

Summary of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

Note that this is a summary only, Meeting minutes provided in a separate document

Committee Name:	Sport Fish and Boating Partnership Council (SFBPC)
Designated Federal Officer:	Linda Friar
Chair:	Scott Kovoravics
Meeting Dates:	04/4/18 – 04/05/18
Meeting Location:	Washington DC
Summary of Meeting: <i>(Summarize the meeting, how many members in attendance, topics discussed, any input from members of the public, etc.)</i>	<p>The SFBPC met over a 2 day period in the main interior building in Washington DC. 16 members and ex-officio members participated for all or part of the meeting. On Day 1 (April 4) members were welcomed by USFWS Principal Deputy Director Gregory Sheehan who provided an overview of what he and FWS were focused on to support the Secretary of Interior’s priorities. The Council then heard presentations from Lin Phu of USFWS on the Secretarial Orders 3347 and 3356 that the Council was meeting to review and provide recommendations.</p> <p>Other presenters included Secretary Ryan Zinke on his priorities for the Council and DOI, Deputy Asst. Director Bob Curry of WSFR on their grant program changes, Deputy Asst. Director John Schmerfeld of the FAC program on plans to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the fisheries program in 202?, and Frank Peterson, President of the Recreational Fishing and Boating Foundation (RBFF) on the work it does to carry out the Council’s National Outreach and Communications program. Presentations on Day 2 (April 5) included Asst. Dir of FAC David Hoskins on the overall program work and progress toward the Secretary priorities, Tim Sartwell of NOAA Fisheries and David Hu of BLM both updated the Council on their agencies fisheries programs, and Mark Apfelbacher of CD3 General Benefit Corporation on a cleaning tool for boats to reduce invasive species spread. An addition to the regular agenda was a short presentation from Ray Sauvojt of the NPS on its work to support Secretary Order 3347.</p> <p>During Day 1 the Council discussed their views on the progress of the agencies toward implementation of DOI Secretarial Order 3347 and additional recommendations they’d like to see incorporated into this work. The Council charged the chair with developing a draft response letter and getting this out for comment to Council members in the near future. The Council approved the minutes of its January 2017 meeting and the appointment of Elizabeth Yranski to the RBFF Board – .</p> <p>During Day 2 the Council had several questions on all presentations and had the Boating Issues Committee Chairs (John Sprague and Janine Ballique) update the group on the work of that committee as well as Betty Huskins providing an update on the Outreach and Communications Committee.</p> <p>The Council discussed the importance of On the Pond – an organization</p>

	<p>that might be an alternative funding mechanism to partner with as they support improved angling and boating.</p> <p>There was some discussion about the process used for the National Survey of Hunting, Angling and Wildlife Watching. The Census Bureau, FWS, and AFWA utilized different approaches to surveying hunters, anglers, and wildlife watchers, and the different methods yielded significantly different measures of participation.</p> <p>There was discussion around the need for the federal government planning how it can support R3 (recruit, retain, and reactivate anglers)</p> <p>There was discussion and sharing of information that many states are hiring outdoor recreation specialists in addition to those hiring R3 coordinators – to improve on recruitment, retention, and reactivation of anglers and hunters in states.</p> <p>There was discussion on the need to streamline permitting across the country for boat docks and other infrastructure necessary for maintaining and expanding boating access.</p> <p>A comment was made that tourism is another important partner that isn't being collaborated with enough at the state level.</p> <p>There was time scheduled but no public comment provided either day.</p>
<p>Recommendations: <i>(List any recommendations that resulted from the meeting.)</i></p>	<p>The Council would hold a conference call sometime in late June, prior to the current Council membership expiring.</p> <p>Council would like a presentation from WSFR on their TRAX data management program during the next conference call meeting.</p>
<p>Decisions: <i>(Include decisions to create subcommittees, dates for next meeting, topics for agenda, etc.)</i></p>	<p>Council approved their meeting summary from January 7, 2017 – a conference call meeting.</p> <p>Council Chair Scott Kovarovics will draft a letter to Secretary Zinke with the Council's recommendations in response to the charge to review agency reports responding to SO 3347. Goal of having this completed by the end of April. Some of the key points that this letter may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access – equal focus on boating • Continue positive collaboration with states and other partners – get to more local level particularly around R3 • Importance of investment in hatchery infrastructure –attacking the backlog of maintenance • Don't just modernize physical infrastructure but also modernize information infrastructure • Outdoor recreation roundtable –Council was interested in how this group interacts with Council and would like representation of boating and fishing industry on that board. (this may be a separate letter)

	<p>Janine Bellique and John Sprague would develop a letter on their boating committee recommendations on participating in the BIG grant review process and continuing to work to improve boating access in the U.S. There was also discussion on the progress of improving the implementation of the Clean Vessel Act.</p> <p>Betty Huskins sought out additional participation in the Outreach and Communication committee.</p> <p>Council approved Betty Huskins and Scott Kovoravics moving forward, working with Linda Friar/FWS DFO, to get an RFP out to complete the review of RBFF progress toward implementing the National Outreach and Communication Program. This review is typically done every 3 years.</p>
<p>Comments: <i>(Use this field to add any additional comments or to explain why there were no decisions or recommendations made at the meeting.)</i></p>	<p>No additional comments</p>
<p>Secretarial Priorities: <i>(Use this field to add any information on the committee's activities in furtherance of Secretarial Orders 3347 and 3356, and Executive Orders 13777, 12866 and 13563.)</i></p>	<p>The Council will be providing the Secretary of Interior with comments on the agency reports developed in response to Secretarial Order 3347 as well as recommendations on additional related actions the federal government can take to improve access for and participation in recreational fishing and angling.</p>
<p>Date prepared:</p>	<p>4/13/18</p>
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