



Wildlife Advisory Committee

LOCATION
Zoom Meeting
(Online Meeting Only)

Time: October 9, 2020 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Whatcom County PDS is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Wildlife Advisory Committee

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://zoom.us/meeting/tJMvd-uurj0iE9J3bmZ0DgatNu9CBNiumhU8/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCvrDsoHNSTuBCBRowEAliga-7ziCFHj_p3zx3oOXB3ZQLiGPcbEZBRGc3d

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97202606896?pwd=OHdtN2xpTTY2M2tqTW55U1RFTVI2QT09>

Meeting ID: 972 0260 6896

Passcode: Wildlife

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,97202606896#,,,,,0#,,67616231# US (Tacoma)

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Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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Meeting ID: 972 0260 6896

Passcode: 67616231

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aeHbUUhrul>

AGENDA

1. Welcome, public comments, announcements & agenda review
2. Determination of a quorum and review of meeting minutes (September 2020)
3. Species of Local Importance –
 - a. Review task assignments
 - i. Amphibians – Stephan
 - ii. Bats – Greg
 - iii. Large Mammals – Robert
 - iv. Small Mammals – Chris
 - v. Fish and other freshwater aquatics – Joel
 - vi. Invertebrates - Shannon and Vikki
 - vii. Marine Mammals - Greg
 - viii. Raptors –Audubon?
 - ix. Waterfowl, Waterbirds, Gallinaceous birds - Audubon?
 - x. Passerines and other smaller birds (hummingbirds, etc.) - Audubon?
 - xi. Marine Non-Mammals – Barry and Shannon
 - xii. Plants – Vikki
 - b. Overview of report framework.
4. Whatcom County Ecosystem Conservation Plan or Program –
 - a. Update from working group for plan review
5. New Business/Old Business
6. Adjourn (5 minutes)

Staff contact at Whatcom Planning and Development Services
Amy Dearborn, (360) 778-5909, adearbor@co.whatcom.wa.us

Attachments:

- Draft meeting minutes (September 2020)
- Revised Draft 2020 Work Plan

Wildlife Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

Friday, July 10, 2020

Start time: 9:00 A.M.

Whatcom County Planning and Development Services

Northwest Annex Portable Conference Room

5280 Northwest Drive

Bellingham, WA



QUORUM		
Members Present		Public Present
Frank Bob		Analiene Burns
Greg Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Solvie Metcalf
Robert Waddell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Joel Ingram		Staff Present
Vikki Jackson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Dearborn
Chris Kazimer		Kelly Chamberlain
Stephen Nyman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Shannon Crossen		
Trevor Delgado		
Barry Wenger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. Greg called meeting to open at 9:05am
2. Greg moved to adopt minutes from multiple previous meetings.
 - a. Vikki Seconded
 - b. Approved
3. Transition of Chair from Greg to Barry
 - a. Vikki nominated Barry
 - b. Robert seconded
 - c. Approved – Barry will continue meeting
 - i. Thank you for all your hard work Greg!
4. Option for Vice Chair
 - a. Barry nominated Vikki
 - b. Stephan seconded
 - c. Approved
5. Barry mentioned giving the committee more time to complete current tasks – potentially working into January
 - a. Council is backed up, 6 weeks’ notice is required to schedule a slot
 - b. Goal will be kept at the end of the year, more time will be requested if necessary
6. Barry noted he found a bird expert at the Audubon Society to complete reviews but not willing to join the committee as a member
 - a. Vikki asked how much “pre-review” will be needed before passing along to Audubon for review. Believes it is best to give as refined a list as possible to save them time.

- i. Greg and Vikki will split prep for bird reviews
7. Robert is nearly done with recommendations for large mammals
 - a. Elk is traditionally included in this review, Robert noted he is having trouble justifying their need for inclusion as “protected”
 - i. More discussion to come
 - ii. Greg and Barry believe consideration of Elk is important
8. Analiese asked what criteria are being used for the reviews
 - a. Vikki noted the criteria are defined in county code
 - b. Amy specified the code is 16.16.710C and D.12
 - c. See Proposed Species Spreadsheet
9. Amy will complete Proposed Species Spreadsheet as reviews are completed by the committee to make the data consumable by Council
 - a. Analiese recommended checking in with the Salmon Response team before taking a review to Council
10. Greg noted that Article V of the Point Elliot Treaty should be considered when reviewing animals of cultural significance
11. Vikki and Shannon will be working together on review for Invertebrates and will be reaching out to larger organizations for assistance narrowing down the list
 - a. Focus on terrestrial and freshwater invertebrates
12. Committee agreed that the review format created by Stephen is appropriate
13. Amy noted the Whatcom County Ecosystem Conservation Plan is due by the end of the year
 - a. The previous document is from 2017 and must be updated with new action items and updates on existing items
 - b. Barry and Vikki volunteered to review the Plan
14. Seadoc Society is providing sonar information that can be mapped for the Committee’s use. Barry requested assistance with GIS to create relevant habitat maps
15. Vikki motioned to close at 10:30
 - a. Robert seconded
 - b. Closed

Revised Draft 2020 Work Plan

1. Review Critical Areas Ordinance for the following considerations:
 - a. Submit Species & Habitats of Local Importance List to County Council
 - i. Species
 1. Rubber Boa
 2. Western Toad
 3. Coastal Tailed Frog
 4. ?
 - ii. Habitats
 1. Riparian Corridors
 2. Snags
 3. Large Wetland Complexes
 4. Beaver Ponds
 5. Chuckanut Wildlife Corridor
 6. ?
 - b. Develop terrestrial wildlife habitat management recommendations for biodiversity areas and corridors (ecosystem permeability).
 - c. Re-evaluate types of permitted activities and exemptions within Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas.
2. Develop a Whatcom County Ecosystem Conservation Plan or Program to improve habitat connectivity, protect important remaining habitats, restore degraded or important habitat areas, and develop the programmatic support within Whatcom County government to enact the Plan. This Plan would build upon existing ecosystem reports including development of goals, objectives, strategies for implementation, and action items.
3. Ideas for future County-sponsored science programs and data collection efforts:
 - a. Expand/Develop plan for incorporating terrestrial wildlife crossing structures in new road designs or during culvert replacement and/or road improvements.
 - b. Explore expanding citizen science such as what the Marine Resource Committee currently does, for terrestrial ecosystems.
 - c. Greg Green working on Countywide bat survey in collaboration with WDFW
 - d. Support other science and data collection efforts through university, agency, and other partners
 - e. Develop county-internal science and data collection effort.