Trinity County Fish & Game Advisory Commission
Minutes – May 9, 2018

John Fenley (TCBOS District 5), Chairman present
Samantha Chilcote (Wildlife) – present  Mike Dixon (Restoration) present
Cody Canale (Recreation) absent  David Martin (At Large) absent
Travis Michel (Fisheries) – absent  Scott McAllister (Recreation) absent
Donna Rupp (Restoration) -present  Blain Nicolls (Wildlife) – present
Richard Cole (At Large) - present  Kyle De Julio (Fisheries)-absent
James Lee (At Large) - present  Sheila Brewer, Secretary - present

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 P.M.
   a. Approve March 14, 2018 Minutes, MSC -Rupp/Chilcote – passed unanimous
   b. Treasurer’s report, Budget – $17,832.24
      The fine process was discussed by the commissioners, Commissioner Lee will
      contact the controllers/Auditor regarding fines and how they are distributed.
      Secretary Brewer will contact the courts and the District Attorney’s offices
      regarding the fines and violations. Both will report back at the July meeting.
   c. Approve claims – MSC – Chilcote/Cole – passed unanimous
      Secretarial Fee for March 14, 2018 meeting, $150.00

2. EVENING PROGRAM – California Fish & Wildlife Deer Biologist Stephen
   “Sporty” Pair
   Sporty talked about the changes in the regulations regarding punching deer tags.
   B Zone has gone to a restricted tag, unable to purchase a 2nd tag until after August
   2, 2018, if there are any left, there are 35,000 tags available in the B Zone. Last
   year 4394 deer were reported taken during the deer season, less than 15%. Sporty
   indicated that when the deer hunters arrive in the forest for hunting season the
   deer tend to go nocturnal. He indicated it is believed that most of the does are
   being bred even though the buck population seems low.
   The department may be getting collars for the deer and doing DNA testing.
   Sporty explained the deer migration for different counties.
   The commission offered a letter of support for the deer tracking program.
   An antlerless and or junior hunt was discussed.
   Sporty explained the tag reporting system, hunters must report if they hunted and
   if they got a deer or didn’t, it is now on line to report. If the hunters don’t report
   in California they have to pay $20.00 more the next year for their tag. The deer
   reported harvest is much higher than the past because they must report.
Question was asked regarding the bears killing the fawns. Sporty indicated that there was a study in Mendocino County that showed that 35% of fawns are killed by bears. 

Question was asked regarding the deer losing their hair and the related disease. Sporty said it has not been documented. 

What is the status of the Deer Management Plan? Sporty said it is in the process waiting for the new coordinator. They are trying to make it broad enough, so each area can manage their own area and harvest. It was recommended the commission remain proactive regarding the deer plan. 

The deer population was discussed, Sporty said it is going down, but not drastically. 

3. ONGOING REPORTS 
   a. Restoration – Commissioner Rupp reported that RCD is currently working with the Integral Ecological Research Center (IERC) rehabbing cannabis illegal grow sites, the project is funded by the State of Californian. They are testing for illegal chemicals and marking the areas, then the cleanup crews go in to clean the areas. They are finding when the areas are cleaned up the growers don’t return. 
   b. Trinity County Big Game Update – Commissioner Lee proposed we get pre-feedback for the Deer Management Plan. Commissioners Lee and Canale present the recommendations at the next meeting. Commissioner Lee will contact the other commissioners with the recommendations prior to the meeting. Information can be disseminated no more than three days prior to the meeting. 
   c. Trinity River update – Commissioner Dixon reported the river will peak at 1900 CFS on May 12, 2018. 
   d. Department of Fish & Wildlife Report – See Program 
   e. NRA Collaborative Committee Report – No report 
   f. Fisheries Council – No Report 

4. OLD BUSINESS 
   a. Literature for deer hunters regarding reporting marijuana grown in the National Forest – Commissioners Cole and Mcallister- Tables to July meeting 
   b. Letter of support for the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program, Commissioner De Juilio – Table to July meeting 

5. NEW BUSINESS 
   a. Absent Commissioners - Secretary Brewer will prepare letters for the dismissal of two commissioners effective 5-9-2018 due to three consecutive absences. 
   b. Social Media site for Norther State Fish & Game Commissioners, Commissioner Cole suggested that a closed Facebook page be set up to invite commissioners from other commissions to join to share agenda and discuss common issues. The subject was discussed, Commissioner Cole has volunteered to be the administrator of the page. Commissioner Chilcote moved for Commissioner Cole to move forward with the development of the Facebook page and report back to
the commission at the next meeting and also meet with the County CAO regarding the page. Second Commissioner Rupp. Passed Unanimously

6. CORRESPONDENCE –
    a  California Department of Fish & Wildlife

7. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS –
    a. Commissioner Dixon suggested a presentation from a California Department of Fish & Wildlife biologist regarding the status of wolves in Siskiyou County.

9. ADJOURNMENT 9:30

Next meeting is July 18, 2018

Schedule of meetings for 2018
March 14
May 9
July 18
September 12
November 14