

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

DATE: November 18-19, 1999 *PLACE:* Natural Resources Building, Room 175
TIME: 8:30 a.m. *Olympia, Washington*

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DATE: November 18-19, 1999
TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Natural Resource Building, Room 175
Olympia, Washington

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna M. Mason, Chair	Vancouver
Egil "Bud" Krogh	Seattle
Ruth Mahan	Friday Harbor
Christine Wakefield Nichols	Monroe
Bob Parlette	Wenatchee
Cleve Pinnix	Director, Parks and Recreation Commission
Elyse Kane	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Stan Biles	Designee, Department of Natural Resources

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

ITEM 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Donna M. Mason, Chair, called the September 23, 1999 meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. She welcomed attendees, introduced new citizen member Egil "Bud" Krogh from Seattle and asked for self-introductions.

Chair Mason called for approval of the September, 1999 meeting. Cleve Pinnix asked for a corrected name spelling for Ilene Marckx and moved approval of the minutes as corrected. Elyse Kane seconded and the minutes were approved.

Director Laura Eckert Johnson reviewed the meeting agenda and announced that Mary Ann Huntington and Ralph Mackey would receive service recognition awards.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REPORTS

Laura Johnson presented the Director's report (see notebook for details) and thanked staff for exceptional work over the past two months. She announced the retirement of Don Clark and introduced new staff members, Tammy Owings, Stacy Vessey, Rollie Geppert, Lynn Palensky and Marc Duboiski. For the first time in three years, the stateside Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) will have Congressional appropriations of \$40 million – between \$800,00 and \$1 million for Washington state. In the future, permanent, dedicated funding of approximately \$450 million per year (\$8-9 million for Washington State) is expected. In response to a question, Director Johnson reported that no immediate or direct impact on IAC programs is anticipated as a result of the passage of Initiative 695. However, reappropriations may be in jeopardy and

project sponsors will be asked to move projects along as quickly as possible.

Debra Wilhelmi presented IAC's financial and management services report (see notebook for details). Ms. Wilhelmi provided additional information on the Firearms and Archery Range Program and explained that changes in statutes relating to concealed weapons permits have greatly impacted the revenue for the program.

Greg Lovelady presented the Planning-Related Services report (see notebook for details). He announced the 2000 Trails Conference being planned for October 13-14 (location to be determined). Cleve Pinnix thanked Jim Eychaner for his efforts on recreational issues surrounding the FERC process and Jim responded to Committee questions. Mr. Lovelady explained that approximately \$100,000 is expected from the federal Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG Program).

Eric Johnson presented the Project Services report (see notebook for details) and asked for Committee approval of service recognition resolutions for two NOVA Advisory Committee members, Carol Jensen and Loren McGovern.

Stan Biles **moved** adoption of the service recognition resolution for NOVA Program Advisory Committee Member Carol Jensen. Bob Parlette **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-30).

After reading the service recognition resolution for NOVA Program Advisory Committee member Loren McGovern, Chair Mason called for approval. Cleve Pinnix **moved** approval of the resolution. Bud Krogh **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-31).

ITEM 3. FIREARMS & ARCHERY RANGE RECREATION PROGRAM

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #3 (see notebook). Seven Firearms and Archery Range Recreation (FARR) projects were evaluated by nine FARR Program Advisory Committee members on October 6, 1999, during an open public meeting.

Darrell Jennings presented a brief overview of the FARR program.

Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-7.

Eric Johnson explained that IAC has \$312,925 available for distribution. FARR Program project funding requests total \$274,706, or \$38,209 less than the funds available for distribution.

There being no public testimony, Chair Mason called for approval of the staff recommendation.

Ruth Mahan **moved** approval of Fiscal year 2000 Firearms and Archery Range

Recreation Projects. Bob Parlette **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-32).

ITEM 4. BOATING FACILITIES PROGRAM – LOCAL PROJECTS

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #4 (see notebook). Eleven Local Agency Boating Facilities Program (BFP) projects requesting \$1,929,908 were evaluated on October 12, 1999, during an open public meeting.

Marguerite Austin presented a brief overview of the BFP program.

Eric Johnson explained concerns of the evaluation team regarding Project #11 – North Shore Dock Replacement proposed by the Port of Allyn. Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-11.

Chair Mason called for public testimony.

Bill Iyall Special Projects Manager, City of Tacoma
Thanked the Committee for funding for the Thea Foss Waterway project.

