



## Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting: Conservation &  
Recreation Advisory  
Committee Meeting –  
Virtual Attendance

Time: Mar 23, 2020 10:00  
AM Pacific Time (US and  
Canada)

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2                                    *Committee minutes were approved on May 5, 2020.*

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4 Those attending part or all of the meeting included:

5  
6 Advisory Committee Members

7 Laura Anderson (Nearshore and Coast Range)  
8 Tim Davis (Northern Basin & Range)  
9 Dr. Suzanne Fouty (Columbia Plateau and Blue Mtn)  
10 Chris Hager (at-large)  
11 Jane Hartline (Willamette Valley)  
12 Maret Pajutee (East and West Cascades)  
13 Mark Stern (at-large)  
14 Mauricio Valadrian (at-large)  
15 Dr. Karl Wenner (Klamath Mountains)  
16 Mark Labhart, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissioner  
17 Cailin O'Brien-Feeney, Director, Oregon Office of Outdoor Recreation

18  
19 ODFW Staff

20 Curt Melcher, Director  
21 Andrea Hanson, Oregon Conservation Strategy Coordinator  
22 Davia Palmeri, Conservation Policy Coordinator  
23 Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant  
24 Adam Baylor, Public Information Officer

25  
26 Guests

27 Cheralynn Abbott, Facilitator, Pivotal Resources  
28 Tim Greseth, Executive Director, Oregon Wildlife Foundation  
29 Representative Ken Helm, Oregon State Legislature, House District 34  
30 9 members of the public

31  
32 **MEETING**

33 **Welcome**

34 On Friday, March 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., Cheralynn Abbott, professional facilitator, called the  
35 Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee (the Committee) meeting to order.

36  
37 Objective: Get to know each other better and share personal goals for serving on this  
38 committee. Keep momentum after in-person meeting was cancelled.

39  
40 *Each of the Committee members provided a brief background on themselves and their*  
41 *experience relating to environmental conservation and recreation. Individual biographies are*  
42 *available online:*

1 <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/OCRF/committee.asp>  
2  
3  
4

5 **Welcome and Context Setting**

6 Curt Melcher, Director, ODFW

7 Objective: Understand more about ODFW and the agency's role in conservation.  
8

9 *Director Melcher provided a brief high level introduction to the department's funding history and*  
10 *these legislative/general funds for conservation. The Director thanked the committee members*  
11 *for their participation in this important endeavor.*  
12

13 **Welcome and Legislative Background**

14 Representative Ken Helm

15 Objective: Understand the history behind HB2829 and the Oregon Conservation and  
16 Recreation Fund.  
17

18 *Representative Helm provided a brief background on the Joint Interim Task Force on Funding*  
19 *for Fish, Wildlife, and Related Outdoor Recreation and Education and House Bill 2829, which*  
20 *created the Conservation and Recreation Fund and this Advisory Committee. This included*  
21 *information about the [survey conducted by the Task Force](#), and how the results from the*  
22 *survey indicated that the public does not have an understanding of where the funding to*  
23 *operate the Department comes from. The Representative also discussed the potential for an*  
24 *extension of the sunset for this program from the legislature in light of the current global and*  
25 *economic situation created by COVID-19.*  
26

27 **BREAK**  
28

29 **Fundraising**

30 Tim Greseth, Executive Director, Oregon Wildlife Foundation

31 Objective: Discuss plans for raising the \$1 million by December 31, 2020.  
32

33 *Tim discussed the importance of this committee and the vital roll it plays in clarifying the*  
34 *intended use of donations to the Conservation & Recreation Fund. The Foundation and others*  
35 *have met with potential donors who have expressed concerns about how the money will be*  
36 *spent and the time constraints associated with the Fund. The Foundaton is working with the*  
37 *Department and others on messaging. We are developing a campaign that focuses on small*  
38 *dollar donations from a large number of Oregonians. This will be coupled with pursuit of larger*  
39 *donations from foundations, individuals, and companies.*  
40

41 **Oregon Conservation Strategy**

42 Andrea Hanson, Conservation Strategy Coordinator

43 Objective: Understand how the Oregon Conservation Strategy functions within the broader  
44 Oregon conservation landscape.  
45

46 *Andrea provided a presentation to the Committee with a brief summary of what the Oregon*  
47 *Conservation Strategy (Strategy) is and how Oregonians are using it. The presentation*  
48 *included background on the Strategy, including goals, how the Strategy can be used by all*  
49 *conservation practitioners, and where to find the strategy online*  
50 *(OregonConservationStrategy.org). The presentation also emphasized the large variety of*  
51 *partners who helped develop the Strategy, which is a voluntary, non-regulatory approach to*  
52 *conservation in the state. Andrea also provided the Committee with information on the seven*

1 *key conservation issues, the nine Ecoregions, 206 Conservation Opportunity Areas; 11*  
2 *Strategy Habitats, and 294 Strategy Species..*

3  
4 *Andrea provided information on ODFW's approach to implementing the Strategy, including the*  
5 *five priority strategy species in each ecoregion; addressing barriers to animal movement;*  
6 *Compass (the Strategy's online GIS platform); and provided examples of how the strategy is*  
7 *currently being used.*

#### 8 9 **OCRF Background and Wrap-up**

10 Davia Palmeri, Conservation Policy Coordinator

11 Objective: Discuss OCRF background and reflections from committee members on morning  
12 presentations.

13  
14 *Davia provided the Committee background on ODFW's pursuit of alternative funding, the*  
15 *details of HB 2829 related to the Conservation & Recreation Fund and this Advisory*  
16 *Committee, and discussed the [Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#), which could bring an*  
17 *additional \$24 million to Oregon for implementation of the Oregon Conservation Strategy.*

18  
19 *Details on implementation of HB 2829 are available online:*

20 <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/OCRF/>.

21  
22 *Committee members shared perspectives on the urgency of the challenge, ideas for linking*  
23 *this effort to other relevant opportunities, and questions about how the Committee will identify*  
24 *projects. These subjects will be on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.*

25  
26 **Public Comments- No members of the public signed up to provide comment**

#### 27 28 **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### 29 **Communication between Committee Members**

30 The Committee discussed rules governing communication between Advisory Committee  
31 members. Action item: ODFW staff will distribute contact information for the members.

##### 32 33 **Next meeting**

34 The members agreed to use a similar remote format for the next meeting and will participate in  
35 a doodle poll for a date and time for that meeting.

36  
37 Cheralynn Abbott adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.