

**Wildlife Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes APPROVED
December 9, 2015**

Start Time: 10:00am

Location: Whatcom County Northwest Annex

Attendees – Members	Present
Bob, Frank*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Harris, Wendy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ingram, Joel*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jackson, Vikki*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kazimer, Chris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McLaughlin, John*	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ochiogrosso, Guy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wenger, Barry*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Williams, Michael*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Woodcock, Paul	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yarborough, Fenner*	<input type="checkbox"/>

* indicates Technical sub-committee member

Quorum Present	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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Attendees - Staff	Present	Attendees - Staff	Present
Elder, Chris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cliff Strong	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Personius	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Announcements/Public Comment/Agenda Review

Welcome

Committee reviewed the agenda with no comments

No comments were received from the public.

Committee Business

Motion by Barry Wenger to nominate Mike Williams for Chair, Vikki Jackson for vice chair

Seconded by Paul Woodcock, and followed by discussion of chair and vice-chair duties.

Unanimous approval, congratulations Chair Mike Williams and Vice-Chair Vikki Jackson

Discussion of changes made to Draft Business Rules & Procedures.

Motion by Barry Wenger to adopt Business Rules & Procedures in current draft

Seconded by Vikki Jackson

Unanimous approval, Business Rules & Procedures are approved in current draft

Continuing discussion of Existing Ecosystem Report, review of current draft and progress made thus far.

Chris Elder will save current draft of Existing Ecosystem Report each Friday to allow committee to review, monitor, and comment on progress. Chris discussed how committee members can comment on the EER using track changes and can send comments to Chris via email.

Chris Kazimer asked what the purpose of the EER document will be and how will it be presented. Discussion of format and uses of EER.

Discussion of Chapter 11 of the Comp Plan Update. Chapter 11 has been approved by the Planning Commission. WAC discusses the role of the committee to make comments on the Ch. 11 update.

Discussion of how wildlife planning fits into the County planning process. Critical Areas Ordinance, Shoreline Management Program.

Discussion of employing GIS tools and data to evaluate landscape changes and impacts to wildlife and habitat. Shoreline Management Plan should have associated GIS datasets, Chris will search for this data. Could a WWU student help perform some of this work as a thesis project or independent study? Discussion of potential areas to be included in a landscape analysis. These areas will be further identified in later meetings.

Discussion of buffers required/encouraged by different entities, differences between fish bearing streams, human made ditches, and rivers.

Discussion of including a narrative in EER document on County's role in forest harvest, forest practice. DNR is in charge of managing/approving forest harvest applications and setting forest practice rules and regulations.

Motion to adjourn by Barry Wenger, seconded by Chris Kazimer. Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

Next meeting: Technical sub-committee will meet on Tuesday, January 5, 2:30 – 4:30pm at Northwest Annex. Next full committee meeting not scheduled.