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
Vacant, Member at Large

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 **2:00 PM** **https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/96964085640**

Health and Human Services Building - 3368 Sandy Way, South Lake Tahoe, CA
OR Live Streamed - Click here to view

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 969 6408 5640. 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/96964085640.

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 Robinson

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

There was no public comment.

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

Commissioner Allen recused herself from approval of the April 30, 2025 Minutes as she was absent from that meeting.

Yes: 6 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Allen, Byrne, Davies and 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. 25-0874 Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on April 30, 2025.

Attachments: 4-30-2025 Draft Minutes
4-30-2025 Final Minutes

This matter was Approved on the Consent Calendar.

Yes: 5 - Weddle, Schwarzbach, Byrne, Davies and Robinson

Recused: 1 - Allen

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

PRESENTATION

2. 25-0983 Commission to receive and file a presentation from Haley Molzahn about the El Dorado County Carnivore Project Independent Mountain Lion Monitoring.

Attachments: A - EDC Carnivore Project Presentation for EDC Fish Wildlife Commission May 2025

There was no public comment.

The Commission received and filed a presentation from Haley Molzahn about the El Dorado County Carnivore Project Independent Mountain Lion Monitoring.

OPEN FORUM

There was no public comment.

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:
Testifying with Sheriff Leikauf and Bill Gaines for Senate Bill 818.
Working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife on Mountain Lion and Bear issues.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Byrne reported on the following:
Membership Ad Hoc Committee.
Attended El Dorado Hills fishing derby.

Commissioner Allen reported on the following:
June 7th Sawmill Pond fishing derby.
Tahoe fishing guide forum.
Friends Aiding Wildlife in Nature in Placer County - report by Kathie Jermstad

Commissioner Schwarzbach reported on the following:
Mountain Lion collaring cooperative agreement meeting with Resource Conservation District and County Ag Commission.
Lion collaring research.

Commissioner Robinson reported on the following:
Wildlife cameras.
Ice House, Union Valley and Slab Creek fishing.

Commissioner Davies reported on the following:
Membership Ad Hoc Committee.

Commissioner Weddle reported on the following:
Golden Mussel field trip to Beals Point with Commissioner Schwarzbach.
Follow up with Carl Weiland about Golden Mussel lake coordination.
Administrative tasks.
Lake Walton fishing derby on June 7th.
PBS special Bugs that Rule the World.
Reading the book The Cougar Conundrum.
Finished reading the book Wild New World.
Finnon Lake fishing update.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST AND WARDEN REPORTS

Shelly Blair reported on the following:
Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance preparation.
Bear change proposals.
Mountain Lion Utah project.
AudioMoth deployment for birds.
Tahoe Interagency Bear Team.
Bear talk with El Dorado National Forest camp hosts.
Collaring Grizzly Flat deer herd.
Trap, tag, haze project for bears.
Electric bear mats for loan.

Bob Pera reported on the following:
Springtime training.
Trout season.
Follow up on complaints.
Wildlife conflict investigations.
Court cases.

FINANCE REPORT

3. 25-0995 Staff recommending the Commission receive and file the May 2025 Monthly Finance Report dated 5/28/2025.

Attachments: A - Finance Report 5-28-2025

There was no public comment.

The Commission received and filed the May 2025 Monthly Finance Report dated 5/28/2025.

AGENDA ITEMS

4. 25-0503 Commissioner Allen recommending the Commission:
1) Discuss bear boxes in campgrounds (Cont. 4/30/25, Item 7); and
2) Approve sending a letter to MHC Thousand Trails Limited Partnership regarding bear boxes in Tahoe Valley Campground.

Attachments: Tahoe Valley Campground Bear Box Letter

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Allen will address the Commission's concerns and recommendations regarding bear boxes in Tahoe Valley Campground with Supervisor Laine for further direction.

The Commission will not be sending a letter to MHC Thousand Trails Limited Partnership at this time.

5. 25-0989 Membership Ad Hoc Committee recommending the Commission:
1) Receive and file an update about the Committee's application review process for the Member at Large vacancy; and
2) Approve the Committee's recommendation to submit a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to appoint Heather Gardner to fill the Member at Large vacancy.

Attachments: Membership Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation Letter

Public Comment: H. Gardner

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Schwarzbach to:
1) Receive and file an update about the Committee's application review process for the Member at Large vacancy; and
2) Approve the Committee's recommendation to submit a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to appoint Heather Gardner to fill the Member at Large vacancy.

The Membership Ad Hoc Committee is now disbanded.

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

6. 25-0993 Commissioner Allen recommending the Commission discuss Tahoe Basin coyote survey and town hall meeting.

Public Comment: K. Jermstad

The commission discussed Tahoe Basin coyote survey and town hall meeting.

7. 25-0996 Commission to review and discuss the process for submitting budget proposals for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Proposals will be reviewed for approval at the June 25, 2025 meeting.

There was no public comment.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the process for submitting budget proposals for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Proposals will be reviewed at the June 25, 2025 meeting and the deadline to submit proposals for the agenda is June 15, 2025. Final approval will take place at the July meeting.

8. 25-0994 Commission to discuss and consider moving the monthly finance report item from the Agenda Items section to the Consent Calendar section on future agendas.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schwarzbach, seconded by Commissioner Allen to move the monthly finance report item from the Agenda Items section to the Consent Calendar section on future agendas.

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

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

There were no Legislative Reports.

NEXT MEETING: June 25, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.

ADJOURNED AT 3:48 P.M.