



USVEMG Regular Meeting

July 8, 2009

<http://www.snoqualmievalleyelk.org>

Regular Meeting called to order on Wednesday July 8, 2009, at 6:30 P.M. by President, David Wilson. An introduction of Directors and Officers was made by David. Ross Fenton from the Tulalip Tribe was not able to attend.

Special Presentation

Alpine Lakes Protection Society Presentation by Rick McGuire and Doug from the Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition

- Outlined the Pratt River Valley pointing out 70 year old logging sites and typical elk habitat. Was not a focus to add lowland areas into the protected forest areas, which has been this groups focus.
- They provided pictures of ways that it was abused. Five to ten years ago, hazardous material dumped on road spurs had to be cleaned up and most spurs leading to the river were closed. Friends of the Middle Fork Help in keeping it clean today.
- Middle fork area ownership changed from 75% to 98% public ownership in all about 1500 acres.
- US HWY Administration Paving funds now only cover about 40% of the cost of paving Middle Fork Road and they are redesigning it. A public announcement will be made when it is finished.
- They are working to declare Middle Fork and Pratt rivers as Wild and Scenic. The proposed designations are: Wild (the highest level of protection) for the Pratt and Middle Fork would be scenic or recreational.
- Areas of clay deposits seem to provide good habitat for elk in certain lower elevation areas of the Pratt River which was cited as an area of estimation of 1000 acres. Elk have cleared certain of these areas.
- Treasurer Ryan asked about the groups' stance on destructive logging clarification. They provided that it requires a lot of road construction, which do more damage to the area and is no longer the normal operation. Prefer that the King County Lands in the Middle Fork Valley formally the Gillis property consisting of about 25 low elevation, meadow like, acres which David Kimmett has some knowledge over this. The Alpine Lakes Group may be open to discussion logging to clear areas for elk habitat if deemed as the best alternative.
- Propose that this area can be habitat improvement. Improve the permeability for elk crossing along I-90 corridor.
- Rick outlined that the lower areas will be allowed to return from a second growth forest area to an older growth forest.
- A discussion by Harold spoke on the changes to the area of the forest which took a long time to grow and slowly returned on their own.

Key Agenda Items



Upper Snoqualmie Valley
Elk Management Group

Land and People Management Committee

Harold Erland spoke that Russell was not able to make this meeting and requested that a chair be appointed to lead this group. President offered that anyone interested contact and Director or Board member.

Elk Management Committee

Harold Erland showed a map detailing the 23 elk fatalities, three since our last group meeting most between Exit 31 and 34. A question was raised about how the data was gathered and determined for the elk overpass planned project on the Eastern side of I-90. It was not readily known. Maura Callan raise that a traffic camera may have captured the elk movement of the identified area that was.

President David Willson provided that the two key areas in this corridor that have elk incidents are exit 38 and the area going up to Easton. He also mentioned that the data providers to the WSDOT are not equal and our group may be compiling the most amount of data since we are more populated. There is a well established trail at exit 38.

Harold is tracking all elk fatalities, by all means. He proposed that a majority of the elk road fatalities are by truck since most fatalities do not show skid marks or vehicle damage. Tom added that some trucks may have wildlife bars (known as Canadian Cow Catchers) on front of the trucks to lessen the damage or impact.

More volunteers are needed to work on telemetry; however hunters who plan to hunt elk in game unit 460 are asked not to participate in this activity.

There are 9 elk current collared and a map was shown where they are living and traveling. No Elk are collared in the Meadowbrook area or in the Northern Slope of the Middle Fork valley or Western City limits. In Tennessee Smokey Mountain National Park, Black bears have learned how to kill elk calves.

He showed a map of areas where collared elk are located. Yet there are other elk groups that are in other areas that are not collared. We need more money to collar elk in the Meadowbrook area.

Funding is needed in order to purchase GPS collars so the tracking can be improved and expanded.

A Committee meeting will be held on July 16th at 6:00 PM at North Bend City Hall to discuss telemetry.

Public Awareness, Education and Outreach Committee

Kalli Willson outlined that Breanna and Rebecca from Washington State Fish and Wildlife would be around through September 2009. They put together a lesson plan and list of ideas and activities that this group has done. This information will be made available to teachers and will help them with linking them to information on our website.

A future presentation will be on Watchable Wildlife from an organization that places cameras on wildlife and are very interested in placing them on elk and looking at an area in Olympia. Possible to place on our group to upload to our website and drive increased traffic. This Elk camera can be linked to our webpage. In order to attract more site visitors.



Upper Snoqualmie Valley Elk Management Group

Festival at Mt. Si. is the one festival that the group will be participating in on Aug 7, 8, and 9. They need help in providing elk antlers and pelts for demonstrations, our group membership brochures, and flyers to inform the public about the group and its purpose. People are needed to man the booth from Friday to Sunday. They are looking at being part of the parade. See Kalli to volunteer or to help out.

Andrea introduced the Elk group flyer that helps residents with elk visitors. She added that they would like to have WDFW flyers, donation jar, signup forms, information on our groups and their activities, giveaways, and an outdoor banner for group.

