



**COUNTY OF PLACER  
FISH & GAME COMMISSION**

Ed King  
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner  
County Contact

**FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS**

**DISTRICT 1**

Don Gould

**DISTRICT 3**

Robert Haswell

**DISTRICT 5**

Kari Freidig

**DISTRICT 2**

Mark Fowler

**DISTRICT 4**

Gary Flanagan

**DISTRICT 5**

Ron Salter

**DISTRICT 5**

Mickey Daniels

11477 E AVENUE  
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603  
TELEPHONE: (530) 889-7372  
FAX: (530) 823-1698  
www.placer.ca.gov

**PLACER COUNTY  
FISH & GAME COMMISSION  
Minutes**

**TIME/DATE: 7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 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, Don Gould, Mickey Daniels, Gary Flanagan, Ron Salter, Kari Freidig, Robert Haswell**
- III. APPROVAL OF Minutes for May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 and Agenda for June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Commissioner Gould motioned to accept the agenda.  
Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion.  
All commissioners voted to accept the agenda.

Commissioner Daniels motioned to accept the minutes from May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012.  
Commissioner Fowler 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 five (5) minutes. ***No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment***

None.

## **V. FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **A. Budget Update – Ed King**

Expenditures to date for FY 11/12 total \$8,972.22 including \$5,000 in grant awards, \$1,656.66 in commissioner's fees, \$900.00 in secretary fees and \$1403.08 in mileage reimbursement. Budgeted expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year total \$1,397.78.

Revenues to date total \$496.44, including \$278.93 in fine monies and \$217.51 in interest. A total of \$1,200.00 was budgeted for the current fiscal year.

The BOS passed the Fiscal Year 2012-13 proposed budget that included the Fish & Game Commission operating funds.

## **VI. AGENCY REPORTS**

### **A. Commission Updates**

Commissioner Flanagan attended the Big Game Advisory Committee meeting last month at CDFG in Sacramento. CDFG took in about \$8M in special tag fees that will go to Big Horn Sheep and Mule deer management. \$1.4M of the \$8M went toward law enforcement.

Commissioner Freidig attended the Upland Game Bird management meeting. They reviewed proposals for funding, like the CA Upland bird stamp. Next meeting will be some time next year.

Commissioners Freidig and Flanagan meet with Lt. Lawson and Captain Naslund about CDFG resource protection in Placer County.

Commissioner Freidig reported the need for CDFG presence on the water at Lake Tahoe. CDFG is looking to get a slip at a reduced rate to keep a boat on the water. This would increase the law enforcement and resource protection at Lake Tahoe.

Lt. Lawson returned the grant check given to CDFG by the commission. The way it was written would have meant that the funds would have go towards the general fund. Therefore, Ed King will directly purchase CDFG's equipment requested in their grant application.

### **B. California Department of Fish & Game – Lt. John Lawson**

Indicated that CDFG does not know what size boat they can use or need on Lake Tahoe.

The warden in Lincoln will start in early August. He is currently on light duty. His name is Adam Kraft.

The Lt. Lawson will send the weekly activity logs for the wardens in Placer County to the commission. It focuses on significant cases active in the county.

An example: one person selling bear cubs. The cubs are now being rehabilitated up at Lake Tahoe.

The courts do not automatically send disposition on the citations that the department issued.

There is a new deputy district attorney—Jane Crue.

With the warm weather, the number of calls in regards to bears has increased. There have been more in the lower foothills.

Reported that Nevada County invited their Judge and DA to a fish and game commission meeting. Commissioner Flanagan stated he received the questions that commission asked the Judge and DA.

### **C. Nevada Irrigation District – Sue Sindt**

Year-end in June and rainfall was 83% of average, most of which came in March. Current capacity is at 86% for this time of year..

Most of NID's time been focused on FERC relicensing, including water flows.

## **Non-Action Items**

### **VII. Jack Sanchez and John Rabe of S.A.R.S.A.S. “Goals and Accomplishments of Returning Anadromous Fishes to Auburn Ravine”**

Jack Sanchez was unable to attend the meeting.

John Rabe presented.

He talked about the history of Auburn Ravine and SARSAS and how the group started to apply sciences to understand the biology and the flows the of Auburn Ravine. They have proven that the habitat is very high quality.

In the 1920s, there were lots of salmon in the ravine. The last time salmon were in the upper reaches was around 1987.

They have worked collaboratively with farmers. Did not want to threaten their water supplies. They are going to put screens on the intakes to insure smolts don't get diverted into the fields. He showed a picture of the screen.

One of the problems is beavers. They are not native and were brought in from Idaho and Montana. City of Lincoln had two men working full time to tear down dams. However, the beavers would rebuild them within a day. Relocation of beavers is the best solution.

