

COUNTY OF PLACER FISH & GAME COMMISSION

Ed King
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
County Contact

FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1
Don Gould
DISTRICT 3
Mark Fowler
DISTRICT 3
Gregg McKenzie
DISTRICT 5
Kari Freidig
DISTRICT 5
Ron Salter

DISTRICT 5
Mickey Daniels

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PLACER COUNTY FISH & GAME COMMISSION Minutes

TIME/DATE: 7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, December 19, 2012

LOCATION: PLACER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ROOM

Community Development Resource Agency, DeWitt Center, Auburn 3091 County Center Drive (corner of Bell Road and Richardson Drive),

The Placer County Fish & Game Commission is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in its public meetings. If you are hearing impaired, we have listening devices available. If you require additional disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Recording Secretary at (530) 889-7372. If requested, the agenda shall be provided in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. All requests must be received at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which you are requesting accommodation. Requests received after such time will be accommodated only if time permits.

- I. CALL TO ORDER Gary Flanagan, Chairperson
- II. ROLL CALL Mark Fowler, Mickey Daniels, Gary Flanagan, Ron Salter, Kari Freidig, Gregg McKenzie

Absent: Don Gould

III. Approval of agenda for December 19, 2012 and minutes for October 24, 2012

Commissioner McKenzie motioned to accept the agenda.

Commissioner Salter seconded the motion.

All commissioners voted to accept the agenda.

Commissioner Freidig motioned to accept the minutes from October 24, 2012.

Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion

All voting commissioners voted to accept the minutes.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than three (3) minutes. *No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment*

None.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Budget Update – Ed King

Expenditures for FY 12/13, through November 30, 2012, total \$1888.20 including, \$780.00 in commissioner's fees, \$400.00 in secretary fees and \$708.20 in mileage reimbursement.

Revenues through November 30, 2012 total \$193.87, including \$125.06 in fine monies and \$68.81 in interest. A total of \$1,200.00 was budgeted for the fiscal year.

At the last meeting, Warden Pelzmen reported that 9 individuals were cited for hunting doves over bait. It has been reported that the commission is expecting to see \$2250 in revenue as a result of those enforcement actions. Ed King has called the secretary of the courts to find out about the money.

Ed King will be processing the grant awards after the beginning of the year.

VI. AGENCY REPORTS

A. Commission Updates

Commissioner Fowler reported on the mercury issue. There has been the creation of a mercury bioaccumulation oversight group. They will monitor accumulations and communicate the status of mercury.

Commissioner Daniels reported on a UC Davis research group's State of Lake Tahoe address. They are using rovers in the lake to discover currents and to determine the clarity of the lake. Information is available on the internet.

The Central Sierra Association of Fish and Game Commissioners will meet in Auburn on January 8, 2013. Ed King will send out an announcement to the email distribution list.

Commission McKenzie reported that Placer Legacy recently signed land deals.

Commissioner Flanagan reported on the Big Game Advisory Committee. It appears that money ear marked for biology and habitat research went to law enforcement.

B. California Department of Fish & Game -

None.

C. Nevada Irrigation District - Sue Sindt

None.

Non-Action Items

VII. Kenneth Kundargi, Fisheries Biologist, California Department of Fish & Game. Summary of the fishery in Placer County and issues coming up for the next year.

The hatchery vehicles are old and some of them are breaking down.

Stocking allotments are complete for next season. They are down 3% from the previous season.

Halsey Forebay will have to shutdown to do repairs according to PG&E. This is a popular area for fishing. The parking area has issues and they have to do repairs. They will move the stocking allotments to Wise Forebay. They are going to bring the lake level down a significant level to do the repairs.

Legislative updates:

- 1. Name change to Department of Fish and Wildlife. They will operate the same as they have been in the past.
- 2. SB1148 (passed) re-writes some of AB 7 puts more emphasis on wild trout status. They want to make the surveys available to the public. They want them to be done every 10 years. Earmarks \$1 million per year to go to hatcheries. All fish the department stocks have to be sterile. Requests the department stock to the highest level that would be in the system.

Brown trout are not supported in local hatcheries

There have been some lawsuits on their EIR. Some say they have not gone far enough. Another group says they went too far. The DFW won both suits and therefore no further analysis needed.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has been sued by a group in Montana claiming that stocked fish are biologically polluted. They want the department to get permits to do stocking.

Rollins Lake would like to have a net pins project with trophy fish in the lake. There are several throughout the state.

Desolation Wilderness area stocking will continue in the Crystal Range. Stocking will be in some lakes in Placer County. The department will have to get permission to fly planes over the wilderness area.

Has fielded calls on crawfish and commercial crawfish fishing. It is legal in Nevada and not in California, including Lake Tahoe. California is watching what happens in Nevada.

Cutthroat Trout issues are ongoing in regards to their recovery. They are looking to take small steps that have a high likelihood of success.

Travel restrictions prevented some research. The Resources Agency is more than likely going to give the department exceptions for research activities.

They are applying for grants to help fund some of their work. Auburn Ravine is one of the projects they would like to get involved with including projects like salmon redd surveys.

They are going to start funding the district biologist with sport fish money. Currently, funding comes from the general fund which means biologists might be assigned to do anything.

Commissioner Fowler asked: Are you working with any of the groups working with mercury in trout, like brown trout? They do provide some information, like stocking records. They have consulted and reviewed their reports.

Commissioner Flanagan asked about the legislative issues: What is the mandate on triploids?

To him it looks like it is clear that the bill requires triploids to be stocked. It seems that there are implementation issues. For example, transportation of the equipment to remote locations. They have not gotten direction on how they will implement.

They are supposed to start hatchery operation for native species. Hatcheries will be required to mark all fish that go out of the hatchery.

Commissioner Flanagan asked about stocking support for the Auburn Sportsmen's annual fish derby for the kids. Can they buy fish from the department?

The process is to call and they can make a request of the hatchery. They make efforts to support kid's fishing days.

Commissioner Flanagan thanked him for the fish reporting schedule where people can call or go online to see where fish are being planted. Asked that the

reports for Folsom lake indicate which county the fish are planted in (Placer vs. El Dorado).

VIII. SARSAS Presentation, Phil Robertson and Steve Hubbard. Salmon returning to Auburn Ravine.

Several other members of SARSAS joined Phil and Steve.

They presented a 20-minute video on salmon returning to Auburn Ravine.

SARSAS is an all volunteer organization and is a 501(c)(3).

They do outreach to protect salmon and habitat.

NID gauging station was recently retrofitted adding a fish ladder to allow salmon to pass through.

They found 47 redds and 240 salmon on the latest survey.

There is a genetic difference to the strain on the Auburn Ravine. They cannot stock fish from other areas.

Hemphill dam is the next barrier behind Turkey Creek golf course. Only 4% to 5% are able to pass this barrier. Only about 20 to 30 were able to get above this dam and they were the smaller fish.

Gold Hill dam is a 12-foot dam. They can get over it in high water. They are looking to put in a fish ladder that will help fish pass the dam.

Fish will generally return to the same area. Therefore, if it is open they will continue upwards. Auburn Ravine is 33 miles long. They want to serve as a prototype for other streams. They believe that the tributaries are the key to the success for salmon recovery.

Action Items

- VIII. None
- X. ADJOURNMENT at 8:30
- XI. Next meeting will be Wednesday January 23, 2012