



## Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Minutes

Meeting:  
Friday, August 15, 2025– 8:00 AM  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Virtual Meeting  
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE  
Salem, OR 97302

*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 the meeting included:

Mary Wahl, Chair	Debbie Colbert, Director
Becky Hatfield-Hyde, Vice Chair	Ken Loffink, Chief Operating Officer
Bob Spelbrink, Commissioner	Shaun Clements, Deputy Director of Fish & Wildlife Programs
Mark Labhart, Commissioner	Nick Myatt, East Region Manager
Leslie King, Commissioner	Mike Gauvin, Acting West Region Manager
Dallas Hall Defrees, Commissioner – virtual	Bernadette Graham Hudson, Wildlife Division Administrator
	Mike Harrington, Fish Division Administrator
	Sarah Reif, Habitat Division Administrator
	Michelle Tate, Executive Assistant
	Casey Thomas, Captain Oregon State Police
	Anika Marriott, Assistant Attorney General
	Erin Donald, Assistant Attorney General

### MEETING

On Friday, **August 15, 2025, at 8:00 AM**, Chair Wahl called the **Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission** (the Commission) meeting to order.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Field Reports – in written form only; *this report is available in the meeting materials and at <https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Field%20Report%20Aug%202025.pdf>*

### COMMISSION FINANCIAL REPORT & 2025-27 LEGISLATIVELY APPROVED BUDGET UPDATE

Ken Loffink, Chief Operating Officer

Ken reported, as of June 30, 2025, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reported a total cash balance of \$162.3 million, with \$73.3 million unrestricted (including \$20.5 million in 2020 wildfire insurance funds) and \$89.0 million restricted, boosted by \$13.25 million in new lottery bond funds for fish and wildlife passage projects. Financial performance for the 2023–25 biennium is on track, with expenditures at about 72% of the budget and revenues meeting

forecasts. During the 2025 legislative session, several key bills passed and were signed into law, forming the agency's 2025–27 budget, including measures for license fees, Columbia Basin Endorsement, hatchery maintenance, and capital improvements. The budget allocates significant resources to fish (\$261.1M), wildlife (\$109.4M), and habitat (\$95.2M) programs, alongside administration, enforcement, debt service, and capital projects.

*This report is available in the meeting materials and at*  
[https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Presentation\\_Financial%20Report\\_LAB%20Update%208-15-25.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Presentation_Financial%20Report_LAB%20Update%208-15-25.pdf)

## **SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY**

Mikal Cline, Upland Game Bird Coordinator  
Skyler Vold, Sage Grouse Conservation Coordinator

*This report is available in the meeting materials and at*  
[https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Directors%20Report\\_%20Sage-grouse%20CAAS%20Update\\_8-15-25.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Directors%20Report_%20Sage-grouse%20CAAS%20Update_8-15-25.pdf)

### **Adopt Temporary Rules**

Debbie Colbert, Director, requested the Commission ratify the following temporary rules. The fourteen (14) temporary rules were previously adopted by the director under her emergency action authority.

#### **1.) 635-041-0072**

##### **Allow Sale of Warmwater Species Caught in Columbia River Treaty Indian Research Fishery**

Adopted: 7/17/2025 Effective Date: 7/21/2025 through 9/7/2025

This amended rule provides state authorization of sales of yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, carp, and northern pikeminnow caught in a new Treaty Indian research fishery in several backwater areas and sloughs of the John Day Pool to reflect recent tribal action to open this fishery.

#### **2.) 635-004-0275**

##### **Federal Actions Implemented for Commercial Groundfish Fisheries**

Adopted: 7/21/2025 Effective Date: 7/21/2025 through 12/31/2025

This amended rule adopts in-season actions previously adopted by the federal government for 2025 Pacific Coast Limited Entry Fixed Gear and Open Access commercial groundfish fisheries, including, but not limited to, catch limit increases for sablefish.

