

First Name:	Timothy	Last Name:	Ragen	Middle Name:	John
Board or commission for which you would like to be considered.					
Fish and Wildlife Commission					
Contact Information - Home			Contact Information - Work		
Street Address:	4006 Castilleja Place		Street Address:	4340 East-West Highway Room 700	
City:	Anacortes		City:	Bethesda	
State:			State:	Maryland	
Zip:	98221		Zip:	20814	
County:			Work Phone:	(360) 873-8874	
Primary Phone:	(360) 873-8874		Email:	tjrager@gmail.com	
Email:	tjrager@gmail.com		Current Employment		
Birth date:	2/5/1951		Job Title:	Executive Director (retired)	
Legislative district in which you reside:	Legislative District-40		Employer:	U.S. Marine Mammal Commission	
Congressional district in which you reside:	2 District				
Why do you want to serve on this board or commission?					
<p>We humans are fundamentally altering the earth's natural ecosystems. We recognized as much when, in the 1960s and 1970s, the U.S. Congress and state legislatures passed a suite of environmental laws that provide a framework for halting and reversing ecosystem decline. Remarkable as those laws are, we are still learning about the adverse environmental consequences of our actions and ways to mitigate them. And we also are learning that those laws, now in place for a half century, are not sufficient if we do not apply them and the best available science to guide our efforts at ecosystem protection and, where possible, restoration.</p> <p>Since the mid 1980s I have dedicated my career to marine mammal science, management, oversight, and conservation. I studied the northern (Alaskan) fur seal for my doctoral dissertation, served as the lead analyst for the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Program and as the Recovery Coordinator for the Steller Sea Lion, and carried out the oversight duties of the U.S. Marine Mammal Commission from 2000 to 2013, serving first as its Scientific Program Director and then its Executive Director. Since retiring in 2013 I have remained engaged in a variety of research, management, and conservation issues centered around marine mammal ecology and conservation. I have worked on projects related to beluga whales (to prevent decimation of the Sea of Okhotsk population by capture for aquaria), California sea otters (to promote better analysis of their status), California and Steller sea lions (to protect salmon runs diminished by sea lion predation), Florida manatees (to guide Florida State's Manatee Mortality Program), Māui dolphins (to prevent fisheries-related mortality and extinction of this highly endangered dolphin along New Zealand's North Island), southern resident killer whales (to promote stronger conservation efforts for this endangered population), vaquitas (to prevent the extinction of this small harbor porpoise in the Gulf of California), and walrus (to ensure the Pacific walrus population is protected as well as possible given its vulnerability to the effects of habitat alteration from climate change).</p> <p>Having faced such challenges from a variety of perspectives (i.e., as a scientist, manager, and overseer) I have learned that solving such problems generally requires long-term commitment and collaboration with all affected interests. I also have learned that, despite the difficulties characteristic of such challenges, we are capable of success. To me, that success can best be measured in terms of the health of our natural ecosystems (of which we are a part) as we pass their management to future generations.</p> <p>Washington State is a truly remarkable place, rich with a wide variety of natural ecosystems and their remarkable biological communities. The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife have a vital role to play in this effort. Our nation, and indeed the world, is looking for examples of good, effective ecosystem-based management. In my view, no place on earth is more capable of providing such examples and leadership than the Pacific Northwest. Put simply, I would like to do my part in ensuring that we pass to future generations a natural world more healthy than the one we inherited.</p>					
Board and commission meetings are held during the day. Are you able to come prepared and actively participate in day meetings?					
Yes					

Have you been a registered lobbyist or have you employed a lobbyist at any time during the past five years?

No

If yes, did you receive any compensation?

No

Could you or any member of your family be affected financially by decisions made by the board or commission for which you are applying?

No

If yes, please explain:

Not applicable

Professional Licenses held (if applicable)

None

Professional References

Name:	Daryl Boness	Name:	Mr. Robert Anderson
Title:	Chair	Title:	Marine Biologist
Organization:	U.S. Marine Mammal Commission	Organization:	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Relationship:	Former boss, colleague	Relationship:	Colleague
Phone Number:	(240) 676-4970	Phone Number:	(503) 231-2226

Personal References

Name:	Dr. Lisa Ballance	Name:	
Title:	Director	Title:	
Organization:	Marine Mammal Institute, Oregon State University	Organization:	
Relationship:	Colleague	Relationship:	
Phone Number:	(541) 867-0445	Phone Number:	

Previous employment or experience

From 2006 to 2013 I served as the Executive Director of the U.S. Marine Mammal Commission. In that role I guided the Commission's staff on all matters involving federal actions that may affect marine mammals or their habitat. Under my leadership, the Commission oversaw and advised other federal agencies regarding their impacts on marine mammals and ecosystems, fishery management, offshore oil and gas development, the use of military sonar, the effects of vessel noise, ship strikes on marine mammals, and habitat alteration and loss caused by climate change. The Commission worked closely with Alaska Natives and also was involved in international efforts to conserve endangered marine mammals, such as the baiji (the now extinct Yangtze River dolphin) and the vaquita.

From 2000 to 2006 I was the Scientific Program Director at the U.S. Marine Mammal Commission, which was established under Title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. My primary function was to advise the Commission on scientific and conservation issues involving depleted, threatened, and endangered marine mammals in U.S. waters and around the world.

From 1998 to 2000 I served as the Steller Sea Lion Recovery Coordinator, a management position, in the National Marine Fisheries Service's Alaska Region. The Steller sea lion also is listed as endangered and most of my work focused on interactions between Steller sea lions and Alaska's groundfish fisheries.

From 1991 to 1997 I was the lead analyst for the National Marine Fisheries Service's Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Program; the monk seal is the most endangered pinniped in U.S. waters. Among other things I wrote the first metapopulation model for the monk seal, a version of which is still being used for research and management purposes.

From 1990 to 1991 I was a National Research Council Associate at the National Marine Mammal Laboratory in Seattle, where I continued my modeling studies on the northern fur seal.

From 1984 to 1990 I was a graduate student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.

Memberships in professional, civic organizations or government boards or commissions(please include offices held and dates of terms) and community service/volunteer activities

Since I retired in 2013, the majority of my work on marine mammals has been done on a volunteer basis. Most of that work has involved attending meetings (e.g., Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force), writing documents (e.g., beluga whale population status, California sea otter population status, Florida manatee mortality assessment, Māui dolphin fishery

interactions, southern resident killer whale status and vessel interactions, vaquita fishery interactions), providing scientific information and guidance to conservation organizations (e.g., Pacific walrus faced with climate change, southern resident killer whale recovery measures, California sea otter status review, Florida manatee research), serving as the Treasurer for the international Society for Marine Mammalogy (2016 to 2018), and giving guest lectures at Western Washington University.

Gender:	Male	US Armed Forces:	No
Race:	White	Branch:	
		Type of Discharge:	
		Campaigns:	
I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.			
Date:	12/29/2020		

Application	Attachments
Timothy Ragen Application for Fish and Wildlife Commission	There are no attachments for this application.