Recess

Board Role Call

Present

President: David Willson; Treasurer: Ryan Kolodejchuk; Secretary: Gary Fancher; United States Forest Service: Sonny Paz; Hunters: Joe Merclich, Commercial, non-agricultural land owners: Harold Erland, Timber land owners: Tim McBride, Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association: Sam Metzler; Wildlife Advocate: Maura Callahan, David Bach; Citizen at large: Dianna Phillips

Absent

Vice President: Jim Gildersleeve; Hunters: Mark Belaire; Commercial, non-agricultural land owners: Matt Campbell; Agricultural land owners: Scott Stringfellow, Nels Melgaard; Small Property Owner: Dick Burhans, Sallie Burhans; Citizen at large: Phil Cassidy; Citizen at large: Reed Simms

1) Minutes of the June Meeting minutes

Ryan made the motion to approve the minutes and Harold seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

2) Email Communication

Gary made a motion to create two group email accounts, one for Board and one for the Directors so the public or volunteers' have a way to publically contact us without sharing our personal email accounts. Maura seconded the motion. After debate, the motion was approved.

3) Lightly Attended Director Positions

David Willson made a motion to vacate positions that are lightly attended was made. Currently that includes only two positions. Ryan made motion to replace the Small Property Owner: Dick Burhans, Sallie Burhans and Agricultural land owners: Scott Stringfellow, Nels Melgaard. The group asked for a formal process to be established. Ryan revised the motion to only replace the Small Property owner Property Position and was seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

4) Appointment of Members to Vacated Director and Alternate Director positions.

Don Hacherl was nominated and appointed unanimously as the new small property owners Director.



5) Petition to amend the By Laws

First reading of a motion and notice to modify the bylaws regarding minimum amount requiring two officer's signatures from \$500 lowering to \$200. The final reading will be made at the August General meeting.

6) Treasurer report

8 People joined at last meeting, this meeting 9 more people \$170 dollars, and a donation of \$500 for a total of \$670. Don Hacherl motioned that we accept the Treasurers report and Joe Merclich seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

7) Request approval for the treasurer to lease a North Bend post office box, rental fee authorized.

Submit articles of incorporation for Bank of America issues. Article of Incorporation of a non-profit, the governing body is Sam made motion and Maura seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

8) Request approval to re-submit Articles of Incorporation with officers named as directors so that officers may have signing authority on the account.

After debate, the motion was approved.

9) Request approval for the treasurer to open a bank account with Bank of America, signing authority on the account defined, incidental fees or rebates authorized.

Motion to amend to remove the bank name was made by Joe and second. After debate, the motion was approved.

10) Request to open Paypal account to link to a second bank account.

Gary made a motion to postpone the vote in order to determine if a second bank account was necessary for a Paypal account and Maura seconded. Motion passed and item postponed until next meeting.

11) Request approval for the website coordinator to open an account with Paypal, incorporate the Paypal software and accompanying legal disclosures into a website redesign, funds to initiate and maintain account authorized.

Item not discussed due to item #10.

12) Request to IRS 501 application to show an income of less than \$10,000 per annum in order to lower the application fee to \$300.

Ryan made the motion and Harold seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

13) Request approval to submit the IRS 501 (c) (3) application with filing fee.

After debate, the motion was approved.

14) Officially recognize the logo as the logo for the USVEMG.

Sam made motion to adopt the current logo as the design of the USVEMG and Joe Merclich seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.



Upper Snoqualmie Valley
Elk Management Group

15) Recognize Andrea Toomey as Fundraising Chair for this group.

Gary made the motion to appoint Andrea Toomey as the Fundraising Chair position Recognition for a new Fundraising Campaign Committee to manage our presence at the Festival at Mount Si and Ryan seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

16) Authorize incidental expenses such but not limited to photocopies, props, marketing materials, and event fees for the Fundraising Campaign Committee, recommended allocation \$200.

Andrea made the motion to spend up to \$200 for marketing materials at the festival at Mt Si and it was seconded. Breanna from WDFW said they could make an in-kind donation for printing brochures saving the group the expense. The motion was amended for her to create the material and have them printed. Harold called the question and it was approved.

17) Request authorization to sell logo material through a third party vendor at the Festival at Mount Si as explained by Andrea Toomey.

Café Press would be used to print festival logo materials Harold made motion and Sam seconded. Tim McBride made motion to Grant Andrea the permission to provide group with the four items bearing our logo for the festival display and sale By July 24 by Friday July 31, seconded by Joe, Unanimous.

Tim made a motion to permit Andrea to perform market research by July 27th that identifies four items that will be for sale at the festival bearing the logo in time for the festival at Mt Si. The motion was approved.

Motion was made to permit the Education Committee to decide what goes on the website unless it would be of sensitive nature. After debate, the motion was not approved.

18) Request approval to post the current version of the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation in text format without signatures (not scanned documents)

Harold Motion to post both the Bylaws and Article of Incorporations without signatures to the website and Joe seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.

19) Request approval to post Harold Erland's document "Snoqualmie Valley Elk Study Introduction" to the website.

A motion was made by Ryan to postpone the request until the next meeting so that we have a chance to review it and Tim seconded. The motion was approved.

Meeting Adjourned 9:15 PM

Next Meeting: August 12, 2009



Upper Snoqualmie Valley
Elk Management Group

July 8, 2009, meeting minutes prepared by EMG Secretary Gary Fancher.

Signature

Date