

**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION  
SUMMARY MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

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*DATE: May 11, 2005*  
*TIME: 2:30 p.m.*

*PLACE: Gordy's Conference Rooms*  
*Tukwila, Washington*

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**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Val Ogden, Chair	Vancouver
Yvonne Yokota	Sequim
Karen Daubert	Seattle
Bill Chapman	Mercer Island
Jeff Parsons	Leavenworth
Craig Partridge	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Elizabeth Rodrick	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Rex Derr	Director, State Parks and Recreation Commission

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IT IS INTENDED THAT THIS SUMMARY BE USED WITH THE NOTEBOOK PROVIDED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.  
A RECORDED TAPE IS RETAINED BY IAC AS THE FORMAL RECORD OF MEETING.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chair Val Ogden called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. Introductions were made.

The agenda was approved as presented. Minutes from the previous meeting were not available.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Jim Fox provided a legislative update. (See notebook item #2 for details.)

Jim gave an overview of legislation that passed, affecting both the IAC and SRFB.

The IAC will be addressing the matching funds issue in July.

Jim reviewed the budget. The Legislature appropriated \$50 million for WWRP.

The Capital Budget also added sections directing IAC to participate in the following studies:

- In lieu taxes
- ORV noise
- Land stewardship
- Outdoor recreation

## WWRP 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR LIST APPROVAL

Jim Fox provided a presentation on WWRP funding approval for Fiscal 2006 projects. (See notebook item #3 for details.)

Jim explained the approval process and provisos on the legislation. Staff usually brings this issue before the Board at its July meeting, but due to several issues, staff is asking for list approval at this meeting. Changes to the program and proviso issues were outlined.

Jim reported that project #10, Burien's Rhododendron Park Acquisition, has been withdrawn.

### Options:

1. Request a veto of one or both provisos
2. If not (or if no veto):
  - a. Approve Table 1 as is, or
  - b. Shift acquisition dollars to a second-year local parks acquisition grant cycle, or
  - c. Approve the unaffected portions of Table 1 and postpone the remaining decisions until the July 7-8 meeting.

### Board Questions:

Rex Derr wondered, if the Board was to ask for a veto, would this cause problems with the Legislature? The budget was favorable to parks and recreation overall and the Board may not want to upset that funding.

Jim responded that it could cause some problems, but this proviso came about at the last minute without wide discussion. It was requested by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition (WWRC) since their priority is acquisition. He agreed that this was a good budget overall for parks and recreation.

Director Laura Johnson believes it is important for the Board to have this discussion.

Chair Ogden noted that a letter was sent to Representative Hans Dunshee, Chair of the Capital Budget Committee, pointing out the concerns earlier in the session.

Karen Daubert wondered if there had been a change since the staff's recommendation appears to be stronger in the notebook memo than what is being voiced today.

Jim replied that the staff memo addresses the unallocated funds.

Elizabeth Rodrick asked for clarification on how a veto would change the lists.

Jim explained that without the proviso there would be less need to shift acquisition dollars to lower ranked projects.

Jeff Parsons asked how development projects compare to acquisition projects and how to know which is the more valuable of the two.

Marguerite Austin explained the differences and how both project types are evaluated.

**Public Testimony:**

Mike Ryherd, WWRC lead lobbyist, reviewed the timeline and how the provisos came about. The Coalition was concerned about the low number of acquisition projects. Looking at the project list, acquisition projects rank lower than development projects. Unallocated funds are mostly provided to development projects due to the lower scoring of the acquisition projects. The Coalition wanted to make sure more acquisition projects are funded, thus the proviso.

Mike asked which document the Board was approving – Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) list 14 or Table 1.

Jim explained that the LEAP list does not reflect the 3% administrative funds. The LEAP list is a list of projects whereas Table 1 is funding allocations for the individual projects.

Connie Waddington, WWRC and small land trusts in Washington, spoke on the importance of this issue to small land trusts and asked for support from the Board to keep the provisos in the Legislature.

Shelley Marelli, Assistant Director for City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services, discussed the Meydenbauer Bay project and noted its high priority for the city. She has acted as an evaluator and has noticed that acquisition projects rank lower on the project lists.

Loren Cavanaugh, Director of Burlington Parks, voiced his support for budget proviso option 1. He has noticed that the acquisition projects are ranked lower on the list. It is his opinion that lower-ranked projects are not always low quality projects. He is concerned that five points are given for population and Burlington falls in a population group that ranks zero on population points, which can be a difference of 20 projects since the scores are so close. IAC has done a great job in letting the public know when there are changes to the policies. His project, Burlington Northern Landing Acquisition, has an immediacy of threat issue.

Jeroen Kok, City of Vancouver Parks and Recreation, noted the need to recognize the amount of work that has gone into this legislative session and the difficult decisions that need to be made. He has two grant projects on the list and with provisos the projects will only be partially funded. He suggests approving the list with provisos as presented by staff.

