

## 2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

### 2. Fiscal Year

2025

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

2643

### 4. Is this New Fiscal Year? 5. Current Charter 6. Expected Renewal Date 7. Expected Term Date

No 03/12/2024 03/12/2026

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

### 8c. Actual Term Date

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

To further the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a)

### 13. Effective Date

08/08/1956

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open 1 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 1

### Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Start

End

During this meeting Council members received an update on the Service's continued efforts to implement Council recommendations, specifically recommendations related to the management of the use of lead and lead-free ammunition on National Wildlife Refuge System lands. The Council also received an operations update briefing on the National Wildlife Refuge System.

12/17/2024 - 12/17/2024

## Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

## 20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Council's purpose is to provide recommendations to the Federal Government, through the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, regarding policies and endeavors that (a) benefit wildlife resources; (b)

encourage partnership among the public; sporting conservation organizations; and Federal, State, Tribal, and territorial governments; and (c) benefit fair chase recreational hunting and safe recreational shooting sports. The Council meets to discuss and make these recommendations.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Council representation is balanced in relation to its mission as specified in its charter. The members are senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have extensive knowledge and experience within the hunting and wildlife conservation communities.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Council was designed to meet approximately 2 times per year. At these meetings, members discuss recommendations to put forward to both the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

Because of their professional affiliations and experiences, the members of the Council are uniquely positioned to provide advice to the Departments related to hunting, recreational shooting, and wildlife conservation. Members of the Council have years of experience as managers, advocates, and participants in the wildlife conservation and recreation field. There is no equivalent body of advisers empaneled to assist the Departments.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

All meetings are open to the public.

## 21. Remarks

The Council met in December 2024 (within FY 2025). Although discussions were held regarding issues before the Council, no official recommendations were made during the meeting. There were ten recommendation letters prepared by the Council in FY 2024. The ten letters included 32 recommendations and/or sub-recommendations.

## Designated Federal Officer

Doug Hobbs DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Beck, Colin	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians	Representative Member
Busse, Ryan	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Unaffiliated	Representative Member
Crane, Jeffrey	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Representative Member
Crowder, Michael	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	National Association of Conservation Districts	Representative Member
Devney, John	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Delta Waterfowl	Representative Member
Dunklin, Jr., George	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Five Oaks Duck Lodge	Representative Member
Forster, Daniel	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Archery Trade Association	Representative Member
Mannix, Cole	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Mannix Ranch	Representative Member
Martinez, Lucas	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	League of United Latin American Citizens	Representative Member
O'Mara, Collin	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	National Wildlife Federation	Representative Member
Pederson, Joel	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Mule Deer Foundation	Representative Member

Regan, Ron	05/11/2018	03/12/2026	Executive Director, Assoc. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	Ex Officio Member
Sumners (P), Jason	12/13/2024	12/22/2025	State Agency	Representative Member
Tawney, Land	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Backcountry Hunters and Anglers	Representative Member
Tidball, Keith	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Cornell University	Representative Member
Ward, Lauren	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Conservation Without Conflict	Representative Member
Webster, Joel	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership	Representative Member
Williams, Martha	01/20/2021	01/19/2025	Director, Fish and Wildlife Service	Ex Officio Member
Butler, Mitch [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	06/01/2023	09/22/2025	Conservation advocacy	Representative Member
Falk, Kathleen [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO staff	Representative Member
Hatfield, Mark [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	05/08/2023	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Hubbard, Wayne [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Media production	Representative Member
Jones, Ben [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	05/08/2023	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Schmidt, Andrew [Conservation Funding Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Hennelly, Mark [Hunting & Recreational Shooting Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Advocacy	Representative Member
Roosevelt, Simon [Hunting & Recreational Shooting Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO executive	Representative Member
Schmitz, Taylor [Hunting & Recreational Shooting Subcommittee]	02/23/2023	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Johnson, Marshall [Private Lands Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO executive	Representative Member
Sedgwick, Tod [Private Lands Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO board member	Representative Member
Salazar-Henry, Roberta [Public Engagement/R3 Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	Wildlife commission staff	Representative Member
Brooks, Brad [Public Lands Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Henning, Blake [Public Lands Subcommittee]	09/22/2022	09/22/2025	NGO executive	Representative Member

Peebles, Julia [Public Lands Subcommittee]	06/09/2023	09/22/2025	NGO employee	Representative Member
Clausen, David [Wildlife Health Subcommittee]	04/01/2024	09/22/2025	Veterinarian	Representative Member
Keane, Larry [Wildlife Health Subcommittee]	04/01/2024	09/22/2025	firearms and ammunition manufacturers	Representative Member
Parish, Chris [Wildlife Health Subcommittee]	06/01/2023	09/22/2025	NGO executive	Representative Member
Thiede, Kurt [Wildlife Health Subcommittee]	04/01/2024	09/22/2025	State fish and wildlife management agencies	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 37**

### **Narrative Description**

The Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council helps support the Departments' missions by providing advice and recommendations for implementing Executive Orders 13443 and 14008 and Department of the Interior Secretary's Order 3362. These Orders prioritize work by the Departments in creating, expanding, and maintaining hunting opportunities on Federal lands and waters, as well as conservation benefits derived from these activities. The Council is charged with making recommendations related to hunting and shooting sports that will expand opportunities, conservation efforts, and the economic benefits to the national and local economies. Increasing the opportunities for recreational hunting and shooting sports and wildlife conservation are all priorities within the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture.

### **What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Increased customer satisfaction                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Outcome Comments

The Council's recommendations will likely lead to an outcome of expanded hunting/shooting sports opportunities on public lands, improved conservation efforts, and economic benefits to the national and local economies.

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Unable to Determine        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Cost Savings Other         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Cost Savings Comments

Not Applicable

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

97

### Number of Recommendations Comments

There were 32 recommendations made in FY 2024. The letters containing these recommendations are included in the Advisory Reports tab of the FY 2024 annual report.

### What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

25%

### % of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

No change from 2023 as only partial implementation has occurred with most recent recommendations.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

27%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

26 of 97 recommendations are partially implemented.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Agencies provided feedback to the Council on its recommendations via response letters and through comments and presentations at Council meetings.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

Not Applicable

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

Not Applicable

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

Not Applicable