



USVEMG Regular Meeting

August 12, 2009

<http://www.snoqualmievalleyelk.org>

Regular Meeting called to order on Wednesday August 12, 2009, at 6:30 P.M. by President, David Wilson. An introduction of Directors and Officers was made.

Special Presentation

A presentation about Tulalip Tribe Wildlife Management by Ross Fenton, Wildlife Biologist.

- No population counts are currently available on the reservation herds.
- Improved a clear cut 15 acres acre area for the deer.
- Performed a single mixed planting consisting of red clover, alfalfa, and other grasses in smaller plats, each surrounded by trees to create smaller plats.
- Lime and fertilizer are spread to help establish plantings. No chemicals are used to kill weeds which are pulled by hand or cut.

A presentation about the WDFW Watchable Wildlife Program by Program Coordinator and Wildlife Biologist Chuck Gibilisco.

- Began in 1997 as a program to connect people with the land and the species that live there.
- Receive money from Washington State Tourism Office for 2010 Olympics.
- Work with partners on signs development printing and design that explain what they do as well as information and ethics on the elk. May be able to provide some funding for this group, but recommended we apply for US and Washington State grants, LIMP grants (WDFW).
- Viewing distances are based on factures including the herd human association, site size, and wildlife viewing features from WDFW.
- Estimate \$1.5 Billion spent on Wildlife Watching, over \$800,000 on fishing, and \$400,000 in hunting. (data is from 2006 study by Washington State Tourism office.)
- The funding market is larger for non-hunters than hunters since the watchable wildlife program.
- Uses Solar powered camera to post wildlife movement on their website.

A presentation about wildlife crossings by Jen Watkins from the I-90 Wildlife Bridges Coalition.

- Jen Works with Conservation Northwest, a nonprofit group devoted to protecting and restoring wildlife in Washington.
- Mission of WSDOT to look at the movement of wildlife in conjunction with traffic.
- Data they used in the I-90 East project is based on wildlife fatalities.
- Posted unscented cameras which captured over 600 animals that frequented the project area (wolf, lynx, fox, elk, deer, bear).
- Overpasses rate higher for favorability by elk and deer over culverts and tunnels.



- The I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East project targets the Cascade lands that reach from Canada to Mt. Rainer and serve as a primary wildlife movement corridor for many species.

Committee Reports

Land and People Management Committee

No update.

Public Awareness, Education and Outreach Committee

Kalli Willson spoke about the Festival at Mt Si involvement and to let the public know who we are and what the group is about. The group was awarded second place in the Mt Si. parade for Organization. They provided biology, hunting, and education on the USVEMG purpose. About \$74 was received in donations and two new members signed up. Nels Milgard was thanked for donating his Nursery at Mt Si booth space to the Elk Management Group. They collected about \$74 in donations and two new members as a result.

Brianna, spoke on the guide they are creating to show how we can meet our outreach and education goals in the next five years. It will be presented at the September meeting. Ryan asked the group to write to the State to request funding for our WDWL education representatives.

A request was made for a person to help with Grant research and writing.

Elk Management Committee

Harold Erland informed the group of five new elk fatalities since the last meeting, a 2009 total 29 elk fatalities, 26 by vehicles. One calf died in birth and another calf died of heat exhaustion after being trapped in the fenced area at Twin Falls Middle School. Gary added that he requested that the fence be removed and had not received a response.

A letter was sent to send to hunters that drew elk permits with instructions on how and what tooth to send to us so we can track the age and gender. He requested funds from King County, City or North Bend and Snoqualmie providing them the Elk mortality map. Snoqualmie provided pictures of recent elk damage to Centennial Fields.

Scientific Collection permit updated to Clover trap permit type. Elk in clover traps must not be left in for 24 hours in high heat because of risk. They should not be handled for more than 1 ½ hours. November is the estimated start date to collar between exit 26 and Bandera, provided that funding is provided. Funding may come from the Department of Transportation.

Tags will be color coded to identify where the elk originate and where they are spotted.

Tom added that Telemetry training was offered, but not being attended. Non-hunters that are interested in taking part should contact Tom for future classes.