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

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

Adopted: 7/22/2025 Effective Date: 7/22/2025 through 7/24/2025

This amended rule adopts the federal rules published in the federal register on July 22, 2025 for the 2025 Pacific halibut directed commercial fishery to add a fishing period, July 22 through July 24, 2025, with a fishing period catch limit of 5,000 pounds (2.3 metric tons) dressed weight, per vessel. This action is intended to provide opportunity to achieve the 2025 non-Tribal directed commercial fishery allocation.

**4.) 635-041-0076**

**Authorizing Sales in Treaty Commercial Summer Fisheries**

Adopted: 7/23/2025 Effective Date: 7/24/2025 through 7/31/2025

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

- Gillnet fishery in Zone 6 (upstream of Bonneville Dam) from July 24 through July 26, and
  - Gillnet fishery in Zone 6 (upstream of Bonneville Dam) from July 28 through July 31.
- Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Departments of Fish and Wildlife for the States of Oregon and Washington at a Columbia River Compact hearing on July 23, 2025.

**5.) 635-041-0045, 635-041-0075**

**Authorize Sales for Columbia River Treaty Commercial Fall Fisheries**

Adopted: 7/30/2025 Effective Date: 8/1/2025 through 12/31/2025

These amended rules authorize the sales of fish caught in treaty fisheries:

- Platform and hook-and-line fisheries in Zone 6 (upstream of Bonneville Dam) from August 1 through December 31.
- Platform and hook-and-line fisheries downstream from Bonneville Dam from August 1 through October 31.
- Yakama Nation tributary fisheries from August 1 through December 31.

**6.) 635-023-0130**

**Columbia River Recreational Fall-Season Salmon/Steelhead Regulations**

Adopted: 7/31/2025 Effective Date: 8/1/2025 through 12/31/2025

This amended rule sets the Columbia River recreational salmon/steelhead fisheries from August 1 through December 31. This rule also 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 through September 15.

**7.) 635-017-0090**

**Allow Use of Two-Rod Validation Upstream of Willamette Falls in Certain Areas**

Adopted: 7/31/2025 Effective Date: 8/1/2025 through 12/31/2025

This amended rule will allow use of two rods while angling in specific areas of the Willamette Zone upstream of Willamette Falls that are open to the retention of coho salmon.

**8.) 635-042-0145, 635-042-0160, 635-042-0170, 635-042-0180**

**Set Select Area Fall-Season Commercial Fisheries**

Adopted: 7/31/2025 Effective Date: 8/1/2025 through 12/31/2025

These rules implement the 2025 fall-season Select Area commercial fisheries in Youngs Bay, Blind Slough/Knapka Slough, Tongue Point/South Channel, and Deep River. Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Departments of Fish and Wildlife for the States of Oregon and Washington at a Columbia River Compact hearing on July 23.

**9.) 635-021-0090**

**Modifications to the Thief Valley Reservoir in the Southeast Zone**

Adopted: 7/31/2025 Effective Date: 8/1/2025 through 9/30/2025

Effective August 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, minimum and maximum size limits, as well as the daily and possession bag limits for rainbow trout and bass are suspended for the SE Zone water body known as Thief Valley Reservoir located in Union County, Oregon. Harvest will be allowed by hand, dip net, or angling. A person with a valid Two-Rod Validation may use any number of rods.

**10.) 635-042-0010, 625-042-0031**

**Set Mainstem Columbia River Fall-Season Commercial Fisheries**

Adopted: 7/31/2025 Effective Date: 8/4/2025 through 10/31/2025

These rules implement 2025 fall-season Columbia River mainstem (early-fall gillnet, pound net, and seine) fisheries. The following fisheries are addressed by these rules: Columbia River Early Fall (Zones 4-5), beach and purse seine (Zones 1-3), and pound net (Zones 1-2).

**11.) 635-039-0090**

**Inclusions and Modifications**

Adopted: 8/7/2025 Effective Date: 8/8/2025 through 10/26/2025

This amended rule corrects the recreational bag limits and harvest limits for the bottom fish fisheries, including the long-leader fishery. Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission on December 13, 2024.

