



County of El Dorado

See Below for Meeting
Location

Minutes - Draft Fish and Wildlife Commission

Patrick W. Weddle, Chair, District IV
Steven Schwarzbach, Vice Chair, Member at Large
Larry Robinson, Treasurer, District II
Dennis F. Byrne, District I
James Davies, District III
Leona Allen, District V
Heather Gardner, Member at Large

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

3:00 PM

<https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/84985797382>

330 Fair Ln - Building A, Conference Room C
Placerville, CA OR Live Streamed - [Click here to view](#)
Teleconference Location: 3368 Lake Tahoe Blvd, Suite 102, South Lake Tahoe, CA
96150

ADDENDUM

Teleconference Location added: 3368 Lake Tahoe Blvd, Suite 102, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS: The Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting room will be open to the public. The meeting will continue to be live-streamed via Zoom. By participating in this meeting, you acknowledge that you are being recorded.

Members of the public may address the Commission in-person or via Zoom to make a public comment. The public should call into 530-621-7603 or 530-621-7610. The Meeting ID is 849 8579 7382. Please note you will not be able to join the live-stream until the posted meeting start time.

To observe the live stream of the Commission meeting go to <https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/84985797382>.

If you are joining the meeting via Zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the "raise hand" button. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press *9 to indicate a desire to make a comment. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.

Although the County strives to offer remote participation, be advised that remote Zoom participation is provided for convenience only. In the event of a technological malfunction, the only assurance of live comments being received by the Commission is to attend in person. Except for a noticed teleconference meeting, the Commission reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access if there is a malfunction.

If you choose not to observe the Commission meeting but wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment in writing. You are encouraged to submit your comment in writing by 4:00 PM on the Tuesday before the meeting to ensure the Commission has adequate time to review. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at edc.cob@edcgov.us. Your comment will be placed into the record and forwarded to Commission members.

PROTOCOLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be received at designated periods as called by the Commission Chair.

Individuals will have three minutes to address the Commission. Except with the consent of the Commission, individuals shall be allowed to speak to an item only once.

Individual Commission members may ask clarifying questions but will not engage in substantive dialogue with persons providing input to the Commission.

If a person providing input to the Commission creates a disruption by refusing to follow Commission guidelines, the Commission Chair may take the following actions:

Step 1. Request the person adhere to Commission guidelines. If the person refuses, the Commission Chair may turn off the speaker's microphone.

Step 2. If the disruption continues, the Commission Chair may order a recess of the Commission meeting.

Step 3. If the disruption continues, the Commission Chair may order the removal of the person from the Commission meeting.

CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner, seconded by Commissioner Schwarzbach to Adopt the Agenda and Approve the Consent Calendar.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

The Commission may make any necessary additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the agenda and the Consent Calendar with one single vote. A Commission member may request an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion and separate Commission action. At the appropriate time as called by the Commission Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to Commission action.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [26-0305](#) Approval of the Minutes from the regular meeting on January 28, 2026.

Attachments: [1-28-26 Draft Minutes](#)

[1-28-26 Final Minutes](#)

This matter was Approved on the Consent Calendar.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

2. [26-0347](#) Staff recommending the Commission receive and file the February 2026 Monthly Finance Report dated 2/25/2026.

Attachments: [A - 2-25-2026 Finance Report](#)

This matter was Approved on the Consent Calendar.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

OPEN FORUM

Public Comment: K. Jermstad

Open Forum is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on subject matter that is not on their meeting agenda and within their jurisdiction. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Commission Chair may limit public comment during Open Forum.

EL DORADO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER REPORT

Ag Commissioner LeeAnne Mila reported on the following:
Tahoe Toogee Facebook post.
Mountain lion activity in Tahoe Basin.
Bill from Senator Alvarado-Gil about mountain lion hazing.
Senate Bill 1305 Grizzly Bear reintroduction in California.
Bear activity update.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Davies reported on the following:
Visit to Cameron Park Lake.

Commissioner Allen reported on the following:
Thanked Commissioners for West Slope bear coexistence information and dissemination.
Mountain lion activity in Meyers area.
Thanked Ag Commissioner LeeAnne Mila for assistance with mountain lion activity.

Commissioner Schwarzbach reported on the following:
Meeting with Supervisor Parlin and Sheriff Leikauf about mountain lion project.
Elephant seal influenza outbreak.

