Columbia River Gorge Commission

Commission Meeting

September 8, 2026 – 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
via Zoom Webinar

ZOOM LINK to register for the September 8, 2026, Gorge Commission Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w8lz1iDRSXmvEOnyZ_1UMA

AGENDA

8:15 a.m.	**Begin Call/Sign-In – Test for video and audio connections**
8:30 a.m.	**Call to Order and Roll**
8:33 a.m.	**Approval of the May 12, 2026, and July 14, 2026, Commission Meeting Minutes**
8:35 a.m.	**Land Acknowledgment** – Mike Schrankel
8:38 a.m.	**Treaty Tribe Word of the Day** – Carina Miller
8:45 a.m.	**Opportunity for Treaty Tribe Nations to Address the Commission:** As part of the Government-to-Government consultation process, the Commission welcomes input from Treaty Tribe Nations on any agenda item and other matters.
8:50 a.m.	**Public Comment* for items related to the National Scenic Area not on the agenda.**
8:55 a.m.	**Executive Director's Report** – Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director, and staff will provide updates on Oregon and Washington budget submissions

	and participation in community events. Mackenzie Aamodt, Land Use Planner, will present the newly revised "Building in the National Scenic Area Handbook".
9:15 a.m.	**USDA Forest Service Report** – Marin Palmer, Interim Forest Supervisor, and Nicolas Granum, Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, will provide updates on the USDA Forest Service activities in the National Scenic Area.
9:30 a.m.	**Fire Update - where are we now since the Management Plan Amendment for Disaster Recovery*** – Joanna Kaiserman, Senior Land Use Planner, and Mackenzie Aamodt, Land Use Planner, will provide an update on rebuilding after the 2025 Burdoin Fire. Daniel Dougherty, Wasco County Community Development Planning Director, will provide an update on rebuilding after the 2025 Rowena Fire.
10:30 a.m.	**Break**
10:45 a.m.	**"Gorge 2030" Management Plan Discussion** – Staff will provide an overview of the National Scenic Area Act's legal requirements for the review of the Management Plan.
11:45 a.m.	**Committee Reports and Filling Committee Vacancies:** • Executive • Communications • Economic Vitality • Rules
12:30 p.m.	**1986 – 2026: The 40th Anniversary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act***: Krystyna U. Wolniakowski and Marin Palmer will propose ideas for joint and individual agency activities during the 40th year for Commission discussion.

12:50 p.m. **Other Business**

- The November 10, 2026, Commission meeting will be held in person (and via Zoom) at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington.

1:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

NOTE: The * indicates that comments are welcome and are limited to three minutes.

The times listed on the agenda are approximate. The Commission Chair reserves the right to change the order and timing of items if earlier agenda items take longer or to accommodate invited speakers' schedules.

Meeting materials are available on our website: September 8, 2026, Gorge Commission Meeting.

If you have a disability that requires any special materials, services, or assistance, please contact us so we may arrange for appropriate accommodations: Columbia River Gorge Commission, Box 730, White Salmon, WA 98672, Phone: 509-493-3323, email: info@gorgecommission.org.

GUIDELINES FOR COMMENTING

The Commission appreciates your feedback and provides these guidelines to help make your comments more effective. If you want to speak to the Commission during the comment period or address one of the agenda items designated for comment, please:

Be courteous and professional – Your message is most effective when it maintains a neutral and professional tone. Focus on addressing the issues and facts that matter to you, rather than personalities.

Effective use of comment time – All speakers will be allotted three minutes to share their thoughts. The Chair may adjust the meeting's time limits to keep things on schedule.

Prepare your speaking points in advance to ensure your message is clear to the Commission. The points will have the most impact if they are accurate. Organize your thoughts as follows: your Point, Reasoning, an Example of your point, and a Summary. The Commission aims to use this P.R.E.S. model in discussions and will be listening for these parts of your message.

Be mindful of your time so others can have a chance to speak.

Submitting Written Comments

If you would like your comments entered into the record, please email your written comments to PublicComment@gorgecommission.org by noon on September 7, 2026. This gives the Commissioners adequate time to review your comments before the 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.