**12.) 635-039-0085**

**Halibut Seasons**

Adopted: 8/11/2025 Effective Date: 8/11/2025 through 9/30/2025

This amended rule will authorize opening the Columbia River subarea all-depth fishery Sundays through Fridays August 16 through September 30 only (closed on Saturdays). If the quota is attained prior to the season end date, that subarea may close early if other subareas are projected to reach or exceed their allocation.

**13.) 635-041-0075**

**Fall Salmon Seasons**

Adopted: 8/13/2025 Effective Date: 8/18/2025 through 12/31/2025

1 This amended rule will authorize opening the Columbia River subarea all-depth fishery  
2 Sundays through Fridays August 16 through September 30 only (closed on Saturdays). If  
3 the quota is attained prior to the season end date, that subarea may close early if other  
4 subareas are projected to reach or exceed their allocation.  
5

6 **14.) 635-039-0090**

7 **Inclusions and Modifications**

8 Adopted: 8/13/2025 Effective Date: 8/18/2025 through 10/26/2025

9 This rule reduces the recreational bag limit from five fish per angler to four fish per  
10 angler for the traditional bottom fish fishery, as harvest limits for both black rockfish  
11 and canary rockfish are projected to be exceeded if the bag limit remains at five fish. A  
12 bag limit reduction from five to four during the month of August decreases the risk of  
13 (1) an early season closure or (2) a three-fish bag limit. During the Oregon Fish and  
14 Wildlife Commission on December 13, 2024, staff cautioned that an in-season bag limit  
15 reduction could be necessary based on pre-season models and lower harvest limits for  
16 both black rockfish and canary rockfish.  
17

18 **Action:**

19 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to ratify the fourteen (14) temporary rules set forth in the August  
20 15, 2025, agenda. Commissioner King seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously,  
21 six (6) in favor. Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde; Labhart, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defees  
22  
23

24 **COMMISSION UPDATES**

25 *No Commission Action: Informational Only*  
26 *Commissioner Labhart*

27 **OTHER BUSINESS**

28  
29 **PUBLIC FORUM**

30 This part of the agenda was for comments on topics not scheduled on the agenda. The  
31 Commission will be unable to take action on items brought to their attention in this forum.  
32

33 *Changing Oregon's classification of Opossum to remove them from the invasive species list.*

34 *Jany Gonzalez*

35 *Jeanine Comstock*

36 *Loren Kelley*  
37

38 **EXHIBIT A: COMMISSION MINUTES**

39 **Action: Approval**

40 Commissioner Labhart moved to approve the Amended June 13 and July 11, 2025.  
41 meeting minutes with continued authority to correct grammar and punctuation. Commissioner  
42 King seconded the motion, and the motion was carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde,  
43 Labhart, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defees

1  
2 **EXHIBIT B: 2025 SAGE-GROUSE CONTROLLED HUNT PERMIT NUMBERS**

3 The Commission approved sage grouse permit numbers for 2025

4 *Commission Action: Rulemaking*

5 Mikal Cline, Upland Game Bird Coordinator

6 Skyler Vold, Sage Grouse Conservation Coordinator

7  
8 *Presentation:* Mikal and Skyler provided the Commission with a presentation that outlines critical  
9 updates to Oregon's Sage-grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy (CAAS), emphasizing the  
10 adoption of a new population model that leverages USGS lek abundance data and PAC-scale  
11 trend analyses. It updates the statewide population objective in the Oregon Administrative Rules  
12 (OAR) to maintain or bolster distribution and abundance around the 2003 estimate of  
13 approximately 53,000 birds, with a focus on stable or increasing trends both statewide and at the  
14 PAC (Priority Area for Conservation) level. The strategy also reinforces conservative harvest  
15 management (under 5%), incorporating PAC-level trends and sufficient wing sampling into permit  
16 recommendations. This effort is part of a broader CAAS action plan that includes new lek  
17 definitions, updated PAC maps, refined population and habitat objectives, threat-based strategic  
18 conservation, strengthened governance, regulatory mitigation, and best management practices.

