
Commission directs ODFW staff to work within its legal authority to stop coyote killing contests

Key vocabulary words

Endeavor (noun) A serious and determined effort to achieve something.

Example sentence: She made an endeavor to improve her grades.

Regulate (verb) To control or manage something according to a set of rules or laws.

Example sentence: The government regulates the sale of tobacco products.

Conservation (noun) The act of protecting and preserving natural resources and the environment.

Example sentence: The organization is dedicated to the conservation of endangered species.

Expedite (verb) To make a process or action happen more quickly.

Example sentence: We need to expedite the delivery of the package.

Adapted reading passage

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Commission recently decided to collaborate with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians (CCBUTI) to improve wildlife management practices. The Commission established some rules to assist with this endeavor.

The Commission also addressed the issue of coyotes and their potential harm to crops. Although state law does not allow ODFW to decide when or how many coyotes are killed, the department can still manage the animals in other ways.

The Commission discussed an agreement with the Tribe to jointly care for fish and animals in a specific area. This agreement allows the Tribe to hunt and fish in that area as they pass down their traditions to future generations.

Gary Jackson, Vice Chair of CCBUTI, emphasized the Tribe's dedication to safeguarding natural resources for future generations, just as their ancestors did. The discussion regarding a similar agreement with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians has been postponed to a later meeting.

In other news, the Commission approved funding for 25 projects recommended by various boards, totaling approximately \$1 million. These projects address statewide conservation and recreation needs, with a focus on drought preparation and wildfire research. The Access and Habitat (A&H) proposals renew agreements for public hunting access to private lands, while Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) projects concentrate on restoring and enhancing fisheries and fishing access. Tom VanderPlaat of Beaverton was appointed as a Sport Fishing Representative to the R&E board.

Adapted from: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/news/2022/12_Dec/121622.asp

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The Commission also made changes to the fish passage program rules, updating requirements that have been in place since 1849. These changes, based on stakeholder input and lessons learned over the past 22 years, aim to expedite the provision of fish passage at barriers. They clarify when owners need to address the requirements, offer different compliance options, enhance structures' resilience to storms, and promote coexistence with beavers for nature-based restoration.

The Commission also adopted the proposed 2023 groundfish regulations, aligning with federal regulations. The marine bag limit will remain at five fish year-round to maintain a stable fishery. However, the retention of quillback rockfish will continue to be prohibited, while the sub-bag limit of one fish for China and copper rockfishes will be eliminated due to their low catch rates starting in 2023.

Effective July and August of 2023, fishing for yelloweye rockfish will no longer have depth restrictions. This change simplifies the rules and allows individuals who go fishing for halibut to also catch other types of fish during the same trip. It provides more opportunities for people to enjoy fishing. For those interested, a recording of the meeting where this decision was made can be found on the ODFW's website: <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/>

Multiple choice questions

According to the text, what is one way in which the Commission is working to improve management practices?

- a. Collaborating with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- b. Addressing the issue of coyotes and their potential harm to crops
- c. Approving funding for 25 projects recommended by various boards
- d. Making changes to the fish passage program rules

What is the main focus of the approved funding for 25 projects?

- a. Conservation and recreation needs statewide
- b. Drought preparation and wildfire research
- c. Public hunting access to private lands
- d. Restoring and enhancing fisheries and fishing access

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Based on the text, what change will occur regarding fishing for yelloweye rockfish starting in July and August of 2023?

- a. Depth restrictions will be implemented
- b. Fishing for yelloweye rockfish will be prohibited
- c. Individuals can only catch yelloweye rockfish during those months
- d. There will no longer be depth restrictions

Short answer questions

1. What did the Commission discuss regarding coyotes?

2. What changes did the Commission make to the fish passage program rules?