Steve McClain Port Manger, Port of Wahkiakum No. 2
Expressed appreciation to the IAC Committee and staff for assistance and support of the Svensen Park Planning project.

Doug Crummie Consulting Engineer, Port of Allyn
Explained that permitting is not expected to be a hindrance to the progress of the project.

Cleve Pinnix **moved** approval of Fiscal Year 2001 Local Parks Category Ranked List of Projects. Bud Krogh **seconded**. Staff responded to Committee concerns about leaving unused funds for the next cycle of projects and decertification of shellfish beds involved in the Port of Allyn project. **MOTION CARRIED**. (Resolution (99-24)

Chair Mason expressed concerns about funding projects which score significantly lower than others on the ranked list.

ITEM 5. BOATING FACILITIES PROGRAM: REVIEW OF CAPS AND MATCHES

Jim Eychaner directed members to materials following Tab #5 (see meeting materials). In March, 1995, the IAC adopted *The Boating Facilities Plan* which included the following:

“IAC shall conduct regularly scheduled reviews of grant ceilings and match

requirements.”

The review is to take place once every biennium, with opportunity for applicants and sponsors to make their needs known. Mr. Eychaner explained that the meeting memo had been circulated to local and state agencies, the Boating Facilities Program advisory committee and to IAC staff. He explained various changes which could be made and, although staff recommends no changes in BFP ceilings and caps at this time, Committee guidance in terms of future direction is being sought.

During Committee discussion the following points were made:

- may want to seek legislative permission to shift funds between state and local allocations as needed
- decrease the local match to 20-25%
- encourage partnerships between state and local agencies
- provide a limited exception to the match requirements for a local agency partnering with a state agency to renovate an existing facility
- develop a preventative maintenance grant program

Staff will bring a proposal to the Committee in March 2000.

ITEM 6. NOVA – EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #6 (see notebook). Fourteen ORV Education and Enforcement projects requesting \$1,460,792 were evaluated on October 13-15, 1999, during an open public meeting.

Marguerite Austin presented a brief overview of the entire NOVA program and Darrell Jennings described the Education and Enforcement program.

Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-14.

Stan Biles described an “explosion” of use – ORV and non-ORV – in the areas depicted in the slides and even heavier use is expected in the future. DNR is considering a legislative request for more permanent funding for enforcement on Department lands.

Elyse Kane **moved** approval of fiscal year 2000 NOVA ORV Education and Enforcement projects. Christine Wakefield Nichols **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-35)

ITEM 7. RECOGNITION RESOLUTION (Item #8 on original agenda)

Elyse Kane read a service recognition resolution for Mary Ann Huntington and Chair Mason presented a recognition plaque to Ms. Huntington. All members signed the resolution. **MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** (Resolution #99-38).

After a lunch break, Chair Mason reconvened the meeting.

**ITEM 8. NOVA MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
(Item #7 on original agenda)**

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #7 (see notebook). Fourteen ORV Maintenance and Operation projects requesting \$1,416,667 were evaluated on October 13-15, 1999, during an open public meeting. Members were asked to replace pages 3 and 4 and Table 2 with the salmon colored pages distributed at the meeting.

Marguerite Austin presented a brief overview of the NOVA Maintenance and Operation program.

Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-14.

Staff presented two options for funding:

- “Draw the line” – Fund all projects in ranked order until funds are exhausted. This alternative would fund projects ranked 1-10 entirely, and partially fund project ranked #11. Projects ranked 12-14 would receive no funding.
- Utilize the unspent portion (\$194,122) of the FY 2000 ORV Capital funding program. This alternative would provide funding for projects ranked 1-13 and partial funding for project #14. It exceeds the current policy by providing 44% for ORV and 56% for capital.

Chair Mason called for public testimony.

Rick Dahl	ORV NOVA Representative, Northwest Motorcycle Association Supported the staff recommendation to use unspent capital funds for maintenance and operation.
Rod Jones	Legislative and Land Use Coordinator, NW Motorcycle Association Agreed with comments made by Rick Dahl.
Vladimir Steblina	Recreation and Wilderness Program Manager, Wenatchee NF Expressed funding difficulties for capital projects on Forest Service lands and supported staff recommendation for increased M&O funding.

Stan Biles asked for a clarification of the staff recommendation which would waive a current Committee policy calling for 40% for ORV purposes and 60% for capital projects. Eric Johnson explained that the recommendation was for this cycle of funding only; a permanent change to the policy was not requested.