19  
20 *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*

21 [https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20B\\_Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20B_Presentation.pdf)

22  
23 Public Testimony

Talha Khal

Christen Hagen, Oregon State University

Mike Totey, Oregon Hunters Association

24  
25 *Action:*

26 Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to amend OAR Chapter 635, Division 53 as proposed by staff  
27 and shown in Attachment 3. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion was  
28 carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defees

29  
30 **EXHIBIT C: AMEND RULES REGULATING THE IMPORTATION, POSSESSION, CONFINEMENT,**  
31 **TRANSPORTATION AND SALE OF NON-NATIVE WILDLIFE**

32 The Commission approved amendments to rules regulating the importation, possession,  
33 confinement, transportation and sale of non-native wildlife.

34 *Commission Action: Rulemaking*

35 Keith DeHart, Invasive Species & Wildlife Integrity Coordinator

36  
37 *Presentation:* Keith provided the Commission with a presentation outlining proposed  
38 amendments to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR Chapter 635, Division 56) governing  
39 nonnative wildlife, aiming to safeguard native species while allowing limited private use of  
40 nonnative animals. It clarifies the four classification categories; Prohibited, Noncontrolled,  
41 Controlled, and Exempt; and recommends reclassifying golden mussels, nonnative abalone,

mystery snails, oyster drills, and sea turtles from Noncontrolled to Prohibited status. Additionally, it proposes revisions for Controlled species: removing the neutering requirement for mute swans (while requiring nest destruction) and eliminating the “return-to-water” and commercial sale prohibitions for green crabs. In response to public comments, ODFW opted not to prohibit octopus due to insufficient ecological risk data and existing aquaculture reviews but did agree to correct the scientific name of the Asian small-clawed otter to align with current taxonomy.

*This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at [https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20C\\_Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20C_Presentation.pdf)*

**Action:**

Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to amend OAR Chapter 635, Division 56 as proposed by staff and shown in attachment 3. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion was carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defees

**ANNUAL RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Award Presentation begins at 11:00 AM

Debbie Colbert, Director

Mary Wahl, Commission Chair

**Individual Awards**

Andrew Meyers  
Claresa Roberson  
Luis Escobar  
Jorden Smith  
Jacob Dittel  
Eric Hammonds  
Darrell Griffiths  
Beth Quillian  
Lynn Mattes

**Director’s Choice Individual Award**

Aubree Perrenoud

**Manager Mentor**

Cameron Sharpe

**DEI Award (Diversity Equity and Inclusion)**

Gway Rogers-Kirchner

**Team Award: Mule Deer Management Plan revision TEAM**

Josh Smith  
Don Whittaker  
Darren Clark  
Colin Gillin  
Jeremy Thompson  
Philip Milburn  
Derek Broman  
Joy Lovett  
Camilla Kennedy  
Michelle Dennehy  
Adam Baylor  
Bob Swingle  
Yvonne Shaw



**Team Award: WHART - Oregon Wildlife  
Human Attack Response Team**

Jennifer Ringo  
Steve Niemela  
Paul Atwood  
Phillip Perrine  
Mathew Vargas  
Jamie Bowles  
Colin Gillin  
Brian Wolfer  
Sgt Ryan Tague (OSP)  
Lt Tim Schwartz (OSP)  
Dana Drenner  
Adam Baylor

**Directors Choice TEAM: Hatchery Resiliency  
Team**

Scott Patterson  
Chris Lorion  
Shaun Clements  
  
**Dave Liscia: (for our Volunteer)**  
Suzanne Linford and Bend Chapter Oregon  
Hunters Association (OHA) - Protect Animal  
Migration Project, Rex Parks Chapter  
President

**Landowner Steward**

Dry Fly Management Co / Redside Restoration  
Project Ryder Redfield

**EXHIBIT D STATE WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN APPROVAL**

The Commission approved revisions to Oregon’s State Wildlife Action Plan.

