



**COUNTY OF PLACER  
FISH & GAME COMMISSION**

Ed King  
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner  
County Contact

**FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS**

<b>DISTRICT 1</b> Don Gould	<b>DISTRICT 2</b> Mark Fowler
<b>DISTRICT 3</b> Gregg McKenzie	<b>DISTRICT 4</b> Gary Flanagan
<b>DISTRICT 5</b> Kari Freidig	<b>DISTRICT 5</b> Marc Wyatt
<b>DISTRICT 5</b> Mickey Daniels	

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**PLACER COUNTY  
FISH & GAME COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**TIME/DATE:** 7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, May 28, 2014

**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 – Don Gould, Chairman**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Don Gould, Mark Fowler, Gary Flanagan, Mickey Daniels, Gregg McKenzie.

**Absent:** Marc Wyatt and Kari Freidig

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR May 28, 2014 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF April 23, 2014**

*Flanagan/McKenzie/MPUV*

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Game 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**

**Budget Update – Ed King**

Expenditures for FY 13/14, through April 30, 2014, total \$8,827.00 including \$1200.00 in commissioner’s fees, \$500.00 in secretary fees, \$1264.00 in mileage reimbursement, \$4995.80 in grant awards and \$867.00 in A-87 costs.

Revenues through April 30, total \$673.00 including \$482.00 in fine and penalty monies and \$190.00 in interest.

**VI. AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. Commission Updates**

Gary Flanagan was unable to attend the last Central Sierra Committee meeting. Minutes available for review. Marc Wyatt will attend these meetings going forward.

Mickey Daniels reports two women were found guilty of tampering with a bear trap in Incline Village and fined \$1500.00 each, for interfering with the duties of an officer and tampering with a vehicle.

Don Gould reports he spoke with Sarah Holmes to ask her to present her deer-fencing project to the commission. She has received financing to place more fencing in Placer County off of Highway 49, and would like to come in later in the year to present.

Ag Tour June 4, 2014 – Don Gould talks about his experiences on the tour.

Gary Flanagan – the Board of Supervisors recently reappointed Mark Wyatt and Gary Flanagan to 4-year terms. Don Gould shares term end dates for each commission member:

Mark Fowler	June 2015
Don Gould	June 2016
Gregg McKenzie	June 2016
Kari Freidig	June 2016
Mickey Daniels	June 2017
Gary Flanagan	June 2018
Mark Wyatt	June 2018

Mark Fowler – Sportsmen Legacy held a successful fundraiser in honor of Rick Hoffman. Mickey Daniels and Mark Wyatt also participated. Funds go directly to scholarships for high school and Sierra College students

Don Gould – Placer Sportsmen held their annual Kid’s Fish Derby. Smallest attendance so far amounted to just under 200. There were many donations of gifts, so every child received a gift, and many fish caught. Fishing trips, bikes, fishing gear were some of the prizes won. Highway Patrol provided hotdogs. Fish & Game hatchery out of Rancho Cordova donated 500 pounds of trout,

additional 500 pounds placed by Placer Sportsmen. Largest fish caught was about 8 pounds. The Rancho Cordova hatchery closing due to warm water so they donated their brooders.

Mickey Daniels – Jake’s Fish Derby happening in Tahoe City on June 1, 2014 to benefit the North Tahoe Booster Club.

**B. State Wildlife Conservation Board Subcommittee – Gregg McKenzie**

The subcommittee met on May 22, 2014. Closest Grant to Placer was at Sagehen Creek Field Station. The WCB strategic plan workshop is scheduled for June 2 from 1-3 pm in Sacramento. Commissioner McKenzie is planning to attend.

**C. State Fish & Game Commission Subcommittee – Mark Fowler**

Proposed changes in daily game bag limits. Commission is holding a hearing in San Diego, CA on August 6, 2014 to finalize the proposed changes. Most pertinent to Placer County: Doves increase to max of 15, Dark Geese increase from 6 to 10, White Geese increase from 10 to 15. Total Geese daily bag limit increased from 10 to 25. (There was no mention of Turkeys at this time.) Next meeting June 4, 2014 – very long agenda includes Hagfish, possible decision on listing the Grey Wolf and Great White Shark on threatened or endangered lists. There will also be more discussion on bag limits and waterfowl regulations.

**D. California Department of Fish & Wildlife – Lt. John Lawson**

Bear issues are starting up for the season – approximately 40 calls for Bear issues in the Tahoe Basin, Nevada City, Grass Valley – it’s going to be a bad year for bears. Wild food sources are low so bears are looking for alternatives. Bear League is good at educating locals, but tourists bring in bad behaviors that attract the bears, e.g. leaving trash out, etc. There is a moratorium limiting hunting bears in the Tahoe Basin so they can’t “thin out” the population which is expected to increase quite a bit this season. Lt. Lawson agreed to research the regulation and map to share with commission. He will send to Ed King who will send it to the commission members

**E. Nevada Irrigation District - Sue Sindt**

None.