Commissioner Gardner reported on the following:
Updated Annual Work Plan and Draft Guideline documents.
Rasmussen Pond swans.

Commissioner Byrne reported on the following:
Rods and reels program update.

Commissioner Weddle reported on the following:
El Dorado Trout Unlimited chapter update.
Meeting with Supervisor Parlin and Sheriff Leikauf about mountain lion project.
State and local government staffing changes.
Discussion with American River Conservancy about FAWN organization.
Trout Creek Meadow Restoration project.
Reviewed The Gaines report.

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST AND WARDEN
REPORTS**

Shelly Blair with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife reported on the following:

Senate Bill 1305 Grizzly Bear reintroduction in California.

Upcoming bear den checks.

Youth hunter education course March 13th and 14th at Cold Springs Church.

Helicopter deer survey.

Sierra Nevada red fox sighting.

CDFW deer plan update.

Chronic Wasting Disease update.

Law enforcement media training with Tahoe Interagency Bear Team in April.

Bob Pera with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife reported on the following:

Rasmussen Pond swan.

Staff completing training and clearing out evidence.

Preparing for upcoming Spring fishing activity.

AGENDA ITEMS

3. [26-0088](#)

Clerk of the Board staff recommending the Commission:

- 1) Elect the Chair of the Commission for 2026;
- 2) Elect the Vice Chair of the Commission for 2026; and
- 3) Elect the Treasurer of the Commission for 2026.

(Continued item 3, January 28, 2026)

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner, seconded by Commissioner Schwarzbach to appoint Commissioner Allen as Chair of the Commission for 2026.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

After the main motion was made, a subsequent motion was made by Commissioner Byrne, seconded by Commissioner Davies to appoint Commissioner Weddle as Chair of the Commission for 2026.

Motion failed due to Commissioner Weddle declining the nomination.

A motion was made by Commissioner Byrne, seconded by Commissioner Davies to appoint Commissioner Schwarzbach as Vice Chair of the Commission for 2026.

Motion failed due to Commissioner Schwarzbach declining the nomination.

After the main motion was made, a subsequent motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Schwarzbach to appoint Commissioner Gardner as Vice Chair of the Commission for 2026.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

Election of the Treasurer of the Commission for 2026 was continued to the next regular meeting.

4. [25-2055](#) Commissioner Allen recommending the Commission:
1) Have a discussion regarding possible follow-up action concerning the October 29, 2025 presentation by Friends Aiding Wildlife in Nature; and
2) Establish and appoint up to three commissioners to a FAWN Follow-Up Action Ad Hoc Committee (Continued item 6, January 28, 2026)

Attachments: [FAWN Follow-up Email](#)

Public Comment: K. Jermstad

No action taken.

Commissioner Allen will reach out to Placer County to obtain information and provide an update at the next meeting.

5. [26-0306](#) Commissioner Allen recommending the Commission discuss site visit options for the May meeting in South Lake Tahoe.

Public Comment: K. Jermstad

**The Commission recommended the following site visit options:
Aquatic invasive species inspection station.
Campground lacking bear boxes.**

6. [26-0335](#) Commissioner Gardner recommending the Commission review, make recommended changes and finalize the Draft Guideline document for fishing derbies and fish stocking support.

Attachments: [A - El Dorado County Fish Wildlife Commission Draft Guideline Fishing Derby and Stocking](#)

Public Comment: K. Jermstad

Commissioner Gardner will make updates based on the discussion and return with an updated draft for review and finalization at a future meeting.

7. [26-0345](#) Clerk of the Board staff recommending the Commission:
1) Review updates to the bylaws; and
2) Consider approving the changes and submitting to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Attachments: [A - Fish and Wildlife Commission Bylaws Clean](#)
[B - Fish and Wildlife Commission Bylaws Redline](#)

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner, seconded by Commissioner Davies to approve the changes to the bylaws and submit them to the Board of Supervisors recommending approval.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and Gardner

Absent: 1 - Robinson

8. [26-0396](#) Commissioner Weddle recommending the Commission discuss the Wildlife Conservation Board Trout Creek Meadow restoration project.

Attachments: [A - CA Wildlife Conservation Board - Trout Creek Meadow Restoration Letter](#)

There was no public comment.

The Commission discussed the Wildlife Conservation Board Trout Creek Meadow restoration project.

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

There were no legislative reports.

NEXT MEETING - March 25th (330 Fair Ln, Conference Room A)

ADJOURNED AT 4:43 P.M.