



Humboldt County Fish & Game Advisory Commission MINUTES August 17, 2021

The Commission meets the THIRD Tuesday each month from 6:30pm through 8:30pm. Agenda items and supporting info should be mailed to HCF&GAC; PO Box 922; Ferndale, CA 95536; Phone 707.786.4902 or 707.407.5747 email: nkaytis4@gmail.com up to two weeks following previous meeting. Online meeting via ZOOM.

Meeting called to order by Chairman John Clark at 6:31pm. Attendance: James Clark, John Clark, Loren Furber, Phil Grunert, Hollie Hall, Yadao B. Inong, (ab)Kenny Priest, Ted Romo, Brad Smith, (ab) Jeff Stackhouse, Harry Vaughn, Todd Wagner, Mike Zamboni, Nancy Kaytis-Slocum. (ab)=absent. Guests included Preston Taylor and Robert Moore.

The minutes from the previous meetings were not available.

Speakers

Carrington Hilson, Environmental Scientist from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, spoke to us regarding an additional hunt for Traditional Bow Hunt. It would be very difficult to add another hunt to the North Coast. There are four types of tags: General, Landowner, SHARE and PLM. There has already been a 20% increase in tags from 88 in 2017, 108 in 2018, 148 in 2020. Commissioner Mike Zamboni why there are only 20 tags for the tons of people in the northwest. Advertise the SHARE hunt as part of the general draw. SHARE is lottery, not draw. Hilson tried to get tags back into the general hunt. Zamboni: used to have 15 bull tags, with 3 antlerless; now it's 3 bull tags and 15 antlerless. The bull to cow ratio is 80-100.

Matt Parker, Non-lead outreach specialist, institute for wildlife studies. Lead is still 90% of ammo sales. Lead is toxic, with no biological function. There are 400 to 500 fragments in each bullet. The smaller fragments are worse for scavengers with acidic stomachs, which dissolves the lead more quickly. Lead mimics calcium and can cause fatalities. Centerfire, copper alloy or monolithic copper is used for larger game. Rimfire made of tin, zinc and copper is for smaller game. They both maintain 95-100% of their bullet. Seven condors have already died this year. The lead found in animal autopsies match ammo 80% of the time; 5% death from lead paint. 50% of the condor deaths are from ammo. <http://www.huntingwithnonlead.org> <http://www.nonleadpartnership.org> Matthew Parker: mparker@iws.org; 559.492.7758 (cell). Commissioner Brad Smith: has a real issue with non-lead ammo; performance is bad. Ballistics don't work with copper bullets. Commissioner John Clark: does some of the lead come from railroads? Matt will send the secretary the studies to distribute. Secretary will contact Matt Parker to set up a range day to try ammo.

Current Issues

Grants: We recently received an email from the Office of Education asking us to pay an invoice they sent to the secretary in June, 2020 for the \$9000 we granted them in the 2019 grant cycle. This invoice should have been sent by the Office of Education to Karen Clower, at the address noted in the RFP. Once the secretary received the unpaid invoice, she asked Karen Clower, Deputy County Administrative Officer, to have this invoice paid, and Clower has asked for the wording in the agreement we have with the Office of Education, and the date by which the

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county should have been notified for payment. This may mean we have much less money in our account. This issue has not been resolved.

We have sent a request to the Board of Supervisors to approve our recommendations to fund the following proposals:

- 1) Humboldt County Office of Education. "Classroom Aquarium Education Program." \$3000
- 2) Natasha Hope Ficzytz, MSc student, HSU Dept of Fisheries Biology. Measuring Exposure to Domoic Acid in recreational Humboldt Bay bivalves along ocean to estuary transects" \$1500
- 3) Micaela Szykman Gunther, Dept of Wildlife, HSU. "Novel insights into the diet of local carnivores" \$1500

Abatement: Commissioner Jim Clark reported he would like the HCF&GAC to have a presentation on abatement. Need a speaker.

Eel River Groundwater Working Group: Commissioner Hollie Hall reported the State is monitoring groundwater so as to understand the state of the Eel River Valley. Twenty three additional monitoring wells have been installed. The USGS is having a model made. A set of reports should be ready by early September .

Cannabis: Commissioner Hollie Hall reported that the Board of Supervisors has approved a Water Quality Grant Process based on square footage of cannabis. Legal Pot growers are paying a lot of taxes. One Million Dollars will go into mitigation and remediation.

Salmon Habitat Restoration: Commissioner Harry Vaughn reported: There is a Marshall Grant and they originally had a proposal for a 15.3 million gallon pump to deliver 15 gallons per minute to Redwood Creek for salmon and everybody else who likes water. For clarity I'll just forward this email to the Secretary to distribute to the commissioners. There was discussion on the pond size, so the proposal went back to the stakeholders. There has been a recent acquisition of property by Lost Coast Forestland, a private acquisition group, they came up with a potential 5.5 million gallon pond storage on their recent acquisition in Upper Redwood Creek. The land was acquired for fish and wildlife and not cannabis. So we could downsize the Marshall Ranch pond to 10 million gallons, to provide about 20 gallons per minute to provide augmentation upstream of Briceland, and added to the Marshall Ranch pond would provide about 50 gallons per minute below Briceland. The email Vaughn will forward to our Secretary will give more detailed information.

Fishing: Commissioner Hollie Hall asked: Are the razor clams from the north side of Clam Beach to the Oregon border safe? Yes.

Fish Health: Commissioner Yadao Inong reported we should have some live fish now. The fires are benefitting the fish as the water temperature has gone down from 26c to 19.5c in the Willow Creek area. We're waiting to see, because of Covid, whether we'll be able to do a creek walk on the Upper Trinity, which hasn't been done in several years. Hollie Hall reported that there are efforts to take coho from other areas and integrate them into other rivers. Off shore fish are straying into the Mattole, genetics showing that the fish can adapt.

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Wolves: Mike Zamboni reported that DF&W claims California wolves are coming in from Oregon. Shasta and Lassen have some. There is a rumor he's been hearing for years that there is someone in Shasta County breeding wolves and dogs and releasing them into the wild.

Mountain Lions: Commissioner Zamboni got his first picture of a mountain lion up above Blue Lake. There have been two sightings in the last week.

Area River Updates: Commissioner Brad Smith reported that the South Fork Eel is choked with blue green algae, and the water is quite low.

Announcements: Onland fish farming. A newsletter claims Nordic will be discharging 12.5 million gallons a day of partially treated water 1.5 miles into the ocean, which will increase the water temperature and increase domoic acid. An EIS will be done by September 21. Commissioner Jim Clark reported that comments on the Offshore wind development EIS are due 9/13. Jim Clark will send the secretary a link to read the EIS.

Next meeting is September 21, 2021 and will be held by ZOOM.

Meeting ended 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Kaytis-Slocum
Secretary

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