



# EL DORADO COUNTY

## Fish & Wildlife Commission

Larry Nelson - At Large  
Stephen Horan - At Large  
Dennis Byrne - Dist I  
Mike Denega - Dist II  
Kurt Mikkola - Dist III  
Pat Weddle - Dist IV  
Victor Babbitt - District V

### Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2020 7:00 P.M.

Conference Room A -

330 Fair Lane, Placerville

1. Call To Order & Roll Call – Meeting called to order @ 7:01pm by Chairman Nelson
  - Denega, Byrne, Weddle, Horan, Nelson, Mikkola
  - Shelly Blair – CDFW Environmental Biologist - Wildlife
2. Adoption of Minutes of 1/29/20 and Agenda for 2/26/20 –
  - Both were approved unanimously.
3. Public Comment - Public comment on non-agenda items - None
4. CDFW Biologists and CDFW Warden Reports –
  - Mikkola shared the Warden report. Byrne summarized a second local trophy deer poaching over bait court case outcome where the fine paid was \$17,500.00. The recent court case outcomes have become statewide news and a strong message that this County will not tolerate wildlife poaching anymore.
  - Shelly Blair thanked this commission for our support of all her efforts including the continuation of the deer collaring study of the Pacific Deer Herd. She summarized recent publicity within the CDFW regarding mountain lion depredation management policies which include the boundaries for the new three-strikes policy regarding the issuance of a depredation permit is expanding north and likely is headed for a statewide management policy considering the likelihood they will be included in the endangered species list. Shelly explained multiple vacancies and movement within our local department of wildlife branch. March 14<sup>th</sup> is a youth hunter education class.
5. Commissioner Reports and sub-committee reports –
  - Mikkola announced an upcoming county sponsored Brown Act Training is scheduled for 4/2/2020 @6:00pm in the Board room. Mikkola submitted our 2020 fish stocking permit application to Ben Ewing and requested the fee be waived. Mikkola summarized recent progress regarding the payment for the air time invoice to continue the deer collaring study. Mikkola relayed progress made in paying \$100.00 towards the high school fishing tournament.
  - Denega reported multiple difficulties he is encountering when pursuing his efforts in creating multiple family fishing sites. The Wakamatsu Pond is potentially going to be one of the premier family fishing sites if his work comes to fruition. Denega promises to be persistent with his efforts and sees the need for support in creating the family fishing sites.
  - Byrne summarized the success realized at the recent high school fishing

tournament and will ask if a couple students from the Oak Ridge High School fishing club can come to a future meeting and present to us a better understanding of what is going on in the state with regards to the multiple high school fishing clubs and tournaments. A meeting with CalTrans is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> to finalize maps and locations for this year's temporary sign installations and permanent locations possibly by 2021.

- Weddle summarized a meeting with the El Dorado Chapter of Trout Unlimited with regards to Kirkwood Meadows plans to expand their facilities which looks like it would negatively impact Caples Creek. This Commission will share concerns with our BOS in hopes of getting necessary support to protect our resources rather than hampering them.
  - Horan was asking about the progress of a letter of being crafted to recognize the awesome work being done by our Wardens. Nelson will continue to work on it.
  - Nelson summarized his recent travels to a sports exposition in Chico in hopes of getting ideas to sponsor one in our region. He also is talking about conducting a California Deer Association dinner in our area. He shared recent hunter education class successes he taught.
6. EDC F&W Commission Strategic Priorities – nothing to add at this time.
  7. Finance Report – Mikkola summarized recent activity and shared the status of our accounts. The budget has been submitted by Myrna Tow on our behalf.
  8. Legislative Reports – Nelson spoke on the recommendation to take away take limits to the striped bass and no take of any striped bass less than 18" long.
  9. Next meeting – 3/25/2020 – Placerville
  10. Adjournment was at 8:45pm