



TRINITY COUNTY FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2021

TRINITY COUNTY LIBRARY, WEAVERVILLE

Chairman Commissioner James Lee (Wildlife)- present

Vice Chairman Samantha Chilcotte – present

County Supervisor

Supervisor Liam Gogan - present

Restoration

Commissioner Mike Dixon – present

Recreation

Vacant

Fisheries

Commissioner Kyle DeJulio - present

Commissioner Charles Holthaus – present

At Large

Commissioner Richard Cole - present

Wildlife

Vacant

This meeting may be audio-recorded.

The TCFG assists in developing Fisheries and Wildlife Policy recommendations for the Board of Supervisors. The TCFG interacts and coordinates with federal, state and local agencies and other organizations involved in fish and wildlife conservation, restoration, enhancement and management programs.

Meetings of the TCFG are held bi-monthly starting in January and are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The meeting location is at the Trinity County Library (unless otherwise noted) in Weaverville at 7:00 PM. All meeting agendas will be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. If you would like back-up to the agenda items please contact James Lee at james.chris.lee@gmail.com.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify James Lee three (3) full business days prior to the meeting at trinityfishandgamecommission@gmail.com.

7:10 p.m. Meeting called to order.

I March 31, 2021 minutes approved as amended. Cole and Gogan. DeJulio abstained.

II 7:15 p.m. No public comment

III 7:20 p.m. On-Going Reports

a: Restoration Update

- Dixon updated the commission on a BLM fuel removal project for Lewiston, the Browns Creek restoration, NEAP in the Trinity forest watershed, the Scott

Creek restoration, the coming Indian Creek restoration, a fish passage on Tule Creek, tree removal near Forest Glen due to the August Complex fire. TRRP is conducting a large-scale project on the Trinity River near Dutch Creek. The lower Trinity Valley will be lowered to allow the river to create its own path. On East Creek 27-year leases are being signed with water rights holders to increase flows.

b: Trinity River Big Game Update

- Lee reported no changes in the Deer Plan, and that the bill banning bear hunting had been pulled from the Legislature.

c: Trinity River Update

- DeJulio reported the May flow of the Trinity will average about 1,500 CFS. The Fish Mill on the Klamath, is reporting a 95 percent kill rate just above the confluence with the Trinity. The hatchery will be release spring Chinook in a week, and he is very concerned none of them will survive. The reservoir will likely go below the minimum pool depth this year. He said any fish released after May will likely not survive. “It's going to be a really bad year.” The hatchery is not meeting its egg goals and algae is abundant in Trinity tributaries and will likely spread to the river itself.

d: DFW

- Andy Hill reported a “rough year ahead of us.”
-

e: Trinity County Collaborative

-No report.

f: Pacific Fisheries Management Council

- Cole mentioned the extremely low quotas adopted by the council.

g: Grant Program

- Cole said he had heard the Ruth fishing derby may be on this year. Chilcotte will check with organizers.

h: Correspondence Ad Hoc

- No correspondence pending.

8:05 IV. Old Business

a: Standards of Conduct for Commissioners

- Lee reported that Margaret Lang has approved the proposed standards. DeJulio moved to approve the standards, Cole seconded, passed unanimously and may be amended later.

b: 2021 Programs and Goals

- Commissioners agreed that filling vacancies was a high priority. Cole will spread the message on local Facebook pages. DeJulio said the commission should work on stocking and management of local lakes as one of the highest priorities, and commissioners agreed. The commission should also concentrate on marketing Trinity Reservoir as a fishing spot, and should encourage work on extending boat ramps. DeJulio also recommended more interaction with state agencies on these issues. He asked to add the state Fish and Game Commission to our regular agenda and to review our current standing reports. Cole move, Gogan seconded, approved unanimously.

c: Budget

- Lee asked to increase publication allocations to \$200 from \$100, and otherwise adopt the same budget as last year including \$7,000 put aside for commission projects. Cole moved, DeJulio seconded, passed unanimously. Because of the late hour, the commission decided to table other items except for Holthaus' presentation on the steelhead derby and restocking program.

f: Steelhead Derby Update

- Holthaus presented to the Trinity River Hatchery Technical Committee, which DeJulio is a member of. DeJulio said the presentation was very well received and everyone was supportive, although DFW was cautious. Holthaus said the committee pointed out that Trinity River has advantages over the Mad River Broodstock Collection Program. The object of the derby would be to fund the broodstock program, which has wide support. He said an NGO non-profit should run it to avoid financial complications. Commissioners agreed it should be a top priority. DeJulio pointed out that steelhead are the county's top fish and game attraction, and the Trinity River is the state's number one steelhead card producer, Gogan said he will drum up support among fishing groups he has connections with, including Mike Ramsey's group. Holthaus said that in Oregon, the broodstock program had increase hatchery returns by a factor of four to six times.

9:20 Adjournment

- Moved by Cole, seconded by Dixon.