



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Minutes

Meeting:

Friday, July 11, 2025– 10:00 AM

The Dalles Civic Auditorium

323 East 4th St

The Dalles, OR 97058

Commission minutes are considered draft until approved by the Commission.

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

Mary Wahl, Chair	Debbie Colbert, Director
Becky Hatfield-Hyde, Vice Chair	Davia Palmeri, Strategic Advisor, Federal Policy Director
Bob Spelbrink, Commissioner	Sarah Reif, Habitat Division Administrator
Mark Labhart, Commissioner	Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant
Leslie King, Commissioner- virtual	Erin Donald, Assistant Attorney General
Dallas Hall Defrees, Commissioner	

MEETING

On Friday, **July 11, 2025, at 8:00 AM**, Chair Wahl called the **Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission** (the Commission) meeting to order.

Adopt Temporary Rules

Commission ratified the following temporary rules. The nine (9) temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under her emergency action authority.

1.) 635-019-0520

Open Hatchery Chinook Salmon Angling in Lookingglass Creek

Adopted: 6/17/2025 Effective Date: 6/18/2025 through 6/29/2025

This amended rule allows recreational harvest of hatchery Chinook in Lookingglass Creek from June 18 through June 29, 2025.

2.) 635-023-0128

Set Columbia River Recreational Salmon/Steelhead Summer Season Regulations and Enact Thermal Angling Sanctuaries

Adopted: 6/20/2025 Effective Date: 6/20/2025 through 7/31/2025

This amended rule sets the Columbia River recreational salmon and steelhead fisheries from June 16 through July 31, 2025 (summer season).

This amended rule closes angling in portions of the mainstem Columbia River adjacent to the mouths of Eagle Creek and the Deschutes River, and that portion of Herman Creek and Lagoon within the Columbia River Zone beginning July 15, 2025. This amended rule closes salmon/ steelhead angling in the lower portion of Tanner Creek through July 15, 2025.

1 **3.) 635-004-0585**

2 **Adopt Federal Rule for Commercial Pacific Halibut Fisheries**

3 Adopted: 6/25/2025 Effective Date: 6/25/2025 through 11/30/2025

4 This amended rule adopts federal rules for the 2025 Pacific halibut commercial fishery
5 including, but not limited to, fishery dates and notification procedures for in-season
6 actions.
7

8 **4.) 635-004-0355**

9 **Commercial Nearshore Fishery Limit Increases for Periods 4-6**

10 Adopted: 7/2/2025 Effective Date: 7/5/2025 through 12/31/2025

11 This amended rule will increase the commercial nearshore fishery two-month
12 cumulative trip limits for other nearshore rockfish, cabezon, and greenling management
13 categories for periods 4-6 (July-December 2025).
14

15 **5.) 635-008-0147**

16 **Procedures for Issuance and Enforcement of Sauvie Island Beaches Pass**

17 Adopted: April 2, 2025 Effective Dates: July 1, 2025 through September 1, 2025

18 Rule amendments require a date-specific Sauvie Island Beaches Pass when parking
19 within a

20 designated parking lot at Willow Bar Beach, Walton Beach, Collins Beach and North Unit
21 Beach on weekends and observed holidays from July 4, 2025, through September 1,
22 2025. These rules detail the procedures for issuance and enforcement of the pass.
23

24 **6.) 635-053-0000**

25 **Amend Rules to Close the Silvies Unit for the 2025 Oregon Sage-Grouse Hunting**
26 **Season**

27 Effective Dates: July 1, 2025 through August 10, 2025

28 The Falls Fire in 2024 negatively impacted sage-grouse habitat conditions in portions of
29 the Silvies

30 Wildlife Management Unit (Silvies). Weather conditions and snow depth during spring
31 2025 resulted in incomplete sage-grouse survey data and the inability to fully assess
32 sage-grouse populations in the Silvies hunt area, including assessment of impacts from
33 the Falls Fire. Modifying sage-grouse hunting permits for the Silvies to zero permits in
34 2025 will result in a closed season, ensuring that hunting will not cause excessive
35 harvest of the sage-grouse population in the Silvies. Sage-grouse are a species of upland
36 game bird with the number of controlled hunting permits available for each sage-grouse
37 hunt area adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) and printed in the
38 "2025-26 Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations." This amendment is necessary to
39 modify the numbers therein, because OAR 635-053-0000 states in part that restrictions
40 for 2025 upland game bird hunting are described in the "2025-2026 Oregon Game
41 Bird Hunting Regulations" and are adopted and incorporated into OAR Chapter 635, by
42 reference.
43
44
45

1 **7.) 635-018-0500, 635-019-0500**

2 **Enact Steelhead Fishery Regulations**

3 Adopted: 7/2/2025 Effective Date: 7/5/2025 through 12/28/2025

4 This amended rule reduces the daily bag limit for hatchery steelhead to one from July 2
5 through July 14, 2025, in the lower portion of Eagle Creek and the lower portion of the
6 Deschutes River. It also closes these locations to angling from July 15 through
7 September 15, 2025.

8 This amended rule reduces the daily bag limit for hatchery steelhead to one from July 2
9 through August 31, 2025, in the lower portion of the John Day River and closes angling
10 for salmon and steelhead in this location from September 1 through December 31,
11 2025.
12

13 **8.) 635-041-0076**

14 **Authorizing Sales in Treaty Commercial Summer Fisheries**

15 Adopted: 7/2/2025 Effective Date: 7/3/2025 through 7/31/2025

16 This amended rule authorizes the sale of fish caught in the following treaty fishery:

17 Gillnet fishery in Zone 6 (upstream of Bonneville Dam) from July 3 through July 5, 2025.

18 Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Departments of Fish and Wildlife
19 for the States of Oregon and Washington at a Columbia River Compact hearing on July 2,
20 2025.
21

22 **9.) 635-023-0128**

23 **Modify Columbia River Recreational Salmon/Steelhead Summer Season Regulations**

24 Adopted: July 9, 2025; Effective Date: July 12, 2025, through July 31, 2025

25 This amended rule modifies regulations on the on-going Columbia River recreational
26 salmon and steelhead fisheries to allow retention of adult hatchery Chinook from July
27 12 through July 19 and sockeye from July 12 through July 31.
28

29 **Action:**

30 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to ratify the nine (9) temporary rules set forth in the July 11,
31 2025, agenda. Commissioner Labhart seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously,
32 five (5) in favor. Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde; Labhart, Spelbrink, Hall Defees. One (1) absent King
33

34 **Exhibit A: PETITIONS TO REPEAL OR, ALTERNATIVELY, AMEND OAR 635-800-0300**

35 The Commission accepted the four petitions to repeal or, alternatively, amend OAR 635-800-
36 0300.
37

38 **Action:**

39 Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to accept the petitions and direct the department to initiate
40 rulemaking to repeal or amend OAR 635-800-0300. Commissioner King seconded the motion,
41 and the motion was carried four (4) in favor: Hatfield-Hyde, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defees; two (2)
42 opposed: Labhart, Wahl
43

1 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2 The Commission met in executive session to consider information, or records exempt by law from
3 public inspection, and to consult with legal counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public
4 body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed as authorized by ORS 192.660
5 (2)(f) and (2)(h).

6
7 Chair Wahl adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

DRAFT