Recess

Board Role Call

Present

President: David Willson; Vice President: Jim Gildersleeve Treasurer: Ryan Kolodejchuk; Secretary: Gary Fancher; Hunters: Joe Merclich, Commercial, non-agricultural land owners: Harold Erland;, Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association: Sam Metzler; Wildlife Advocate: Maura Callahan, David Bach; Citizen at large: Dianna Phillips

Absent

United States Forest Service: Sonny Paz; Hunters: Mark Belaire; Timber land owners: Tim McBride; 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) **Treasurers Report**

The Bank of America account balance is \$751, \$74 in new deposits, tonight 3 new members and in kind donation \$5.93 in the jar. The balance does not reflect the \$300 check for the IRS 501(C)(3) application. We have a total 29 members, 2 are honorary but have paid dues anyway.

Harold made a motion to approve the report and Dianna seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 2) **Minutes of the July Meeting minutes** Harold made the motion to approve the minutes and Sam seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

3) **Second Bank Account**

Item tabled to next meeting.

4) **Check Signature Requirement Bylaws revision**

The second reading of the bylaws for lowering the maximum check amount from \$500 to \$200.

Proposed Amendment 1:

A petition to amend the bylaws submitted on behalf of Ryan Kolodejchuk and David Willson on July 1, 2009, is as follows:

Summary:

Reduce the minimum check amount requiring two officer's signatures from \$500 to \$200.

Actual language:

9.2. Signing financial Documents. All checks, drafts, or other orders for payment of money or evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Group shall be signed by the treasurer, unless incapacitated, or unavailable for two weeks or more, in which case, and an alternate officer and a designated Board member may sign. Checks or instruments for more than ~~\$500~~ \$200 will always be signed by two authorized members, one of which must be the president or treasurer.

Harold made the motion to approve the by-laws change and Joe seconded. After debate, the motion was approved.



- 5) Don made a motion to Amend July to June in section 9.2 was made by and seconded by Gary. After debate, the motion was approved.

Membership By-laws Revision, First Reading

Proposed Amendment 2:

A petition to amend the bylaws submitted on behalf of Ryan Kolodejchuk, David Willson, and Jim Gildersleeve on August 3, 2009, is as follows:

Summary:

Modify the membership year to begin on July 1 and end on July 30. Membership dues are \$10 with no proration.

Actual language:

3.2 Membership is open to all interested persons who pay the annual dues of \$10. Official representatives of governmental entities, or Indian Tribes are members without a dues assessment. Membership runs ~~from June 1 through May 31~~ July 1 through June 30 of each year and begins in 2009. Dues for persons joining during the year will be prorated and cost a \$1.00 for each month remaining in the membership year. Non-members may attend meetings of the "Group as a whole," but only as observers. They enjoy no right to recognition by the President, or Presiding Officer.

The motion will be considered at the September Meeting.

- 6) Authorization to Membership Cards

After group discussion of benefits and need, no motion was made.

- 7) Authorization of short-term operating budget including administration and Fall Collaring Project expenses.

A motion was made to amend moving #1 in Package 1 to #5 in Package 2 by Ryan and Seconded by Don Hackerl. After discussion, the motion was approved.

Ryan made a motion to approve the budget as amended and Maura seconded.

Harold made a motion to amend the current motion to separate the budget amounts for the city of North Bend and Snoqualmie and amend the total to \$134,500 and Jim seconded. The motion as amended was approved.

- 8) Creation of a Membership Committee, nomination of a chairperson for the committee
This position is in charge of membership outreach and keeping track of the current membership. Ryan made a motion to appoint Don Hackerl as the Membership Committee Chair and Gary seconded. The motion was approved.

- 9) Nominations for vacant Small Property Owner alternate director position (substitute for Director Don Hacherl)

Ryan made a motion to appoint Pat Young to the Small Property Owner alternate position and was seconded by Jim. The motion was approved.



Upper Snoqualmie Valley
Elk Management Group

DRAFT

10) Nominations for vacant Citizen at Large alternate director position (substitute for Director Phil Cassidy). Dianna made motion to appoint Tom Kemp as Citizen at Larger alternate position and Harold seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was approved.

Ryan made motion to adjourn and Tom seconded.

Meeting Adjourned 9:15 PM

Next Meeting: September 23, 2009

August 12, 2009, meeting minutes prepared by EMG Secretary Gary Fancher.

Signature

Date