Bob Parlette **moved** approval of Fiscal Year 2000-01 NOVA Maintenance and Operation Projects, as depicted on Table 2 as distributed to the Committee on

November 18, 1999. Christine Wakefield Nichols **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-36).

ITEM 9. NOVA NONHIGHWAY ROAD PROJECTS
(Item #10 on original agenda)

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #10 (see notebook). Eight Nonhighway Road (NHR) projects requesting \$444,830 were evaluated on October 13-15, 1999, during an open public meeting.

Darrell Jennings presented a brief overview of the NOVA Nonhighway Road program.

Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-8.

Chair Mason called for public testimony.

Loren McGovern Back Country Horsemen of Washington
Discussed Gold Creek Pond Trail and Keenes Horse Camp projects and expressed disappointment that so few applications were received in this category.

Bud Krogh **moved** approval of Fiscal Year 2000 Nonhighway Road Projects. Cleve Pinnix **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-40).

ITEM 10. NOVA OFFROAD VEHICLE PROJECTS
(Item #11 on original agenda)

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #11 and distributed corrected copies of page 2 for the memo (see notebook). Seven ORV Capital Improvement projects requesting \$799,399 were evaluated on October 13-15, 1999, during an open public meeting.

Marguerite Austin presented a brief overview of the NOVA Off-road Vehicle program.

Projects staff provided supplemental information and slides to assist in describing location, elements and significant issues surrounding projects ranked #1-7.

Rod Jones Northwest Motorcycle Association
Questioned the use of certain materials on the renovation project in Capitol Forest. Stan Biles explained that various techniques have been used on trails and he agreed to forward Mr. Jones' comments to DNR staff.

Cleve Pinnix **moved** approval of Fiscal Year 2000 Off-Road Vehicle Projects. Elyse Kane **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-41).

**ITEM 11. NOVA – NONHIGHWAY ROAD PROGRAM, MANUAL #12
(Item #12 on original agenda)**

Greg Lovelady directed members to materials following Tab #12 (see notebook). He explained that a few representatives of the nonmotorized trail-using community had recently advocated for broadening IAC NOVA-Nonhighway (NHR) eligibility policies to allow consideration of maintenance and operation requests. He discussed advantages and disadvantages of the proposal and informed Members that drafts of the meeting memo had been provided to the NOVA Advisory Committee for review and comment. Since a thorough public review and broad-based planning has not yet occurred, staff recommends making any decision a part of the 2001 NOVA planning process and taking no further action at this time.

Chair Mason called for public testimony:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Elizabeth Lunney | Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Expressed support for a change in the policy to allow maintenance and operation funding for the NHR program. |
| Loren McGovern | Back Country Horsemen of Washington, NOVA Representative
Expressed opposition to a change in the policy. |
| Rod Jones | Northwest Motorcycle Association
Expressed opposition to a change in the policy. |
| Frances F. Troje | The Mountaineers
Supported proposed policy change to allow M&O funding for NHR projects. |
| Craig Engelking | Fair Trails Coalition
Supported proposed policy change. |
| Ken Konigsmark | Washington Trails Association, NOVA Hiking Representative
Supported proposed policy change. |

Chair Mason reminded members that the staff recommendation is to take no action at this time and asked for Committee discussion. Christine Wakefield Nichols expressed support for addressing the issue during revisions to the NOVA plan scheduled in 2001 (i.e. no action at this time). In response to a question, Greg Lovelady explained that staff is committed to bringing a rewritten NOVA plan to the Committee in 2001. Cleve Pinnix suggested using M&O funds to leverage volunteer work and encouraged staff to address the issue in the Plan review. Stan Biles agreed that funds for M&O are needed. However, the fundamental issue should be garnering support for increased program funding through legislative or citizen initiative. He supported a more comprehensive approach through the planning process and encouraged constituent groups to build partnerships. Bob Parlette agreed with Pinnix's remarks regarding volunteer leveraging concept.

Chair Mason confirmed the Committee consensus to take no action and assured the audience that the Committee and staff share the concern about the great need for maintenance and operation. She urged constituent groups to work together to find a better way to get increased program funding.

