



COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION

AGENDA – MARCH 11, 2025

8:30 a.m. to 12:45 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.** **Approval of February 11, 2025, Commission Meeting Minutes**
- 8:35 a.m.** **Land Acknowledgment** – Krystyna Wolniakowski
- 8:38 a.m.** **Welcome New Gorge Commissioner** – Alex H. Johnson, Oregon Governor Appointee
- 8:45 a.m.** **Treaty Tribe Word of the Day** – Jerry Meninick
- 8:50 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.
- 8:55 a.m.** **Public Comment*** for items related to the National Scenic Area not on the agenda.
- 9:00 a.m.** **Executive Director’s Report:** Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, and staff will provide brief updates: Access Database Replacement Project Phase 2– Go Live, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program priority, and legislative outreach.
- 9:20 a.m.** **USDA Forest Service NSA Manager’s Report:** Donna Mickley, Forest Supervisor, and Nicolas Granum, Deputy Forest Supervisor, will provide an update on Forest Service activities in the National Scenic Area.
- 9:35 a.m.** **Guest Presentation*:** Lindsay Cornelius, East Cascades Oak Partnership Manager, will present an overview of the importance of oak habitats and highlight restoration and monitoring efforts in the Gorge. This presentation accompanies a brief staff introduction on how oak habitat is a priority in the Commission’s work and tees up future discussion of a staff assessment of oak planning needs and issues to be scheduled for later this spring.
- 10:35 a.m.** **BREAK**
- 10:45 a.m.** **Information Item:** Vital Sign Indicators Overview – Sage Ebel, VSI Planner, will present a historical overview of the development of the Vital Signs and Indicators, detailing their evolution and the key considerations that guided their selection. This discussion will provide essential context in preparation for the upcoming first annual report.

11:35 a.m. Other Business

- **Committee Reports:** The Communications Committee and Rules Committee will provide an update to the Commission

11:45 a.m. Executive Session: The Commission will enter Executive Session pursuant to Commission Rule 350-11-006(1)(g) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of the Commission with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

12:30 p.m. Action Item*: The Gorge Commission may vote on whether to release comments from the attorneys general on draft rule changes. This is an approximate time. Prior to entering executive session, the Gorge Commission will announce a time that it will return to open session. Attendees interested in this agenda item may log back into the Commission meeting at that time. The Gorge Commission will not take action on this agenda item prior to the time that it announces.

12:45 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 [March 11, 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 [March 11, 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 before noon on March 10, 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.