

gza

**LASSEN COUNTY
 FISH, GAME COMMISSION
 707 NEVADA ST.
 SUSANVILLE, CA 96114
 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
 Thursday, November 21, 2024,
 * 7:00 p.m.***

Matters under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at the time provided on the agenda. The Commission limits testimony on matters not on the agenda to five (5) minutes per person and not more than ten (10) minutes for a particular subject.

7:00 p.m. Call to order
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Roll Call

CHAIRMAN	DIST 1 - CHRIS O'BRIEN
VICE CHAIRMAN	DIST 5 - PAUL SMITH -
COMMISSIONERS	DIST 1 - CHRIS O'BRIEN
	DIST 2 - TONY ARDITO
	DIST 3 - CHRISTIAN SIEMER
	DIST 4 - CHASE DAHLE
ALTERNATES	DIST 3 & 4 - JESSE MIDGLEY
CLERK	DIST 3 - UVEA GRACE

Agenda Approval

Minutes Approval (previous meeting)

Correspondence Matters Initiated by the Public - Opportunity for the public to bring items to attention of the Commission. For information only. Any potential discussion and/or action items will be tabled until a subsequent meeting where the item can be placed on the agenda.

NOTE: no one shall address the Commission until they are recognized by the Chairperson. The person addressing the Commission shall stand before the Commission at the podium and provide their name and county of residence before offering remarks or input.

1. **UC Berkeley's California Wolf Project** - Kaggie Orrick and Team from UC Berkeley's Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management

Agency Reports - Reports are for information only from federal and state agencies and to update the commission and public on the status of the commission budget. Information and discussion only.

- a) CDFW
- b) BLM
- c) Forest Service
- d) Budget Reports

Sub-Committee Reports - Reports on updated information from commission sub-committees on current issues of concern to the commission. For information and discussion only; any decisions requiring a vote by the commission will be tabled until subsequent meetings where the item will be placed on the agenda as an action item.

Old Business

- a) Wildlife Strike Prevention and Crossings
- b) Raptor Projects - Status and Next Steps
- c) Finalize letter of support regarding the fishing rules and regulations changes projected by the CDFW

New Business

- a) none

Action Items - Items requiring discussion and a vote by the commission.

- a) none

Announcements by Commissioners - items of general interest. For information only.

REMINDERS: **The Lassen County Fish and Game Commission Meeting does not meet in December** The next regular meeting will be January 17th @ 7:00 pm., at 707 Nevada St., in Susanville, CA.

gzb

LASSEN COUNTY FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
707 NEVADA STREET, CALIFORNIA, CA 96130

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY Sept, 19th, 2024

The meeting of the Lassen County Fish and Game Commission was called to order by Chairman Chris O'Brien at 7:00 pm.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Dist. 1 – Chris O'Brien; Dist. 2 – Tony Ardito; Dist.3 - Christian Siemer; Dist. 5 – Paul Smith

Absent: Dist. 4 - Chase Dahle, Dist. 3&4 Alternate – Jesse Midgley

PUBLIC PRESENT: Brian Ehler - CDFW, Caroline O' Brien, Paul Divine – CDFW, Missy Nelson – BLM, Janyne Little – Cooperative Extension CES 3

Commissioner Siemer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval. Chairman O'Brien requested one edit to REMINDERS: The next Lassen County Fish and Game Commission meeting will be October 17th @ 7:00 pm., at Westwood Community Center, Corner of Ash and Third Streets, Westwood CA. Commissioner Ardito moved to approve the Agenda, Smith seconded, motion carried.

