

Wildlife Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

Friday, March 12, 2021

Start time: 9:00 A.M.

Whatcom County Planning and Development Services

Northwest Annex Portable Conference Room

5280 Northwest Drive

Bellingham, WA



QUORUM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Members Present		Public Present
Frank Bob		Analiese Burns
Greg Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Robert Waddell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Joel Ingram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vikki Jackson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Chris Kazimer		
Stephen Nyman		Staff Present
Shannon Crossen		Amy Dearborn
Trevor Delgado		Kelly Chamberlain
Barry Wenger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. Barry Wenger opened the meeting at 9:06
2. Barry opened the floor for public comments or changes to the agenda
 - a. None
3. Analiese Burns presented City of Bellingham’s Wildlife Corridor Analysis and asked the Committee members to provide comments
 - a. 3 species will be mapped for a corridor model as part of the Urban Forestry Management Plan
 - b. Barry asked Analiese if the city has a wildlife plan for public use and/or to guide research
 - i. Analiese responded the city has multiple plans intended for internal guidance but not specifically a wildlife plan
4. Review previous meeting minutes
 - a. Vikki Jackson motioned to approve with revisions, Joel Ingram seconded
 - b. Approved
5. Barry noted a discussion from the previous meeting; asking the Committee if a lack of maps on the Species of Local Importance List may generate difficulty during Council approval

- a. Greg Green noted that, with bat populations especially, it isn't known exactly where the bats are located so recommendations must describe what actions to take when development may affect the *types* of habitats used by bats.
 - b. Vikki agreed with Greg's point and also noted that mapping distinct locations often provides allows the public to believe that populations are limited to what is shown on a map
 - c. Amy Dearborn further specified that the emphasis of the Species List is recommendations to protect the species during permitting processes so more flexibility may be advantageous
 - d. Barry said he will include a paragraph in the cover letter to clarify why maps are not included for some species
6. Amy asked for an update and feedback on draft the memo and documents for the Species List
 - a. Greg noted the Elk reference photo used in the documents is not the right species of Elk
 - i. Multiple members offered to contribute more accurate reference photos for all 4 species
 - b. The Committee planned to have all documents completed by March 17 to submit to Cliff Strong and PDS Director Mark Personius for approval before presentation to Council
 - c. Amy also noted the Committee will need to review the data spreadsheet that accompanies the Species List since it is not in an easily consumable format
7. The Committee agreed to begin more thorough discussions of the Ecosystem/Conservation Plan Update after the completion of the Species List
8. Discussion of members' availability for meetings now that field work is picking up again for the season
9. Barry asked for any New/Old Business
 - a. Amy mentioned Chris Elder is working on a Watershed Habitat Ecosystem mapping which may be interesting for the Committee; will try to bring him into a meeting to present
10. Meeting adjourned at 10:12