



USVEMG Regular Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2010

Regular Meeting called to order on Wednesday January 13, 2010, at 6:30 P.M. by President, David Willson. An introduction of newcomers, Directors and Officers was requested by David.

Committee Reports

Public Awareness, Education and Outreach Committee

Kalli Willson informed the group that the last meeting was well attended. Also:

- Mt Si High School class is inputting the fall study data into the GIS tracking system
- Group is making plans to visit students once classroom availability is known
- Planning a future school field trip to discuss elk habitat with 5th grade students
- Met with Don McConkey Assistant Superintendent
- Working on DOT Collar Funding grant request associated with education requirements
- Planning a community field trip to Meadowbrook Farm based on the 2009 Student s work (See SI View Community Guide)

Land and People Management Committee

Harold Erland recapped the last Land and People Committee meeting held.

- DNR representative Doug Mcellan provided Middle Fork NRCA information, stating that the plan is currently unfunded and not fully decided
- Jim Franzel from the US Forest Service attended and commenting that he was not sure if Elk would travel into that Middle Fork area and suggested that a letter framing what we propose be submitted so it can be considered part of their ten year plan
- Sonny added that there are variety opinions on habitat. The forest plan does not permit a permanent opening. They must allow the trees to re-grow so the elk must rotate around new cleared areas.
- Cities were sent a letter to WASDOT to commission a study on HWY 202
- David added that the Watchable Wildlife organization offered to purchase elk signage for the Meadowbrook Farm area. Kalli added that Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association has already set money aside to cover printing costs

Mike McCarty from the city of North Bend announced a six month commercial building moratorium in the Tanner Annexed area. A special meeting is being held at 7:00 PM at North Bend City Hall.

Elk Research and Management Committee

Harold provided a slide presentation on areas that he visited for possible elk habitat improvement.

- The DNR has offered to allow us to clear the old logging CCC road edges as specified in the permit and replant with grass mixes. Includes trimming overhanging tree limbs.
- Prior to performing any work we must first understand the current species in (by pellet counts) and use of the area so we can access any impacts this effort has.



Upper Snoqualmie Valley Elk Management Group

- Area is approximately 1000 acres of managed commercial forests. Provides a place for experimenting with what works for elk relocation efforts. There are approximately 300 acres of thinned out sections that could be cleared of the downed trees to create connected areas and travel corridors
- Alan Mainwaring, South Puget Sound Region Biologist with the WA State DNR is working to acquire a Land Use license for us to access the areas and perform the work. He needs our signature on the request and proof of insurance
- The group discussed acquiring a grant to help with clearing the brush and downed trees since we will be creating wildlife habitat and reducing fire danger
- Ryan added a rubber tracked brush hog could be used to clean most of the brush and convert it to mulch
- Harold showed telemetry data of a few of the collared elk, proving that they are resident and not migratory. Yet, Harold added he spotted 35 elk in a neighbor's yard that he had not seen confirming the need for additional collaring.
- City of North Bend is in the process of drawing up a contract with our group to provide funding in exchange for elk data.
- Harold has borrowed three GPS collars that must be refurbished. They need to be made bigger for use on elk
- WSDOT FedExed seven GPS collars to Lotek for servicing to understand Elk crossing areas around I-90. Servicing is being paid for by the City of North Bend.
- MT Si High school has applied for two GPS Collars.
- Would like to collar by the end of March using the GPS collars. April 10 is the expiration of the permit and can resume collaring in July after breeding season. Harold is working on the new collaring permit.
- Next Committee meeting is Thursday 6:00 PM at the North Bend City Hall.

Fundraising Committee

Jim Gildersleeve providing an update on the Rocky Mountain Elk association is considering our \$10,000 request for elk research. Elk habitat improvement and land acquisition are other grant categories that he will apply for. He has a few other requests (mentioned last meeting) that he has not heard back on.

- A \$5000 grant request was made to the Rotary club and a \$65,000 ALEA Grant application will be submitted by Feb 1.
- Harold added the City of North Bend provided \$3500 is their budget as a donation.

Recess

Board Role Call

Present

President: David Willson; Vice President: Jim Gildersleeve Treasurer: Ryan Kolodejchuk; Secretary: Gary Fancher; Joe Merclich, Harold Erland, Sam Metzler, Don Hacherl, Phil Cassidy, Dianna Phillips, Tom Kemp, Pat Young

Absent

Matt Campbell, Scott Stringfellow, Nels Melgaard, Dave Battey, Mark Belaire, Tim McBride, Maura Callahan, Read Sims, David Bach.



**Upper Snoqualmie Valley
Elk Management Group**

1) Treasurers Report

Ryan provided that the balance in the account is \$3789.22. Check order was billed at \$89.24, which he will try to get reimbursed. No new members joined since last meeting. Total 37 USVEMG members.

Gary made a motion to approve the report and Don seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

2) Status of State Non-Profit Status

Gary informed the group that we provided the state a response to their question about dissolving our organization procedures. No response has been received back.

3) Minutes of the November 2009 Meeting minutes

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

4) Renaming of the Elk Management Committee.

A second reading of the proposal to rename the Elk Management Committee as Elk Management and Research Committee in Bylaws section 8.1 was introduced and outlined by David Willson.

Diana made a motion to rename the Elk Management Committee as "Elk Research and Management Committee" and Joe seconded it. The motion was unanimously approved.

5) Proposal to order VHF Collars

The cost of each collar is \$300 each and about \$110 is necessary for the required anesthesia and vitamins.

Joe made a motion to purchase 6 VHF collar sets (including drugs) and Diana seconded. After discussion the motion was unanimously approved.

6) Volunteer Time Reporting Policy

A discussion took place on tracking volunteer hours and WDFW reporting we need to track our volunteer hours.

Joe made a motion that the Committee Heads compile their volunteer hours each month and forward in advance of the monthly meeting to the Membership Committee Chair, currently Don. Phil seconded.

Tom made a motion to amend to include a Hold Harmless agreement if applicable, seconded by Sam.

After discussion the amended motion was unanimously approved and adopted as follows:

The Committee Heads compile their volunteer hours each month and forward them and any completed Hold Harmless Agreements in advance of the monthly meeting to the Membership Committee Chair.

7) Proposal to include USEVMG Events in SI View Parks Guide

Ryan made a motion to authorize the publication of our field trips, telemetry classes and Joe seconded.

After discussion the motion was unanimously approved.



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8) Venue for Opinion, and Discussion on the Website

A discussion to amend the EMG Website Documentation policy was made and outlined by Mr. Willson. Opinions of some authors are their own and not necessarily those of the Upper Snoqualmie Valley Elk Management Site creating the chance for misrepresentation.

Sam made a motion that the Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee be in charge of the Content and Joe seconded. After discussion, Sam withdrew his motion.

David made a motion to appoint the Public Awareness, Education and Outreach Committee Chair as the editor in chief of our content and Gary seconded it. After discussion the motion was unanimously approved.

Good of the Order

Ryan provided a map of the new City of North bend Annexed areas. Ryan urged the group to attend the Planning Commission meeting at City Hall tomorrow night in order to support protection of an elk calving area and 100 foot wildlife travel corridor.

Meeting Adjourned 9:08 PM

Next Meeting: February 10, 2010

January 13, 2010, meeting minutes prepared by USVEMG Secretary Gary Fancher.

Signature

Date