MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING

July 19, 2021

TRINITY COUNTY LIBRARY, WEAVERVILLE

Chairman Commissioner James Lee (Wildlife) - present

Vice-Chairman Commissioner Samantha Chilcote (Recreation) – present (notes)

County Supervisor
Supervisor Liam Gogan - present

Restoration
Commissioner Mike Dixon- absent (excused)
Vacant

Recreation
Vacant

Holthaus -

Fisheries
Commissioner Kyle De Julio - present
Commissioner Charles present

At Large
Commissioner Richard Cole - present

Wildlife
Vacant

This meeting may be audio-recorded.

The TCFG assists in developing Fisheries and Wildlife Policy recommendations for the Board of Supervisors. The TCFG interacts and coordinates with federal, state and local agencies and other organizations involved in fish and wildlife conservation, restoration, enhancement and management programs.

Meetings of the TCFG are held bi-monthly starting in January and are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The meeting location is at the Trinity County Library (unless otherwise noted) in Weaverville at 7:00 PM. All meeting agendas will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. If you would like back-up to the agenda items please contact James Lee at trinityfishandgamecommission@gmail.com.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify James Lee three (3) full business days prior to the meeting at trinityfishandgamecommission@gmail.com.
Zoom information:
Trinity County is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

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Meeting ID: 595 007 2851
Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/abSS6Lp88d

7:00 PM Meeting Called to Order

7:05 I. Public Comment
Eric Wiseman, Dave Delange - present
update: Brown’s Creek dry ¼ mile above Delange Ranch,

This time is for information from the public on matters not appearing on this agenda. All comments are limited to three minutes and must pertain to matters within the jurisdiction of this Advisory Commission. When addressing the Advisory Commission please state your name for the record and address the Advisory Commission as a whole,
through the Chair. No action or discussion will be conducted on matters not listed on the agenda, however, the Chair may refer the subject matter to the appropriate Commissioner for follow-up or schedule the matter on a subsequent Advisory Commission Agenda.

7:10 II. On-Going Reports
a. Grant Program -
   a. Trinity County Water Securities and Conservation Group: TCRCD and WRTC want to do a county wide mailing to document drought conditions. This would be as part of a larger drought monitoring project and they were concerned about getting funding for postage and printing to support a public input component. They were hoping to have a brief letter drafted to introduce their concepts, but with the short notice, the Commission had not received anything.

Commissioner Gogan: Is there any way to narrow the number of people who will receive the letter to reduce the cost (ie not all landowners will have water)?
   Commissioner Chilcote will share his comment with the proposal representatives.

7:15 III. New Business
a. Beaver on private property
   1. Draft Beaver dam letter.doc
   2. Draft Beaver Letter 2.doc
Fish and Wildlife website, beaver are heroes of the watershed, but code says rodent which can be euthanized or dispatched of, usually working under depredation permit with the landowners,
Delange: what is our job? protecting individuals of Trinity County, less worried about regulation but more worried about protecting individuals of Trinity County
Chair Lee: wildlife are owned by people of CA so it is a state issue
De Julio: there is no protocol for removing summer dams, human or beaver, leading to dewatering
   There were coho and lamprey which take 7 years to get eyes spots, indicative of stable environment,
Gogan: concerned that this individual took action and went against private landowner and thinks there should have been a change in protocol
De Julio: what we need to do is look at what is the issue that we want to tackle, we can’t move them, there is beaver management: taking critical habitat and hurting critical species vs warden being more law enforcement and less natural resource based and then the issue with the individuals and the decision tasking process, we need to focus on one,
Lee: this coupled with the last Weaver Creek action, there is no consistent policy and we want to make them make a consistent policy
Gogan: it wasn’t a dam, it was a diversion, it wasn’t a hindrance, is was beautiful restoration, for an officer to take that into his own hands and he had to know there were fish there, we need a procedure, must be some sort of stop and consult before irreversible effects,
Must consult with landowner and environmental scientist from CDFW
Lee: a big issue is why a warden is on private property and removing a dam without consent,
Delange: he was militarized, they are threatening, I’m not going to argue with him, he looked like he came from Afghanistan
Gogan: the structure was not stopping water, backing up the creek, that was the savior of Brown’s Creek, it might have survived the summer but now there is no chance,
De Julio: he was contracted by someone who wants guidelines for removing impoundments, he developed a document with guidelines for removing impoundments, that why we need to know what the issue is, warden made accusations that is wasn’t a beaver dam so he could circumvent the issue, is it beaver or is it impoundment and how to go about drawdown
Richard: he would like Kyle’s 6 points as an Appendix to our letter if that’s what we decide to do
Gogan: if you see a dam, pause. if it’s on private property, pause. if there’s fish there, stop. get information, consult. what’s a couple of days to collect information. you can’t just rip it out. the creek is no better from his actions.
Holthaus: are we going to get BoS approval?
Cole: I want to send to McGuire
Chair Lee: We want to have this prepared for Aug 2nd BoS. Must have everything to BoS 10 days before Aug 2nd.
Lee asked Delange for a written description.
Delange said he wrote one the next day and sent it to CDFW. Thursday he got a call from the wardens boss. Played phone tag and Sat morning there 2 wardens at the bridge. Delange will send him writeup he sent to CDFW. He has a Google Drive folder which he is willing to invite anyone to with write up and photos etc
Chair Lee will write up a letter asking for a process/ a policy that they have to stop and consult
Kyle will share the guidelines he wrote with James.
want:
Wed at 8 pm we will have another meeting to look at another letter which Lee will write

De Julio: who is the addressee: State Commission, etc
Cole: Senator McGuire, Lee
Lee: unknown who warden supervisor is
Lee: Region 1 supervisory
Gogan: ask Warden Straatmann who the supervisor
They are already working on a case internally, their defense
Cole: should include federal Congressman
Lee: there is a take of federally listed species, current policy is consistent with federal ESA,
De Julio: coho don’t have to be present for it to be take, reverse modification of critical habitat.
Delange: it has shaken the entire area. Elk killed by mountain lion, an outsider came and in 15 minutes everything is out of whacked
We will have the letter by 5 pm tomorrow and a call on Wed at 8 pm. We will have a brief letter which mentions incident as impetus but will leave the detailed description to Delange. Our letter will ask that they create a policy and provide an example of a process.

After 2 meetings we have not named the person. They should know who we are talking about. We want to talk about the incident, not the person.

Adjourn 8:12 pm

Our Next Meetings
September 8, 2021
November 10, 2021

Other Meetings

CA Fish and Game Commission
July 20, 2021 Marine Resources, Sacramento
August 17, 2021 Tribal, Sacramento
August 18-19, 2021 Sacramento
September 16, 2021 Wildlife Resources, Sacramento
October 13-14, 2021 Sacramento
November 9, 2021 Marine Resources, Sacramento
December 14, 2021 Tribal, Sacramento
December 15-16, 2021 Sacramento

Trinity Collaborative
Sept 17, 2021
Nov 19, 2021

Pacific Fishery Management Council
August 22-25, 2021 PSMFC 74th Annual Meeting
September 8-15, 2021, Spokane, WA
November 15-22, 2021, Costa Mesa, CA

Pacific Flyway Council
August or September 2021, TBD

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
July 18-23, 2021 Santa Fe, NM

Wildlife Conservation Board
August 26, 2021, webinar or teleconference
November 18, 2021, webinar or teleconference