Minutes Approval. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Aug 15th, 2024 Minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Siemer, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

MATTERS INITIATED BY THE PUBLIC: none

1. AGENCY REPORTS:

- a) CDFW – Brian Ehler is working on hunting modifications with Rob Schrag, wildlife habitat supervisor/hunting advisor. They have several Jr. hunts in the planning stages for buck tags; starting the first Saturday in September and running for nine days. A recommendation from the Fish & Game Commission is desired. Dan Ryan's recommendations have been under review for many months, proposals move slowly due to opposition to changes in the Lassen County portions. There is a move to expand boundaries to be proposed next August, 2025. Winter surveys of Deer, Pronghorn, and Elk in Northeastern California for population numbers are outdated, with the last counts being done in 2019-2020.

The Wildlife Strike Crossings Pilot Project (WCPP) on Hwy 395 is still in the planning and engineering stage. Discussion about location and the WCPP funding followed. Vice Chair Smith requested more information about the barriers, lanes, and culverts that are planned for deer migration through the Safety Corridor. Elher responded that public safety trumps environmental laws (although, there may be an exception in CEQA, California Environmental

Quality Act). Caltrans is actively working on the WCPP grant, which has funding up to \$145 million [Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program \(WCPP\) | Caltrans](#). CDFW – Paul Divine reports on the Angler's Atlas and My Catch Fishing Contest going on at Eagle Lake. Registration is free, September 1st to October 31st. Lots of great prizes from local sponsors. [2024 Eagle Lake Rainbow Rumble | Angler's Atlas \(anglersatlas.com\)](#). Vice Chairman Smith asks Divine if the Eagle Lake Pine Creek Project is running. Divine responded that it is funded and design teams are meeting. Smith also asks if it is possible that trout could be classified as an endangered species? Divine responds that Champs Flat is undergoing a large meadow and stream restoration. Eagle Lake trout could be impacted by this reduction of the incision and the reconnecting of the stream to floodplain. The Fish Trap is currently getting repaired for the longevity of the building and safety. The cabin above The Fish Trap is being demolished due to the inability to bring it up to code. Chairman O'Brien thanked Elher and Divine for representing CDFW at our meetings.

- b) BLM – Missy Nelson reported the horse gather is starting October 1st, 2024. Litigation resulted in 940 horses to be removed and no burros. The archeologist reported Viewland has a rubber apron. Other guzzlers are being surveyed to prioritize replacement at this time. Chairman O'Brien asks about the State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO) agreement and whether or not it had been deemed eligible to be replaced with "in-kind" material. Minor repairs are needed on the Walsh mountain guzzler. An ACEC (Areas of critical environmental concern) crew went out to try to fix this and the work is getting slowly done. Discussion followed. BLM needs to invoice Lassen County Fish and Game Commission for their Guzzler projects.
- c) Forest Service – no representation
- d) Budget Reports – FY 24-25 F&G Commission Fund 118 pending approval, nothing to report.

2. **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:** none

3. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) Wildlife Strike Prevention and Crossings – Vice Chairman Smith contributed the 395 Corridor is #2 or the 12 top priorities for this project. It has a \$5,357,000.00 budget and they are busy identifying areas that are okay for putting in structures. The planning includes finding migration corridors from Bass Hill, to Milford and Herlong. Collaring has helped the data collection for strike prevention. Statistics say 74% of strikes are mule deer strikes.

b) Raptor Projects – Status and Next Steps – Commissioner Siemer reported that things are status quo, nothing to report.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Letter of support regarding the fishing rules and regulations changes projected by the CDFW.
- b) Change of venue for October meeting.

5. ACTION ITEMS (matters before the Commission)

- a) Commissioner Smith made a motion to provide the letter of support to CDFW, seconded by Commissioner Ardito, motion carried. Divine will find the correct regulatory language, Chairman O'Brian will edit and forward the letter to the Board of Supervisors.

REMINDERS:

The next Lassen County Fish and Game Commission meeting will be Thursday, October 17th @ 7:00 pm., at Westwood Community Center, Corner of Ash and Third Streets, Westwood CA. 96137

Chairman O'Brien motioned for the meeting to close, Vice Chairman Smith seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Uvea Grace, Clerk