



# COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION

AGENDA – JANUARY 14, 2025

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Meeting will take place via Zoom Webinar

- 8:15 a.m.** *(Begin Call/Sign-in Testing for Video and Audio Connections -- Please review CRGC Zoom Protocol)*
- 8:30 a.m.** **Call to Order and Roll**
- 8:33 a.m.** **Oral Argument on *Friends of the Columbia Gorge, et al. v. James D. Howsley and Clark County*, CRGC No. COA-C-23-01.** The Gorge Commission will hold oral argument on the above appeal filed by Friends of the Columbia Gorge and several individuals. The Gorge Commission will hear oral argument from the parties and deliberate to an oral decision. The Chair of the Commission will issue a final written order at a later date. Please contact the Commission’s Counsel, Jeff Litwak, for copies of the appeal documents. The Commission will take a break after the parties’ arguments before the Commission begins deliberation.
- 11:45 a.m.** **Break**
- 12:00 p.m.** **Approval of December 10, 2024, Commission Meeting Minutes**
- 12:05 p.m.** **Land Acknowledgment** – Mike Schrankel
- 12:10 a.m.** **Treaty Tribe Word of the Day** – Pah-tu Pitt
- 12:15 a.m.** **Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to Address Commission:** As part of the Government-to-Government consultation process, the Commission welcomes input from Treaty Tribe Nations on any issue on the agenda and any other matters.
- 12:20 p.m.** **Public Comment\*** for items related to the National Scenic Area not on the agenda.
- 12:25 p.m.** **Executive Director’s Report:** Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, and staff will provide brief updates on the following: 2024 Financial Statement Audit results and 2025-2027 Governor Recommended Budgets and a review of reporting on the Best Practices for 2024.
- 12:45 p.m.** **USDA Forest Service NSA Manager’s Report:** Nicolas Granum, Deputy Forest Supervisor, will provide an update on Forest Service activities in the National Scenic Area.
- 1:00 p.m.** **Committee Reports:** The Communications and Rules committees will provide updates to the Commission.
- 1:20 p.m.** **Other Business**

- Executive Committee appointments and schedule
- Schedule for the Executive Director's Annual Performance Review

**1:30 p.m. Adjourn**

***NOTE: The \* indicates that public comment is welcome and is limited to 3 minutes.***

**The times listed on the agenda are approximate. The chair of the Commission reserves the opportunity to change the order and time of the items if earlier agenda items run long or to accommodate invited speakers' schedules.**

**Meeting materials are available on our website [January 14, 2025, Gorge Commission Meeting](#).**

### **GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Commission welcomes your input and offers the following guidelines for making your comments the most effective. If you wish to speak to the Commission during the public comment period or to address one of the agenda items marked for public input, please follow the Public Commission Meeting Protocol found on our website [January 14, 2025, Gorge Commission Meeting](#).

Be courteous and professional – Your message is best received if it has a neutral and professional tone. Address the issues and facts that are of interest to you, not personalities.

Effective use of public comment time – All speakers will be offered three (3) minutes to express their thoughts. The Chair may announce a change in a meeting's time limits to keep the meeting on schedule.

Plan your speaking points in advance to help ensure a clear message for the Commission to hear. The points you are making will have the most impact if you ensure their accuracy. Organize your thoughts in the following manner: your Point, Reasoning, an Example of your point, and a Summary of your point. The Commission strives to use this P.R.E.S. model in its discussions and will be listening for these parts of your message.

Please be respectful of your time so that others may also have an opportunity to speak.

### **Submitting Written Comments**

If you would like your comments entered into the record, please email your written comments to [PublicComment@gorgecommission.org](mailto:PublicComment@gorgecommission.org) **before noon on January 13, 2025**, to allow the Commissioners adequate time to review your comments before the Commission meeting.

***Thank you again for commenting on issues important to you. We appreciate your interest in the future of the National Scenic Area and the time and thought you put into your comments.***