**NON-ACTION ITEMS**

- VII. Placer Nevada South Sutter North Sacramento Subwatershed Group, Fish and Game Commission grant program report – Linda Watanabe & Ed Sills**  
Cancelled – Ed King hopes to have them rescheduled soon.

**VIII. Central Sierra Association of Fish & Game Commissioners commission representative – Ed King**

Mark Wyatt will attend future meetings.

**IX. AB 711 – Non-lead ammunition implementation – Gary Flanagan**

Craig Stowers sent a letter to Gary and other county commissions regarding possible assistance to help educate the public about the upcoming change. Last week, Winchester Arms held a focus group on hunting and shooting in the future. There were ten other participants from various ammunition backgrounds e.g. hunters and/or shooting hobbyists. When Gary brought up the non-lead issue, the impression he got from that community is that they are not going to worry about it or, they are not interested in it until the day it happens. Gary went on to state that when there has been some public outreach to educate the public by announcements and press releases, but there has been very low attendance. Kari could not confirm with Ben Smith, Non Lead Coordinator for the Institute of Wildlife Studies, to present to the commission on implementation. Kari suggested Fish and Wildlife do a presentation at a Fish and Game Commission meeting, but there is low expectation of attendance by the public. Uncertain what can be done to educate the public and the hunting/shooting hobbyist community before the change. Unfortunately, it will most like happen when the change occurs and education will be via violations from wildlife enforcement. Gary is of the opinion that the Fish and Game Commission shouldn't pursue education of the change to the public.

Lt. Lawson states the change will roll out in phases. Final deadline is 2018, bird shot will change first, followed by shotgun shells. Rifle ammunition manufacturers are getting a longer timeline to develop the bullets and the technology to accommodate the State of California. The actual dates are set, but unavailable for the meeting. This change will apply only for hunting; shooting ranges excluded.

Don Gould mentioned he spoke to staff at the Auburn Trap Range. They reclaim range lead every so often. They said they tested the soil and that it passed whatever test they ran on it. They said there was no contamination – this was several years ago. Non-lead bullets are being made for rifles that are as or more efficient than the old lead bullets, so the prices should be coming down.

**X. Status update on County Counsel's Public Records Act information request to the Department of Fish & Wildlife – Ed King**

County Counsel has been working on this for the past couple of months. Initial requests for records from July 1 to December 31, 2013 were denied. Last request that was granted was for all of Lt. Lawson's squad's citation records for 2013 including citations issued outside of Placer County, but excluded birthdates and court outcomes. Copies of approved request distributed to commission members.

Next step: Christa Darlington and her assistant have volunteered to work with the courts to try to determine outcomes for the various citations issued in Placer County. Commission is waiting for a response upon completion of this work. Gary Flanagan adds this is encouraging, but missing birthdates possibly provides a challenge of matching up the charge to the suspect. Hopefully there will be more information showing results from these cases - coding incorrectly or non-prosecution as well as fines collected.

Some discussion regarding fines and fees actually collected, agreement that fees collected are irrelevant, commission is only concerned with the fifty-percent share that belongs to Fish and Game Fund. Ed King states there is a 2% automation fee, after which the base fine is split 50/50 to county and state, plus fees and assessment. Penalty assessments are split 70/30 between the department and the commission. Ed refers to an email that showed the breakdown of funds and how they are split.

The dove case was a turning point: Auditor had been distributing penalty assessment funds incorrectly for years – \$7000.00 in penalty assessment funds was restored to the Fish & Game Fund in 12/13.

Gary Flanagan suggests three commission members meet with three members of the Board of Supervisors to discuss how to proceed once the citation information is collected. Commission members agree.

- XI. Update on PCWA's progress on building a public trail around their power facility on the Middle Fork of the American River at Interbay in order to allow access to USFS lands upstream from the facility** – Mark Fowler Map provided to members. Mark Fowler describes location – off Mosquito Ridge Road, south of Placer Big Trees on the Middle Fork of the American River. Currently the powerhouse is well protected by strong fencing which is also blocking access to the miles of river and forestland beyond. During discussion for the 50 year relicensing of the PCWA powerhouse, this issue became public knowledge. The new agreement for includes a plan to put a catwalk around the powerhouse to allow public access to the land east of the powerhouse while maintaining security around the structure. PCWA expected to include the expense to build catwalk in their 2015 budget, with construction beginning in 2016 or 2017.

Gary Flanagan acknowledged the contributions of Robert Weygandt in support of this project.

**XII. Next Meeting Date**

June 25, 2015

Officer Nominations for the next year  
Presentations of grant recipients

**XIII. Adjournment**  
8:00 PM