Russ Pelleberg, City of Kennewick, commented that one of their projects would be funded while the other, a development project in which the city already owns the

property, is on the bubble. He suggests the Board adopt the list without the provisos as this would give funding to their project.

Perry Brooks, City of Kent, sees the importance of acquisition projects but also sees the need for development projects. He recommends the board adopt the ranked list without the provisos.

Fredi Simpson, City of Wenatchee, gave an update on the Rotary Park Expansion project that ranks #11 on the list. More than 2,500 volunteer hours have gone into completing the first phase of this project. He thanked the Board for its support.

**Board Discussion:**

Karen Daubert is against the proviso and would like to send a letter to the governor asking for a veto.

Bill Chapman is happy about the \$50 million appropriation and doesn't want any argument over the cut-off to mar the legislation. He noted that we have supporters of this program on both sides of the Legislature as well as the Governor. He is fine with the proviso and does not want to send a letter to veto this legislation.

Karen is an advocate of acquisition projects but is looking at the quality and integrity of the process that has been set up. She believes there are valid questions about the criteria and we may want to look at development and acquisition on separate lists.

Jeff Parsons supports the no-action alternative since it would send a mixed message on what the Legislature has done. He commends staff, the Coalition, and legislators on their work. He is personally biased on the urgency of acquisition projects because, once it is gone, we can't get it back. He feels the arguments of the testimony in favor of the provisos were very persuasive.

Elizabeth Rodrick feels, as a representative of WDFW, she is split on the two provisos. She agrees in supporting acquisition over development but, on the 60/40 split on urban wildlife, three of the five are state projects, which are still a benefit to the local community. WDFW would favor a veto on the second proviso.

Yvonne Yokota is leaning toward acquisition and believes that was the legislators' intent. She would not recommend a veto.

Rex would like to tell the Legislature and Governor Gregoire how much we appreciate what they did, even with the provisos.

Director Johnson reported that Craig Partridge had to leave but would recommend no veto. He would like further discussion about future action.

Chair Ogden appreciates what the Coalition has done and commends them for an excellent job on this legislation that has taken several years to achieve.

Bill commented that in each biennium we have more projects than legislation can fund and this year will be no exception.

Chair Ogden believes at this time the consensus is to not ask for a veto and to live with the provisos in the budget. She recommends the Board send a letter of thanks to the governor and legislators for their support.

Jim Fox explained how the funding would change with the withdrawal of the Rhododendron Park project. All acquisition projects on the list would be funded, along with providing some additional money to fund more development projects, unless the Board decides to set aside more second year funding for acquisitions only.

Mike Ryherd addressed the second year issue. Because of the Board's prior action, the Coalition told the Legislature that there would not be a second year of funding. If the Board does pull funding for a second year, the Coalition will need to explain why.

Elizabeth recalls when the decision was made last fall and is not in favor of a second year.

Yvonne, Jeff, Rex, and Karen all agreed that there shouldn't be a second year and to stick with this list.

Chair Ogden hears a consensus with no veto and no second year. It was agreed to go with the 3% off the top for administration and, in the future, look at the possibility of taking 3% from each project.

Jim brought up one last issue – the Urban Wildlife Habitat (UWH) category. The list in front of the Board reflects what the proviso says. It states that 40% of the UWH statutory dollars must be used for local agency projects. Jim explained what it would look like if the Board uses the proviso language on the unallocated as well.

The Chair asked for feedback on the UWH list of projects as presented.

Karen is in favor of this since this scenario is what the Board discussed last fall.

The Chair would like to postpone a vote on Resolution #2005-12 until the Board has a chance to see an updated table and revised resolution.

Jim will prepare the documents for a decision later in the meeting.

Bill Chapman thanked staff for its hard work on this issue and the good discussion.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. and resumed Regular Session

at 5:24 p.m.

Director Johnson summarized the Executive Session:

- The Court of Appeals upheld the state's position in the Northwest Motorcycle Association litigation.
- Discussed with counsel options for next steps in the pending litigation with Thurston County. The Legislature issued a proviso giving direction on the ORV Sports Park, in that properties could either be sold or transferred to another state or local government for operation. Grays Harbor County has provided a letter expressing interest in acquisition and operation of the sports park. Staff suggests counsel seek to resolve litigation before trial based on the proviso language.

Karen Daubert made a **MOTION** to direct counsel to seek to resolve litigation with Thurston County before trial based on the proviso language which could include dismissal or order of abeyance. Bill Chapman **SECONDED**. Board **APPROVED** the motion.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Four items were presented on the Consent Calendar. (See notebook item #4a for details.)

