



COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION

AGENDA - JUNE 10, 2025

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 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 May 13, 2025, Commission Meeting Minutes**
- 8:35 a.m.** **Thank you to former Commissioner Elaine Albrich and welcome to Commissioner Rodger Nichols, Wasco County Appointee**
- 8:45 a.m.** **Land Acknowledgment** – Michael Mills
- 8:48 a.m.** **Treaty Tribe Word of the Day** – Carina Miller
- 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.** **The Avarna Group’s Commissioner Workshop – Part 2:**
- Follow-up on Part 1 of the May 13, 2025, Avarna Workshop.
 - Part 2: Reckoning with histories of land use and reimagining it in service of land and people. This two-hour session will focus on land use history and its intersections with equity, exploring how these histories intersect with histories of injustice and the ongoing impacts on some communities. Avarna will facilitate a conversation amongst Commissioners on how this history influences current land management and land use approaches and discuss ideas of how the Commission can reimagine its work in a way that considers this history.
- 11:00 a.m.** **BREAK**
- 11:15 a.m.** **Executive Director’s Report:** Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, will provide an overview of recent meetings, and planned meetings this summer, with the NSA county commissions. Sage Ebel will provide a summary of the new portal for the Vital Sign Indicators and introduce Heritage University VSI summer research intern.
- 11:45 a.m.** **USDA Forest Service Report:** Donna Mickley, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Forest Supervisor and Nicolas Granum, Deputy Forest Supervisor, will provide an update on USDA Forest Service activities in the National Scenic Area.

12:00 p.m. Developing a 2025-2027 CRGC Workplan: Krystyna U. Wolniakowski will provide a budget overview and identify options for Commission consideration given the two-year budget reduction and its impact on staff capacity. The Oregon and Washington operating budgets are not yet finalized. Based on Commission discussion, a draft work plan will be presented at the July 8, 2025, in-person meeting when the operating budgets are closer to being finalized.

12:45 p.m. Committee Reports:

- The Chair will review the Bylaws for appointing Commissioners to fill vacancies on committees.
- The Communications Committee will provide an update to the Commission.
- The newly formed Economic Vitality Committee will schedule its first meeting on June 24, 2025 at 11:00.

12:55 p.m. Other Business

1:00 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 [June 10 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 [June 10, 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 to 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 June 9, 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.