Commission Action: Approval

Dr. Carolyn Eckrich, State Wildlife Action Plan Revision Coordinator

Emily VanWyk, Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator

Bernadette Graham Hudson, Wildlife Division Administrator

Presentation: Staff provided the Commission with a presentation outlining Oregon’s updated State Wildlife Action Plan; a science-based roadmap for conserving biodiversity through proactive, voluntary measures. It highlights the plan’s core goals: maintaining healthy wildlife populations, preventing further declines in at-risk species, and reversing such trends where possible. Emphasizing efficiency, SWAP uses data-driven tools like Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs) and the “Compass” mapping platform to focus conservation actions, direct funding, and inform stakeholders. It integrates eight required elements, including species and habitat assessments, threats, conservation actions, monitoring, public and partner involvement, and plan reviews mandated by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Notable enhancements in this revision include adding pollution as a key conservation issue, restructuring the Conservation Toolbox to better empower public and partner engagement, integrating prior nearshore and conservation strategies (OCS and ONS), updating species lists, and refining COA boundaries using richer data—all grounded in sound science and robust public and technical engagement.

*This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*  
[https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20D\\_Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20D_Presentation.pdf)

**Public Testimony**

Sristi Kamal, Western Environmental Law Center

Bob Bailey, Elakha Alliance

Thomas O’Neil, The Habitat Institute



1  
2       Action:

3 Commissioner Hatfield- Hyde moved to approve the department's approach to  
4 addressing the eight (8) required elements of the Oregon State Wildlife Action Plan as  
5 described in Attachments 1, 3 and 4 for submission to the US Fish and Wildlife Service  
6 with the understanding that department staff will finalize the content and make any  
7 changes necessary to transition to a web-based format. Commissioner King seconded the  
8 motion, and the motion was carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart,  
9 Spelbrink, King, Hall Defrees

10  
11 **EXHIBIT E: SOUTHERN RESIDENT ORCA ENDANGERED SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLANS**

12       The Commission adopted Endangered Species Management Plans for Southern Resident  
13 Orcas.

14       *Commission Action: Approval*

15               Howard Takata, Southern Resident Orca Conservation Coordinator  
16               John North, Fish Division Deputy Administrator  
17               Mike Brown, Marine Mammal Program Leader  
18  
19

20 Presentation: Staff provided the Commission with a presentation on The Oregon Department of  
21 Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), and Department of State  
22 Lands (DSL) and the development of the Endangered Species Management Plans (ESMPs) for  
23 Southern Resident Orcas, of which there are currently 73 individuals in J, K, and L pods. The  
24 ESMPs covering state-managed lands outline agency roles, required management actions,  
25 monitoring, public input, development process, and an 18–24-month timeline depending on  
26 funding. Key threats identified include prey scarcity, vessel and noise disturbance, and  
27 contaminants. ODFW's actions focus on salmon habitat restoration, hatchery enhancement,  
28 contaminant reduction, noise mitigation, spill response, education, and coordination. OPRD  
29 emphasizes impact avoidance and outreach during beach and territorial sea projects, while DSL  
30 oversees authorizations and leads inter-agency project reviews. Other agencies such as DEQ,  
31 DLCD, Marine Board, State Police (Fish and Wildlife), and DSL (non-proprietary side) have  
32 supportive roles through water quality protection, policy coordination, enforcement, outreach,  
33 permitting, and emergency response. The staff recommends approval of the ESMPs as submitted,  
34 with possible modifications considered.  
35

36       *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*  
37 [https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20E\\_Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20E_Presentation.pdf)  
38

39       Public Testimony

Teri Wright  
Emma Halverson  
Nick Gateski  
Tim Ragen  
Misty MacDuffee

Colin Reynolds, Defenders of Wildlife  
Ari Cady  
Ben Enticknap, Oceana  
David Bain, Orca Conservancy

