

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules and  
Executive Appointments

DATE: September 10, 2024

BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



## STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointee

Dallas Hall DeFrees of Baker City

### Reappointees

Becky Hatfield-Hyde of Prineville

Mark Labhart of Sisters

Robert Spelbrink of Siletz

Mary Wahl of Langlois

### Terms

Hall DeFrees: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2028

Hatfield-Hyde: November 25, 2023 – November 24, 2027

Labhart: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2027

Spelbrink: June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2028

Wahl: May 15, 2023 – May 14, 2027

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 496.090 \(2023\)](#)

### Statement of Economic Interest<sup>2</sup>

Required.

### Statutory Requirements<sup>3</sup>

The commission consists of seven Oregon residents from the regional river basin management areas, including:

- two representatives of the Upper Northwest Region (KHALIL, KING);
- one representative of the Southwest Region **HATFIELD-HYDE**);
- two representatives of the West Central Region (**SPELBRINK, WAHL**);
- one representative of the North Central Region (**LABHART**); and,

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<sup>1</sup> [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2023\)](#), and [ORS 171.565 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 496.090 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

- one representative of the Eastern Region (**HALL DEFREES**).

Members serve four-year terms, and must have knowledge of fish and wildlife issues and an understanding of the roles and relationships the federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon have with the lands, water, and the natural resources.<sup>4</sup>

The Governor designates one member as chair and the commission selects one member as vicechair. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. The commission must meet at least once every two months and at least once per year in each congressional district.<sup>5</sup>

## **Duties<sup>6</sup>**

The commission makes decisions affecting wildlife resources for the benefit of those resources, and it provides for its productive and sustainable utilization for all users. The commission must:

- appoint a State Fish and Wildlife Director;
- report biennially to the Governor and to the Legislative Assembly on all adopted rules, policies, or procedures for implementing statutory policy and objectives;
- protect and enhance wildlife habitat and effectively manage wildlife;
- administer licenses, tags, permits, and enforce such regulations;
- conduct investigations of native wildlife species to determine threats, maintain and publish a list of threatened or endangered species, and develop guidelines to ensure the survival of those species;
- mitigate the adverse impact on local economies when the commission adds a species to the list of threatened or endangered species;
- appoint membership to, and receive and consider recommendations from, specified advisory councils and boards;
- maintain specified funds in the State Treasury;
- conduct a salmon and trout enhancement program;
- adopt rules for the natural production of anadromous fish runs in specified basins;
- establish cooperative wildlife and fish restoration projects as required by law; and
- implement policies and programs for food fish management and administer commercial fishing laws.

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<sup>4</sup> [ORS 496.090 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> [ORS 496.108 \(2023\)](#).

<sup>6</sup> ORS chapters [496](#), [497](#), [498](#), [501](#), [506](#), [507](#), [508](#), [509](#), [513](#) (2023).



## Fish and Wildlife Commission, State

Agency: **Fish & Wildlife, Department Of**

Authorization: **ORS 496.090**

Min Members: **7** Max Members: **7**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **None**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Natural Resources**

Board Admin: **Michelle Tate**

Address:

**4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE**

**Salem, OR 97302**

**503-947-6033**

**Michelle.L.Tate@odfw.oregon.gov**

## Current Appointments

### **King, Leslie**

Term(s): **11/19/2021 - 11/18/2025**

Northwest Region (prev. CD 3)

Position Number: **1**

### **Dr Khalil, Kathayoon A**

Term(s): **5/14/2021 - 5/13/2025**

Northwest Region (prev. West of the Cascades)

Position Number: **2**

### **Hatfield Hyde, Becky W**

Term(s): **11/25/2023 - 11/24/2027**

Southwest Region

**11/25/2019 - 11/24/2023**

Position Number: **3**

### **Wahl, Mary G**

Term(s): **5/15/2023 - 5/14/2027**

West Central Region

**5/15/2019 - 5/14/2023**

Position Number: **4**

### **Mr Spelbrink, Robert "Bob" P**

Term(s): **6/1/2024 - 5/31/2028**

West Central Region

**6/1/2020 - 5/31/2024**

Position Number: **5**

**5/15/2019 - 5/31/2020**

### **Mr Labhart, Mark W**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

North Central Region

**7/1/2019 - 6/30/2023**

Position Number: **6**

### **Hall DeFrees, Dallas**

Term(s): **10/1/2024 - 9/30/2028**

Eastern Region

Position Number: **7**

## Vacant Positions