**ITEM 12. FUEL USE STUDY: OPTIONS AND TIMELINE
(Item #13 on original agenda)**

Director Johnson reminded members that staff had been asked to come forward with a proposal for a fuel use study. Jim Fox explained data which is currently being used to determine fuel consumption on nonhighway roads and off-road dates back to 1973 and, consequently, policy decisions regarding the NOVA program have been made without good information. Staff has outlined five possible approaches to such a study (see notebook for details):

- Estimating fuel use based on existing data
- Regional case studies
- Telephone survey
- Field intercepts
- Diary-based survey

Staff recommends the IAC authorize a one-time grant of \$120,000 from the NOVA account for the study, which would be conducted by a private consultant.

Chair Mason called for public testimony:

Rick Dahl	NOVA Advisory Committee Member Expressed opposition to a fuel use study.
Loren McGovern	Back Country Horsemen of Washington Expressed opposition to a fuel use study.
Craig Engelking	Fair Trails Coalition Supported a new fuel use study.
Rod Jones	Northwest Motorcycle Association (NWMA) Opposed to a fuel use study.
Dave Hyatt	NOVA Advisory Committee Alternate for NWMA Expressed opposition to a fuel use study.
Elizabeth Lunney	Executive Director, Washington Trails Association Supported a new fuel use study.
Arlene Brooks	Representing 4 Wheel Drive Association Opposed fuel use study.

Dale Knowlton Washington ATV Association
Opposed fuel use study.

Chair Mason asked for Committee questions and discussion.

Ruth Mahan asked for clarification of the issues. Jim Fox explained that a fuel use study would assess the overall fuel and determine whether or not 1% of the fuel used is equitable. The percentages for motorized and nonmotorized funding are specified in statute, and a change would require legislation. The information could also be used for NOVA planning and policy formation.

Elyse Kane asked how new data, which may show a number greater than 4.6%, would help the program when there is a 1% lid on the funding. She expressed concern about possible legislature reaction to a Committee-directed study considering the legislature's failure to take action during the 1999 session. Jim Fox explained that the intent is not to increase program funding but to distribute existing funds differently.

Bob Parlette asked for a clear definition of "ATV." Without a clear definition, he explained, constituent groups are unlikely to come to a resolution. In addition, a proposal not supported by the legislature may not be worth the time and effort.

Stan Biles supported a study which would provide current, high quality information upon which to make policy decision. Since a study would probably require 1-2 years, he suggested an early start date. But more important is the need for a very high quality study which would answer policy questions in an objective, fair manner so that interest groups would be more likely to support the results.

Chair Mason expressed concern about IAC conducting a study which may, in essence, become an advocacy tool for one group or the other.

After distribution of a *draft* staff resolution (see meeting materials), Cleve Pinnix suggested deferring further discussion on the issue until Friday, November 19. Other members concurred.

ITEM 13. NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM GUIDELINES
(Item #14 on original agenda)

Greg Lovelady directed members to materials following Tab #14 (see notebook). In collaboration with the National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) Advisory Committee and others, IAC staff has drafted revisions to the program's *Policies and Project Selection* manual. The recommended updates address a number of operational guidelines, including:

- Project selection timeline
- Education fund assistance limits
- Eligible projects and costs
- Ineligible projects
- Project evaluation guidelines

Mr. Lovelady more clearly described the recommended changes. He identified urban trail eligibility as the primary policy issue and indicated that the advisory committee recommended no further consideration of the issue.

Chair Mason called for public testimony:

Cecelia Vogt Executive Director, Yakima Greenway Foundation
Supported change in policy which would allow certain urban trails to compete for maintenance funding.

Kelly Puntenev Urban Trails/Greenways Planner, City of Vancouver /Clark County
Concurred with remarks made by Ms. Vogt.

Elyse Kane expressed support for the staff recommendation.

Bud Krogh **moved** approval of changes to Manual #16 (National Recreational Trails Program: Policies and Project Selection) with the exception of Item #1 – Eligibility of Urban Trails (see page 1 of notebook memo). Christine Wakefield Nichols **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED.**

After further Committee discussion, Bob Parlette **moved** adoption of the staff recommendations (excluding eligibility for urban trails). Christine Wakefield Nichols **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-44).

Chair Mason recessed the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Chair Mason reconvened the meeting on Friday, November 19 at 8:35 a.m. She determined a quorum was present and announced revisions to the agenda.

**ITEM 14. YOUTH ATHLETIC FIELDS ACCOUNT (YAFA) – NEW PROJECTS
(Item #15 on original agenda)**

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #15 (see notebook). Sixty-one “new” category project applications with a total request of \$12,156,422 were evaluated by the Community Outdoor Athletic Fields Advisory Council (COAFAC).

