31D. Administrative Items – Future Meetings and New Business

Today's Item

Information

Action 🛛

Review logistics and approve draft agenda items for the next Commission meeting (August 14-15, 2024), consider any changes to approved meeting dates or locations, or introduce new business for a future meeting agenda.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)

Background

Next Commission Meeting

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 14-15, 2024 in Fortuna, with phone and webinar options for members of the public. Potential agenda items for the meeting are provided in Exhibit 1 for consideration and potential Commission approval.

The Commission meeting will be preceded by a Tribal Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 13. Staff will also pursue field trip options and welcomes ideas from commissioners and stakeholders.

Approved Meeting Dates and Locations

In August 2023, to provide staff ample time to secure meeting facilities (a task complicated by the pandemic), the Commission approved meeting dates and locations for both 2024 and 2025. However, this two-year planning approach did not anticipate the state's multi-year budget deficit or its impacts on state agencies.

Governor Newsom's May two-year budget proposal addresses this deficit with an 8% cut to state operations for every state agency, and eliminating 10,000 vacant positions. To achieve an 8% reduction, the Commission must significantly cut travel and other meeting-related costs or personnel costs. Since no vacancies are expected, which could provide salary savings, reduced travel is the only viable option.

California Fish and Game Code Section 110 mandates the Commission hold no fewer than eight, in-person meetings annually, but *only "if the commission has adequate funding for related travel, including funding for department travel.*" Without adequate funding, travel expenses must be minimized. This can be achieved by holding more teleconferences and meetings in Sacramento; this approach reduces staff and Department travel costs, meeting venue expenses, and audio-visual service fees.

Currently, meeting facilities are contracted or secured through August of 2024; locations beyond that time have more flexibility to modify and achieve cost savings.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)

Recommendation

Commission staff: Approve agenda items for the August 14-15, 2024 meeting as presented in Exhibit 1 and as amended during this meeting, and modify the September 2024 through

June of 2025 meeting schedule to move all Commission and committee meetings to Sacramento or via teleconference.

Exhibits

1. Potential agenda items for the August 14-15, 2024 Commission meeting

Motion

Moved by ______ and seconded by ______ that the Commission approves the draft agenda items for the August 14-15, 2024 Commission meeting, as amended during this meeting, and moves all September 2024 through June 2025 Commission and committee meetings to Sacramento or via teleconference as discussed today.

California Fish and Game Commission Potential Agenda Items for the August 2024 Commission Meeting

June 14, 2024

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 14-15, 2024 in Fortuna and via webinar and phone. This document identifies potential agenda items for the meeting, including items to be received from staff and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department). The order of items, previously approved for marine items on the first day and wildlife and fisheries items on the second day, will revert to the original sequence; the change is reflected in the potential agenda items listed herein.

Wednesday, August 14: Marine-related and administrative items

- 1. Commission executive director and Department (director and Law Enforcement Division) reports
- 2. Justice, equity, diversity and inclusion plan update
- 3. Commission policies review
- 4. Discussion: Recreational fishing regulations for federal groundfish for 2025 and 2026, and fillet requirements at sea
- 5. Adoption: California halibut and white seabass gillnet fisheries management measures
- 6. Adoption: Fisheries logbook forms and fishing block charts
- 7. Action on marine petitions for regulation change
- 8. Action on marine non-regulatory requests from previous meetings
- 9. Commission Tribal Committee
- 10. Commission Marine Resources Committee report
- 11. Department Marine Region report
- 12. General public comments for items not on the agenda

Thursday, August 15: Wildlife- and inland fisheries-related

- 13. Discussion: Possession of wildlife and wildlife rehabilitation
- 14. Adoption: White sturgeon regular rulemaking to continue emergency regulations
- 15. Adoption: Inland sport fishing
- 16. Receive a presentation on the Department's five-year species review for Lake County stonecrop (*Sedella leiocarpa*)
- 17. Action on wildlife and inland fisheries petitions for regulation change
- 18. Action on wildlife and inland fisheries non-regulatory requests from previous meetings
- 19. Department presentation on the Private Lands Management Program
- 20. Commission Wildlife Resources Committee report

- 21. Department Wildlife and Fisheries Division, Department Ecosystem Conservation Division reports
- 22. Administrative items (legislation, rulemaking timetable, next meeting)
- 23. Potential meeting dates and locations for 2026
- 24. General public comments for items not on the agenda
- 25. Executive (closed) session