



# Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Minutes

Meeting:  
Friday, February 8, 2019 – 8:00 AM  
Embassy Suites Portland Airport  
Pine and Spruce Rooms  
7900 NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Portland, OR 97220

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

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

6  
Mike Finley, Chairman  
Bob Webber, Vice-Chair Commissioner  
Holly Akenson, Commissioner-phone  
Greg Wooley, Commissioner  
Bruce Buckmaster, Commissioner  
Jim Bittle, Commissioner  
Curt Melcher, Director  
Erica Kleiner, 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 Samuals, Captain Oregon State Police  
Casey Thomas, Captain Oregon State Police

7  
8 **MEETING**

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

12  
13 **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

14 Field Reports – in written form only

15 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02\\_Feb/February%208%202019%20Field%20Report.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/February%208%202019%20Field%20Report.pdf)

17  
18 Expenditure Report

19 Erica Kleiner, Deputy Director of Administration

20 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02\\_Feb/2017-19%20\(2019-02\)%20Commission%20Financial%20Report.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/2017-19%20(2019-02)%20Commission%20Financial%20Report.pdf)

22  
23 Stewardship Recognition

24 Davia Palmeri, Conservation Policy Coordinator

25 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02\\_Feb/Mission%20Stewardship%20concept%20.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/Mission%20Stewardship%20concept%20.pdf)

27  
28 Climate Change Adaptation update

29 Davia Palmeri, Conservation Policy Coordinator ([add link](#))

1       **PUBLIC FORUM**

2       *Note: This part of the agenda is for comments on topics not scheduled elsewhere on*  
3       *the agenda. Please contact the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of the*  
4       *Director at least **48** hours prior to the meeting to be included in the public forum. If*  
5       *you bring written summaries or other materials to the meeting please provide the*  
6       *Commission Assistant with 20 copies prior to your testimony. The Commission is*  
7       *unable to take action on items brought to their attention in this forum.*

8  
9       Columbia River Compact and Fisheries governed by the Compact  
10       Dave Moskowitz, the Conservation Angler

11      Provided written testimony

12      [\(add link\)](#)

13      Submitted a petition to the Commission [\(add link\)](#)

14      Director Melcher brought to the petitioner, Dave Moskowitz's attention that the petition  
15      being submitted was incorrectly dated February 7, 2019; the correct date is February 8,  
16      2019. The petitioner agreed that the date representing when the department received the  
17      petition should be February 8, 2019.

18  
19       **ADOPT TEMPORARY RULES**

20      Curt Melcher, Director

21      The Commission ratified the following temporary rules. The five (5) temporary rules were  
22      previously adopted by the director under his emergency action authority.

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24      **1.) 635-004-0275**

25      **Federal Actions Implemented for Commercial and Recreational Groundfish**  
26      **Fisheries.**

27      Adopted January 18, 2018: effective January 18, through July 16, 2019.

28      This amended rule adopts two separate actions previously adopted by the federal  
29      government for Pacific Coast commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries, including  
30      but not limited to 1) modifications to rules governing configurations and use of groundfish  
31      trawl gear and 2) corrections to 2019-2020 groundfish harvest specifications.

32  
33      **2.) 635-005-0465**

34      **Commercial Dungeness Crab Season Opening South of Cape Arago, Mandatory**  
35      **Evisceration South of Cape Blanco.**

36      Adopted January 24, 2018: effective January 24, through July 22, 2019.

37      This amended rule sets the opening date and related management measures for the  
38      2018-2019 ocean commercial Dungeness crab fishery from Cape Arago (43° 17' 00" N.  
39      Lat.) southward to the California border (42° 00' 00" N. Lat.) on February 1, 2019, and  
40      adopts Oregon Department of Agriculture requirements for processing of crab harvested  
41      from any area south of Cape Blanco (42° 50' N. Lat.), including all crab harvested  
42      offshore of California. Crab harvested from areas south of Cape Blanco must be  
43      eviscerated in accordance with Oregon Department of Agriculture temporary rules.

1        3.) **635-017-0090**

2        **Temporarily Remove Bag Limits On Hatchery Trout In Faraday Lake.**

3        Adopted January 30, 2019: effective February 1, through March 31, 2019.

4        Temporarily remove bag limits on hatchery trout in Faraday Lake to maximize  
5        harvest opportunities to avoid stranded trout during construction and upgrades the  
6        Faraday facility.