Marguerite Austin presented a brief overview of the YAFA program.

Eric Johnson provided further information regarding the evaluation process for the YAFA categories (no slide show). At a post evaluation meeting, COAFAC members discussed the process and evaluation criteria and advised staff on ways to proceed with funding certain elements of each partially funded project.

Chair Mason called for public testimony:

- Cec Vogt Executive Director, Yakima Greenway Foundation
Urged Committee approval of the COAFAC recommendation.
- Gib Brumback Project Coordinator, Plantes Ferry Park and Youth Sports Complex
Provided update of activities at the Park and thanked the
Committee for continued financial support.
- Warren Dunlap Councilman, City of Morton
Expressed support for the Morton Athletic Park project.
- Dave Ramsey Project Coordinator, Morton Athletic Park
Urged Committee re- consideration for funding for the Morton
Athletic Park.
- Russ Davis Superintendent, Morton School District
Expressed support for the Morton Athletic Park project.
- Shelley Marelli Project Manager, King County Parks and Recreation
Urged support of the COAFAC recommendation for funding.

Cleve Pinnix **moved** approval of Fiscal year 2000 Youth Athletic Facilities Account – New Category Project funding. Stan Biles **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-45).

RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Stan Biles read a service and appreciation recognition resolution for former IAC Member, Ralph Mackey. Cleve Pinnix **moved** approval and Bob Parlette **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-37). Cleve Pinnix commended Mr. Mackey on his many years of service to the park and recreation needs of the state and Chair Mason presented a recognition plaque.

RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Chair Mason read a service recognition resolution for Don Clark and asked for Committee approval. Stan Biles **moved** approval. Elyse Kane **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-50)

ITEM 15. YOUTH ATHLETIC FIELDS ACCOUNT – IMPROVED PROJECTS (Item #16 on original agenda)

Eric Johnson directed Committee members to materials following Tab #16 (see notebook). Fifty-one “improved” category project applications with a total request of \$5,215,548 were evaluated by the Community Outdoor Athletic Fields Advisory Council

(COAFAC).

Darrell Jennings presented a brief overview of the YAFA - Improved program.

Eric Johnson provided further information regarding the evaluation process for the YAFA categories (no slide show). At a post evaluation meeting, COAFAC members discussed the process and evaluation criteria and advised staff on ways to proceed with funding certain elements of each partially funded project.

Chair Mason called for public testimony:

Daryl Faber Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Burien
Expressed support for the Moshier Sports Field Complex project.

Brad Carpenter Vice President, Gig Harbor Little League
Thanked IAC staff for assistance.

David Kaplan Commissioner, Federal Way Parks and Recreation Commission
Expressed appreciation for IAC funding.

Jennifer Schroder Director, Federal Way Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Urged Committee support for the COAFAC recommendation.

Rick Gilmore Development Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Pierce County
Thanked IAC staff and expressed appreciation for funding.

Ken Bounds Superintendent, City of Seattle Parks and Recreation
Commented on the competitive process and urged successful applicants to invite Seahawks' representatives and legislators to ground-breaking ceremonies.

In response to a committee question, Eric Johnson explained that remaining funds – approximately \$27,000 in the Pierce/Thurston group – would be retained in the improving category in the Pierce/Thurston region for later distribution. COAFAC will be asked to address the issue.

Bob Parlette suggested successful applicants express their appreciation to Mr. Allen and the Seahawks organization through thank-you letters and testimonials from children benefiting from the program.

Bob Parlette **moved** approval of Fiscal Year 2000 Youth Athletic Facilities Account Improving Category Project Funding. Christine Wakefield Nichols **seconded. MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-46)

**ITEM 16. KING COUNTY CONVERSION REQUEST – SAMMAMISH RIVER PARK
(Item #17 on original agenda)**

projects going rather than having unused funds. For future actions such as this, suggested asking other project applicants (who had competed in a specific funding cycle) to testify on behalf of their projects before the Committee makes a decision.

Bud Krogh **moved** adoption of the Smith Cove Park, City of Seattle Scope Change Request. Bob Parlette **seconded**. Chair Mason called for an oral roll call vote. Pinnix, Nichols, Mahan, Krogh and Parlette voted "aye"; Biles and Kane voted "nay". Having received a majority, **MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution #99-48).

FUEL USE STUDY (Continued)

Chair Mason reminded members of the previous day's testimony and Committee discussion. She asked for further comments and suggestions.

