

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

**SPORT FISHING AND BOATING PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
CHARTER**

- 1. Committee's Official Designation.** Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council (Council).
- 2. Authority.** The Council is renewed in furtherance of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. §§ 742a-742j), the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 777-777k), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 661-667e). This Council is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2). The role of the Council was expanded by Executive Order No. 12962 of June 7, 1995 (60 Fed. Reg. 30769, June 9, 1995), as amended by Executive Order No. 13474 of September 26, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 57229, October 1, 2008).
- 3. Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), through the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Director), on aquatic conservation endeavors that benefit recreational fishery resources and recreational boating and that encourage partnerships among industry, the public, and government.
- 4. Description of Duties.** Council duties and responsibilities, where applicable, are as follows:
 1. Providing advice that will assist the Secretary in compliance with the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956.
 2. Fulfilling responsibilities established by Executive Order 12962:
 - (a) Monitoring specific Federal activities affecting aquatic systems and the recreational fisheries they support.
 - (b) Reviewing and evaluating the relation of Federal policies and activities to the status and conditions of recreational fishery resources.
 3. Recommending policies or programs to increase public awareness and support for the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.
 4. Recommending policies or programs that foster conservation and ethics in recreational fishing and boating.
 5. Recommending policies or programs to stimulate angler and boater participation in the conservation and restoration of aquatic resources through outreach and education.
 6. Advising how the Secretary can foster communication and coordination among government, industry, anglers, boaters, and the public.

7. Providing recommendations for implementation of Secretary's Order 3347 - Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation, and Secretary's Order 3356 - Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories. Recommendations shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) assessing and quantifying implementation of the Secretary's Orders and recommendations to enhance and expand their implementation as identified;
 - (b) policies and programs that:
 - (1) increase outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans, with a focus on engaging youth, veterans, minorities, and other communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation;
 - (2) expand access for hunting and fishing on Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service lands in a manner that respects the rights and privacy of the owners of non-public lands;
 - (3) increase energy, transmission, infrastructure, or other relevant projects while avoiding or minimizing potential negative impacts on wildlife; and
 - (4) create greater collaboration with States, Tribes, and/or Territories.
8. Provide recommendations for implementation of regulatory reform initiatives and policies specified in section 2 of Executive Order 13777 - Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs; Executive Order 12866 - Regulatory Planning and Review, as amended; and section 6 of Executive Order 13563 - Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review. Recommendations shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) identifying regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification considering, at a minimum, those regulations that:
 - (1) eliminate jobs or inhibit job creation;
 - (2) are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;
 - (3) impose costs that exceed benefits;
 - (4) create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform initiative and policies;
 - (5) rely, in part or in whole, on data or methods that are not publicly available or insufficiently transparent to meet the standard for reproducibility; or

- (6) derive from or implement Executive Orders or other Presidential and Secretarial directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified.

All current and future Executive Orders, Secretary's Orders, and Secretarial memos should be included for discussion and recommendations as they are released. At the conclusion of each meeting or shortly thereafter, provide a detailed recommendation report, including meeting minutes, to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO).

5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Council Reports.** The Council reports to the Secretary through the DFO.
6. **Support.** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Council will be provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Council are estimated to be \$250,000 per year, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.0 Federal staff years support.
8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The DFO is the Council Coordinator, who is a full time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO approves or calls all Council and subcommittee meetings, prepares and approves all meeting agendas, attends all Council and subcommittee meetings, adjourns any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chairs meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary or Director.
9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Council will meet approximately twice annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
10. **Duration.** Continuing.
11. **Termination.** The Council will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with provisions of section 14 of the FACA. The Council will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation.** The Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies are ex officio members. The Council may consist of no more than 18 members and up to 16 alternates appointed on a staggered term basis by the Secretary for a term not to exceed 3-years. Appointees will be selected from among, but not limited to, the following national interest groups:
 - (a) State fish and wildlife resource management agencies (2 members- one a Director of a coastal State and one a Director of an inland State);
 - (b) Saltwater and freshwater recreational fishing organizations;

- (c) Recreational boating organizations;
- (d) Recreational fishing and boating industries;
- (e) Recreational fishery resources conservation organizations;
- (f) Tribal resource management organizations;
- (g) Aquatic resource outreach and education organizations; and
- (h) The tourism industry.

Members will be senior-level representatives of recreational fishing, boating, and aquatic resource conservation organizations, and must have the ability to represent their designated constituencies.

Non-Federal members of the Council serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, non-Federal Council and subcommittee members engaged in Council or subcommittee business approved by the DFO may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under 5 U.S.C. § 5703.

13. Ethics Responsibilities of Members.

- (a) **Federal Members.** Members who are appointed to the Council in their official capacity as Federal employees are subject to applicable Federal ethics statutes and regulations, to include applicable exceptions and exemptions.
- (b) **Non-Federal Members.** Non-Federal members of the Council and subcommittees are appointed as representatives and therefore are not subject to Federal ethics statutes and regulations. However, no non-Federal Council or subcommittee members will participate in any Council or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation, in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.

14. Subcommittees. Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed to compile information or conduct research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Council for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.

15. **Recordkeeping.** The Records of the Council, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Council, must be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 and other approved Agency records disposition schedules. These records must be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).


Secretary of the Interior

12/16/2020
Date Signed

DEC 07 2020

Date Filed