



Tuolumne County Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes

For the Meeting on May 7, 2025

2025 Natural Resource Members (or assigned delegates)	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
Anaiah Kirk		✓	✓		✓							
Mike Holland		✓	✓		E							
Don Perkins		✓	✓		✓							
Pete Kampa		✓	✓		✓							
Joy Meller		E	✓		E							
Dianna Beasley		✓	✓		✓							
Dick Gaiser		✓	✓		✓							
Chris Trott		E	✓		E							
Jim Maddox		✓	✓		✓							
Jim Phelan		E	✓		✓							
Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E												

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Kirk called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. and confirmed a quorum was present.
2. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Kirk, Don Perkins, Pete Kampa, Diana Beasley, Dick Gaiser, Jim Maddox, Jim Phelan and Sean Hembree, Caitlin Henry (staff)
3. **PUBLIC FORUM:** *(The public may speak on any item not on the printed agenda. No action may be taken by the Committee. The amount of time allocated for the public forum is limited to 15 minutes.)*

None
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
In consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on March 5, Dick Gaiser made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Maddox. The minutes were approved unanimously.
5. **PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES:**
 - a. Lindsay Mattos representing the Tuolumne Resource Conservation District gave an update on fuel reduction projects on the Jamestown Road and Pine Mountain Lake areas.

6. DISCUSSION OF CDFW PROPOSED LEGISLATION LIMITING COYOTE HUNTING

- a. Summary: At the May 15 meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission Wildlife Resource Committee meeting, consideration of a proposal to limit hunting of Coyote was discussed under agenda item 4. The [Agenda](https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=230942&inline) is linked here. <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=230942&inline>
- b. Committee Discussion: There was a consensus to continue to track state action regarding this matter and take it under consideration if the State changes its position on the matter or brings its recommendation before the Commission.
- c. Public Comment: One community member commented that the trapping or shooting of nuisance coyotes should be left to appointed professionals. One Committee member noted that the federal trapper position assigned to Tuolumne County is currently vacant.

7. DISCUSSION OF GRAY WOLF POPULATIONS WITHIN CALIFORNIA AND RELATED ACTIONS

- a. Summary: California Department of Fish and Wildlife is advancing with phase 2 Gray Wolf Management Plan. Multiple rural California counties have declared local emergency resolutions on the matter or called for greater State action.
- b. Committee Discussion: The Committee Discussed Potential risks to public safety and livestock and considered options to decrease conflict with this listed endangered species. The Committee members noted that local subject matter experts could not be present and decided to invite their consultation before considering further action.
- c. Public Comment: A member of the public representing Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center (CSERC) stated that they are working collaboratively with Stanislaus National Forest Staff to track the movement of Gray Wolves and other endangered and threatened species. A member of the public representing livestock producers cited a study claiming over 200 discrete Gray Wolf individuals and called for updated data and greater transparency from CDFW regarding wolf populations.

8. COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- a. Staff Reports and Recommendations:
 - i. MSA Administrative Analyst, Caitlin Henry, shared an update on recent and planned fuel treatment reforestation work.
 - ii. Sean Hembree reported on:
 1. Pinecrest overuse actions update
 2. Sustainable Rural Schools Act
- b. Committee Member Reports:
 - i. Don Perkins reported an update on the Tuolumne Utility District's Wildfire Planning Grant solicitations. This included objectives to improve draft points

and increase security of the Tuolumne Main Canal, as well as the creation of a raw water storage pond at the Sierra Pines location.

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 by Chair Kirk. The next meeting will be held on June 4, 2025.