- Time Extensions
- Cost Increase
- ALEA list approval
- NRTP Advisory Committee Recognition

Yvonne Yokota **MOVED** adoption of Consent Agenda Resolution #2005-13. Jeff Parsons **SECONDED** the motion. Board members **APPROVED** Resolution #2005-13 as presented.

### **NRTP ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOGNITION**

On behalf of the Board, Chair Ogden and Director Johnson provided comments on the work done by the National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) Advisory Committee members. Outgoing members Gina Carr, Olympia, and Rod Jones, Issaquah, were thanked and presented with a copy of Resolution #2005-13 and a letter of appreciation.

Director Johnson also presented Rod with a plaque in appreciation of his extended period of service on a number of additional advisory committees for IAC.

NRTP Advisory Committee members who have also completed their terms of office but were not in attendance are Linda Boomer of Richland, Robbie Castleberry of Spokane, and Ann Goos of Seattle. They will also receive recognition of their services.

## **LANDS STRATEGY REPORT (SSB 6242)**

Gary Cooper presented this agenda item. (See notebook item #6 and handout of PowerPoint presentation for details.)

Gary reviewed the handout and updated the Board on the current status of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Strategy Report.

Gary noted that the report shows the actual amount paid for property – not the amount funded.

There was discussion on how the land was classified and other ways to display the information.

Gary's study has identified that state public land set aside for habitat and recreation lands is 1.7% of the total land base in Washington State and only 7.2% of all the habitat and recreation lands managed by federal, state, and local governments.

Questions needing answered: Who do we need to coordinate with? Which lands do we include in the coordination?

Gary reviewed four coordination options:

1. State Agencies + State Grants + Private Lands
2. State Agencies + State & Federal Grants + Private Lands
3. State Agencies + State & Federal Grants + Private & Public Lands
4. All Entities + State & Federal Grants + Private & Public Lands

Karen Daubert asked why Gary didn't use an option with DNR, Parks, and WDFW using state grant funds to purchase private and public lands.

Gary responded that it is another possible option.

**Public Testimony:**

Bill Robinson, The Nature Conservancy, commented on how the WWRP issue was discussed. He had expected a more celebratory attitude as the Legislature was very good to WWRP.

Bill Robinson also discussed SSB 6242 and how this is a great opportunity for the state. He feels the report should identify the benefits of public lands and what the future needs are. Four separate studies are being done and are due six months after this study, so this is a good opportunity to help set direction for these other studies. There is concern that private land is being removed from the economic tax base and loses money for the state. Another concern is that the public land is not taken care of and that efforts aren't coordinated. Bill believes the inventory database needs to have a GIS-based program to show location and connectivity of the lands and the study

shouldn't be limited to WWRP and public land trust transfers. The scope should be state and federal grant moneys. He would like to see the tone of the report put into a more positive light.

Chair Ogden noted that Bill Robinson's comments fall under the Board's strategy and goals.

Rex Derr appreciates Bill Robinson's bigger perspective on this topic. In conversations he has had with legislators, the opinion is that there is too much public land. He feels the best option of the four Gary presented is the biggest view option.

Jeff Parsons agrees with Bill Robinson that this is a bigger issue. We need to demonstrate how the public lands are providing positive results for the counties.

Bill Chapman noted that, as a stand-alone, it seems like the amount of public land is high when it is actually the lowest amount in the western states. He is leaning toward options #2 and #4 and feels it is time to find out what the needs are on a comprehensive basis with geographic ties to the data.

Mike Ryherd discussed the context of where SSB 6242 came from and how the bill has changed. It started out having IAC control the acquisitions, not coordinate, and changed to a study bill, adding recreation so it wasn't just habitat. He feels there may be a tendency to overwork the issue. In this particular case, Mike believes there is a giant misconception that habitat land is the same as recreation land. We are close to losing whole generations of people who hunt or fish. There is a need to have dual use on our habitat lands.

The Chair asked Gary if, after listening to the comments and testimony, he has enough direction to go forward with the report.

Gary responded that he is not sure he is even going in the right direction.

Neil Aaland noted that a lot of new information was presented and suggested Gary and staff discuss ideas with other members of the subcommittees.

The Chair noted that, while focus on process is important, she prefers a broader context, such as why recreation is important, how we are using lands, population growth, and how to bring this all together.

Gary reported that these issues are already in the report, just not in the portion that was presented to the Board.

Karen Daubert thanked Gary for getting the information in this format. She remembers discussing the tax issues at the last meeting and realizes that this will be part of the overall report. It will be a challenge to define what significant lands are.

Director Johnson shared comments from Craig Partridge. On the issue of coordination, he sees the need to identify what is already happening and focus on state grant funds. Craig would go more with option #2 and sees the Florida approach as too much and too big for right now.

Rex would like this Board to provide leadership for three questions that need to be answered for policy makers:

1. What distinguishes habitat land from recreation land?
2. What is the inventory of the whole (habitat and recreation, federal, state and local)?
3. Is there coordination going on?

