: ASSESSMENT OF FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR DAMAGES**
8 **CALCULATION**

9 The Commission amended rules relating to the methodology used to determine fair market
10 value of food fish in the event the Commission institutes suit for the recovery of damages
11 for commercial fishing violations. These changes are necessary to implement changes
12 made by Senate Bill 887 (2023).

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14 John Seaborne, Fish Division Operations Manager

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16 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*
17 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/B/Ex%20B%20Presentation](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/B/Ex%20B%20Presentation%20Fair%20Market%20Value.pdf)
18 [%20Fair%20Market%20Value.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/24/03_Mar/B/Ex%20B%20Presentation%20Fair%20Market%20Value.pdf)

19
20 No Public Testimony
21 Rulemaking

22
23 Action:

24 Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to amend OAR 635-006-0001 as proposed in Attachment 3.
25 Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, six (6) in
26 favor.

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28 Chair Wahl adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.