1  
2           Action:

3 Commissioner Labhart moved to approve the endangered species management plans submitted  
4 by the three land-owning and managing state agencies to achieve the role defined by each  
5 agency for the conservation of Southern Resident orcas; with additional direction to the  
6 department to review the ODFW plan every five years. Commissioner Hatfield Hyde seconded the  
7 motion, and the motion was carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, I,  
8 King, Hall Defrees  
9

10           **EXHIBIT F: 2025 REGULATIONS FOR WILD COHO SALMON IN OREGON COASTAL STREAMS**

11           The Commission adopted rules establishing 2025 wild coho retention fisheries in Oregon  
12 coastal streams.

13           *Commission Action: Rulemaking*

14                   Cassandra Leeman, Salmon Fisheries Analyst  
15                   John North, Fish Division Deputy Administrator  
16

17 Presentation: Cassandra provided the Commission with a presentation outlining continuing  
18 conservation efforts for Oregon's coastal coho salmon under the Oregon Plan and multiple state-  
19 federal regulatory frameworks, noting that recent NOAA review finds populations biologically  
20 viable. Harvest is managed under the Amendment 13 process which allows a combined ocean-  
21 and-freshwater impact of 30% for 2025 and requires NMFS approval. Compared to 2024,  
22 regulations include increased bag limits (from 2 to 3 fish in some basins), with an anticipated 33%  
23 rise in harvest opportunity. Specific season dates and daily/season limits (1 fish daily, 3 per  
24 season) are proposed for basins including Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver  
25 Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Coos, Coquille, and Floras/New River. No season was proposed for the  
26 Umpqua basin in 2025 because of conservation concerns. The presentation concluded with a  
27 draft motion to adopt these staff recommendations for the 2025 wild coho salmon seasons.  
28

29           *This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at*  
30           [https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20F Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Ex%20F%20Presentation.pdf)  
31

32           Public Testimony

                  Sara Potter, Salmon Harbor Tackle & For the Love of the Tug  
                  Scott Amerman, SAA-OAA  
                  Jim Muck, OAA-OCA  
                  Conrad Gowell, Wild Fish Conservancy  
33

34           Action:

35 Commissioner Spelbrink moved to adopt the staff recommendations for the 2025 wild  
36 coho salmon seasons in Oregon Coastal streams as proposed by staff in Attachment 3.

Commissioner King seconded the motion, and the motion was carried six (6) in favor; Wahl, Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, I, King, Hall Defees

**EXHIBIT G: PRIVATE FOREST ACCORD RULE REVISION**

The Commission approved the Department Staff recommendation for amending the PFA Grant Program Administrative Rules.

*Commission Action: Rulemaking*

Andrew Spyрка. Private Forest Accord Grant Coordinator

Presentation: Andy provided the Commission with a presentation outlining the proposed amendments to the Private Forest Accord (PFA) Grant Program rules. It highlights the program's original 2021 compromise transitioning from a Habitat Conservation Plan into a grant-based conservation initiative under several legislative acts and details the revision process, which included public and tribal engagement throughout early to mid-2025. The proposed updates aim to simplify and unify the grant pathway, align rule language with statute, allow pre-award work authorization, increase project flexibility, and incorporate best practices for community water engagement, all designed to enhance conservation benefits for covered aquatic species.

*This presentation is located in the commission material and can be viewed at [https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Exhibit%20G\\_Presentation.pdf](https://myodfw.com/sites/default/files/2025-08/Exhibit%20G_Presentation.pdf)*

Public Testimony

Karsyn Kendrick, Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts

Action:

Commissioner Hatfield-Hyde moved to approve amendments to the Private Forest Accord Grant Program Oregon Administrative Rules as proposed by staff in Attachment 3. Commissioner Spelbrink seconded the motion, and the motion was carried five (5) in favor; Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, King, Hall Defrees; one (1) abstained Wahl

Chair Wahl adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.