He sees the need to get this information to the legislators to help with the other studies that are being done.

Gary discussed some of the issues of trying to do a study from a piece of legislation that offers many forms of interpretation, such as the intent, spirit, and language of the bill.

Elizabeth Rodrick thanked Gary for the work he has done so far. It may have helped to see the whole outline because she now realizes that today's presentation was just a portion of the whole report. She agrees with Rex that coordination is going on and this needs to be reported to the Legislature. She noted a final option, which includes biodiversity, to show how The Nature Conservancy (TNC), DNR, and WDFW are working on eco-regions, which are part of biodiversity.

Gary discussed the comment that Mike Ryherd made and the linking of state parks in the equation. He noted the need to include parks in some of these options doesn't seem so strong until you look at the whole integration.

The Chair asked Gary if he felt he had enough direction from the Board.

Gary appreciates the input and, although he doesn't know how he will do it, he knows he needs to revise the report.

The Chair noted that there would be general discussion on this topic with the SRFB at tomorrow's joint meeting.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Laura Johnson reported on staff activities since the last meeting.

- Bruce Crawford will now be working on monitoring and technology issues with both the SRFB and IAC.
- Rob Kirkwood has returned to his previous agency so we are reorganizing the management structure of the agency.

- Susan Zemek will be starting maternity leave soon but has prepared for her time off so her work will continue.

Director Johnson read a dedication invitation and thank you from the Plantes Ferry Park Sports Complex in Spokane. The dedication will take place on May 22.

Chair Ogden reported that she attended a dedication at Drano Lake and provided highlights of the event.

### **WWRP 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR LIST APPROVAL (CONTINUED)**

Jim Fox presented a draft amendment to Resolution #2005-12 with changes as follows:

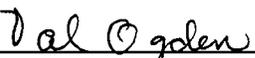
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation hereby approves the funding amounts shown in revised Table 1 – WWRP Ranked List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2006, with the funding in the Urban Wildlife Habitat category modified to reflect 40% of the unallocated funds applied to local agency projects, and contingent on the Governor signing the Capital Budget, ESSB6094, without changes to Sec. 404(2) and (3), and

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is authorized to modify Table 1 based on changes in ESSB6094, Sec. 404(2) and (3), resulting from Gubernatorial action, and~~

Bill Chapman **MOVED** to approved Resolution #2005-12 as revised. Karen Daubert **SECONDED**. Board **APPROVED** Resolution #2005-12 as revised.

Board Discussion:  
No discussion

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

  
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Val Ogden, Chair

Next Meeting:        June 21, 2005  
                              NRB #172  
                              Olympia, Washington

**RESOLUTION #2005-12**  
**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program**  
**First-Year Funding Approval for Fiscal Year 2006 Projects**

**WHEREAS**, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) recommended a ranked list of eligible Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) projects to the Governor for inclusion in the 2005-2007 Capital Budget, and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Gregoire submitted to the 2005 Legislature all IAC recommended fiscal year 2006 projects for funding consideration, and

**WHEREAS**, the 2005-07 Capital Budget includes \$50 million for WWRP, and

**WHEREAS**, the 2005 Legislature, as part of ESSB6094 (Capital Budget), approved projects contained in LEAP Capital Document No. 2005-14, and

**WHEREAS**, ESB5396 authorizes IAC to use up to three percent of the WWRP appropriation for administration of the program,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation hereby approves the ranked list of WWRP projects contained in *LEAP Capital Document No. 2005-14* and reflected in Table 1 – *WWRP Ranked List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2006*, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that three percent of the \$50 million WWRP appropriation be subtracted from the appropriation, to be used for administration of the program, and the remaining \$48.5 million be distributed to the seven WWRP funding categories according to statutory requirements and IAC policy, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation hereby approves the funding amounts shown in revised Table 1 – *WWRP Ranked List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2006*, with the funding in the Urban Wildlife Habitat category modified to reflect 40% of the unallocated funds applied to local agency projects, and contingent on the Governor signing the Capital Budget, ESSB6094, without changes to Sec. 404(2) and (3), and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director is to use the approved ranked list of WWRP projects and funding amounts in Table 1 to execute agreements and implement fiscal year 2006 funding.

Resolution moved by:     Bill Chapman    

Resolution seconded by:     Karen Daubert    

Adopted/Defeated/Deferred (underline one)

Date: May 11, 2005

**RESOLUTION #2005-13  
May 2005 Consent Agenda**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following May 2005, Consent Agenda items are approved:

- a) Time Extensions
- b) Cost Increase
- c) ALEA list approval
- d) NRTP Advisory Committee Recognition

Moved by: Yvonne Yokota

Seconded by: Jeff Parsons

Adopted / Defeated / Deferred (underline result)

Date: May 11, 2005