Jones and Stokes did the original Salmon habitat studies. The new studies indicate that the upper reaches are good for salmon and steelhead. Three people are collecting data constantly to understand the water quality in the river.

SARSAS has been testing water quality for 5 years. There are two major impediments to completing the dream of Salmon and Steelhead in Auburn Ravine. It will take about 4 to 5 million dollars. There are groups that have money to donate. Also, there are some bond moneys that might be available. There is some mitigation money available; however, it might create issues in who they partner with on those mitigations and might impact who gets the money.

On Sept 29 at McBean Park in Lincoln, there will be a celebration called the "Calling Back the Salmon". The focus will be on the health of the river. There will be live music and other activities.

### **Action Items**

#### **VIII. Consider possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to support or oppose SB 1221 (Lieu) Use of Dogs to Pursue Bears and Bobcats**

Mark Kenyon – Bear, Mountain Lion and Wild Pig coordinator for CDFG

Mark provided some background about how the bill came about. Over the past few years, the department has been analyzing the bear populations. They want to maximize the recreational and the health of the populations. They want to manage the cap that was establish in 1980. As they have increased the cap, strong opposition has increased. Their anti hunting stance is more their issue verse the quota. Wanted to increase the areas where dogs can be trained and used. Make it legal to use GPS collars on the hounds. The department wanted to assist the hounds man in their work.

The department did an environmental impact analysis and determined that expanding the range didn't negatively impact the bear population.

This current bill is opposition to what the department is proposing. CDFG has prepared an analysis of the bill. This information is confidential.

Do the tip ups help the hunter? The duration that a bear is in the tree, there is not much stress on the bear. On numerous occasions, he has witnessed the bear falling asleep.

5700 bear tags are issued to bear hunters using dogs. 25000 on average are issued every year.

Discussion on the influences of special interest groups and politicians on the best or proper game management practices.

There are existing laws on the books that prohibit poaching. The people that poach bears will continue and the solution is increased protections.

Using hounds does not harm to the bear population.

Public Comment:

Marilyn Jasper spoke in favor of the bill. Indicated that is this about ethics and fair chase. Cannot say that hounds are not injured often. Indicated that the bears are exhausted and attacked by dogs. Negative impacts to non targeted species. Some claim that this is tradition; however, the true tradition is to change.

Josh Brones – California Houndsmen for Conservation

Only one of his dogs has been hurt in 26 years.  
Dogs are bred not to attack bears  
Dogs are bred to go for miles. Hunts range from 8 to 20 miles.

Taking the bear in the tree - very ethical – makes it easier to kill the bear quickly. The challenge should not be in taking the shot, but getting in position to take the shot. When the bear is in the tree you can check the sex. A picture of two bears in a tree was presented to the commission. All the commissioners got the sex right.

Only killed 4 bears himself. There are four stages of hunters. They would not support the non-take of the bear. And it would take away the management of bears.

Would like to see that gall bladders cannot be possessed. Would like to see a \$10K fine for anyone possessing parts for sale. They offer a reward to anyone that provides information on anyone using hounds for the illegal sale of bear parts.

Mark Henley – California Waterfowl Association

Asked what the effect of this bill will have on CDFG. This bill is politicking what should be a scientist process.

He is concerned about the effects on law enforcement. They are the eyes and ears in the field. They find poachers and marijuana plots.

Bear tags and other tags go towards law enforcement. This would take money away from enforcement. The governors proclamation indicates there will be a 20% cut in wardens in the field.

The bill is unnecessary. Bear and bobcats populations are not threatened in the state of California. Need to increase poaching laws.

Leaves CDFG very few management tools to control bear populations. In other states, they have bait, trap/cage, and other techniques that are not legal in California

What precedent is this bill going to set? If this bill violates fair chase, what else? He challenged people to come up with a definition of fair chase. Talked about falconry and how this might not be fair chase as the human is not involved at all.

Commissioner discussed the information they heard from the speakers.

Commission Gould motion that the commission have Chairman Gary Flanagan draft and forward a letter to the Placer County Board of Supervisors requesting that they oppose SB 1221.

Commissioner Daniels seconded.

Commissioners Fowler and Freidig voted opposed.  
Commissioners Gould, Daniels, Flanagan and Salter voted for.  
Commissioner Haswell abstain.

Motion passes 4 to 2 with 1 abstaining.

## **IX. Election of Officers – Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Placer County Fish and Game Commission**

Commissioner Gould motioned that Commissioner Flanagan be Chairperson and Commissioner Freidig be the Vice-Chairperson.

Commissioner Salter seconded

Passed by all

Commissioner Flanagan thanked Commissioner Haswell for his work on the commission

Commissioner Fowler thanked Commissioner Haswell for his work and positive influences on the commission

**X. ADJOURNMENT at 10:45**

**XI. Next meeting will be Wednesday July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**