Cleve Pinnix: Expressed support for a new fuel use study but questioned the method to accomplish such a study so that data gathered would be valid and, as much as possible, be supported by the constituent groups. Suggested that professional survey firms be asked to submit RFPs for the project.

Bob Parlette: Also supported a study but wanted agreement among the stakeholders as to the ground rules (i.e. what constitutes "nonhighway" and "ATV"). In addition, Mr. Parlette favored legislative support and funding for the study.

Director Johnson: Explained that funding would, without a doubt, come from the NOVA program, even if the legislature mandated the study. If the Committee decides to move ahead with a study, staff would try to meet with the constituent groups and report back at the March 2000 meeting.

Stan Biles: Suggested forwarding transcripts of the discussion to interest groups. Supported an IAC-driven study which would be completed no later than 2001.

Bud Krogh: Concurred with Mr. Biles' remarks and asked that a deadline be set for interest groups to report back to the Committee.

Chair Mason: Rather than adopting a formal motion, directed staff to proceed and report back to the Committee regarding timing, scoping and funding options.

Cleve Pinnix: Suggested that emphasis for a study should focus on expanding the funding which legitimately belongs in the NOVA program and not to simply redistribute the existing funds.

Chair Mason and Stan Biles expressed their disappointment in the methods constituent groups had used during public testimony and urged groups to work together for the common good of the program. Other Committee members agreed.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Director Johnson reported that Congress, as of November 18, 1999, has provided \$40 million to all states which will translate to \$810,000 for Washington State for FY 2000. Current WACs support action which funnels the LWCF funds directly into the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program account. Given the fact that there is more money, and even more expected in the future, it is inappropriate to make that an automatic choice. Staff is asking for Committee permission to start the rule adoption process to change WAC 286.40.020 and permit staff to bring forward a recommendation at the March 2000 IAC meeting of how best to distribute the LWCF funds. Members may need to consider strategic geographic placement of the funds rather than in one single project.

Cleve Pinnix **moved** to authorize the Director to begin the WAC amendment process for WAC rule 286.40, as indicated above. Stan Biles **seconded. MOTION CARRIED**

DIRECTORS' REMARKS

(Item #9 on original agenda)

In the absence of Karl Herzog, Director Johnson noted that the December 31 completion date for the Public Lands Inventory Project may need to be extended in order to allow Governor's office and OFM approval before submission to the legislature.

In a related matter, the request for funds for the cadastral study, as presented at the September IAC meeting, was not recommended for inclusion in the Governor's budget and will not be moving forward to the legislature

Director Johnson also announced that future funding for the Youth Athletic Fields Account is very uncertain. It has been difficult to clearly determine interest rates and the timing for sale of stadium bonds.

ITEM 18. HCA EVALUATION INSTRUMENTS AND CRITERIA (Item #19 on original agenda)

Eric Johnson explained that IAC staff, in conjunction with agency partners and interested stakeholders, proposes change to the evaluation process and criteria for the Habitat Conservation Account (HCA) categories of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) (see notebook materials).

Mr. Johnson explained the review processes used by the interagency/organizational team and the public review process.

Lynn Palensky explained the changes proposed by the review team (see meeting handouts labeled "*draft*" 11/18/99). She also described the important attributes of the evaluation which included less structured questions with more focus on the quality and connectedness of habitat, and use of expertise.

Elizabeth Roderick Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Commented on the point allocation for public access in the Urban Wildlife Habitat (UWH) program.

Elyse Kane suggested changing the number of points for public access in the UWH so that conservation easements on private land are not penalized for denying public access.

Christine Wakefield Nichols **moved** approval of revisions to IAC Manual #10, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program relating to the Habitat Conservation Account, Evaluation process and criteria. Cleve Pinnix **seconded**. **MOTION CARRIED**. (Resolution #99-49)

SPECIAL RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Eric Johnson read a staff resolution honoring Don Clark.

REPORTS FROM PARTNER AGENCIES

Elyse Kane thanked staff for work on revisions to the HCA evaluation instruments.

Cleve Pinnix recognized Don Clark's retirement and wished him well.

Laura Johnson thanked the Committee for their efforts and directions to staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

IAC APPROVAL CERTIFIED BY

Donna M. Mason, Chair

Date

Next Meeting: March 9, 2000
 Room 172, Natural Resources Building
 Olympia, Washington