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8        4.) **635-041-0065, 635-042-0145, 635-042-0160, 635-042-0170**

9        **2019 Seasons set for Columbia River Winter Treaty and Select Area Winter-Summer**  
10       **Commercial Fisheries.**

11       Adopted January 29, 2019: effective February 1, through July 31, 2019.

12       These amended rules implement the 2019 winter, spring and summer commercial  
13       salmon seasons for the Youngs Bay, Blind Slough/Knappa Slough and Tongue  
14       Point/South Channel Select Areas. These rules also set the Treaty Indian winter season  
15       commercial gillnet fishery. The first authorized fishing period in these Select Area sites is  
16       set to begin February 4. Modifications are consistent with action taken January 29, 2019  
17       by the Departments of Fish & Wildlife for the States of Oregon and Washington at a  
18       meeting of the Columbia River Compact.

19  
20       5.) **635-005-0465**

21       **End of Mandatory Evisceration for Commercial Dungeness Crab from Cape Blanco**  
22       **to Oregon-California Border**

23       Adopted January 31, 2019: effective January 31, through July 22, 2019.

24       This amended rule lifts mandatory evisceration requirements previously adopted  
25       by temporary rule for crab harvested from Cape Blanco (42° 50' N. Lat.) southward to the  
26       Oregon/California border (42° 50' N. Lat.). Crab harvested offshore of California remain  
27       under mandatory evisceration at this time and must be eviscerated in accordance with  
28       Oregon Department of Agriculture temporary rules

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30       Action:

31       Commissioner Webber moved to ratify the five (5) temporary rules set forth in the today's  
32       tan agenda. Commissioner Wolley seconded the motion, and the motion carried  
33       unanimously, five (5) infavor.

34  
35       **EXHIBIT A: COMMISSION MINUTES**

36       Action:

37       Commissioner Webber moved to approve the January 18, 2019 meeting minutes  
38       with continued authority to correct grammer and punctuation. Commissioner Bittle  
39       seconded the motion and the motion was carried five (5) infavor.

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1 **EXHIBIT B: 2018-2019 LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER WHITE STURGEON POPULATION**  
2 **AND FISHERIES UPDATE**

3 The Commission was provided with an an update on population status of  
4 white sturgeon and review 2018 sturgeon fisheries.

5 Staff: Tucker Jones, Ocean Salmon/Columbia River Program Manager

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7 *Presentation:* Tuger provided the Commission with an informational briefing on the 2018  
8 stock assessmnet, pinipid predation, and the 2018 fisheries.

9  
10 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed a*  
11 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02\\_Feb/Exhibit\\_B\\_Presentation.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/Exhibit_B_Presentation.pdf)  
12 [on.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/Exhibit_B_Presentation.pdf)

13 No Public Testimony  
14 Informational

15  
16 **EXHIBIT C: MANAGEMENT OF THE RAZOR CLAM FISHERY**

17 The Commission was provided an overview of recreational and commercial razor clam  
18 harvests, and discussion of steps to minimize illegal discard of unwanted clams.

19 Staff: Steve Rumrill, Shellfish Program Leader

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21 *Presentation:* Steve provided the Commission with an informational briefing on Razor  
22 Clam Fisheries and Management. The presentation included information on  
23 Biogeography, Ecology and Life History; Commercial and Recreational Razor Clam  
24 Fisheries; Annual Stock Assessment for Razor Clam Population along Clatsop Beach;  
25 Estimation of Razor Clam Waste; Management of 2018-2019 Razor Clam Harvest  
26 Seasons.

27  
28 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*  
29 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02\\_Feb/Exhibit\\_C\\_Presentation.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/Exhibit_C_Presentation.pdf)  
30 [on.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/19/02_Feb/Exhibit_C_Presentation.pdf)

31  
32 No Public Testimony  
33 Informational

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35 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

36 The Commission will hold an executive session to review and evaluate the  
37 employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public  
38 officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing as authorized  
39 by ORS 192.660(2)(i).

40  
41 *Action:*

42 Commission Vice-Chair Webber move to reappoint Curt Melcher as Director of the  
43 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for a term of four years, until February 14, 2023.  
44 I also move to authorize the Commission Chair to handle the employment offer and  
45 associated negotiations with Curt Melcher, and to work with Roxie Burns, ODFW Human  
46 Resources Administrator, as needed. Commissioner Wolley seconded the motion, and  
47 the motion carried unanimously, five (5) infavor.

1 **OTHER BUSINESS**

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3 Chair Mike Finley adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

DRAFT