

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize
Advisory Council

3b. GSA

Committee No.

84598

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

06/01/2022 06/01/2024

6. Expected Renewal Date

06/01/2024

7. Expected Term Date

12/31/2023

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

P.L. 116-9

8c. Actual Term Date

12/31/2023

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Yes

10b. Legislation Pending?

Enacted

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

P.L. 116-9

13. Effective Date

03/12/2019

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

12/04/2023

Report Title

Letter to the Secretary

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a.

Open

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

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The meeting included presentations from the 2023 Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize winners, reports from subcommittees, and other council business.	11/14/2023	11/16/2023

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$8,780.29	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$37,169.45	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$700.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$8,410.25	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$5,894.16	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$1,105.88	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$206.50	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$477.01	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$62,743.54	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.26	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Council advised the Secretary, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Director on the implementation of the Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize competition. The prize competition encouraged technological innovation with the potential to advance the mission of the Service. To do so, the legislation also required the establishment of six boards to focus on the areas of concern, which were the prevention of wildlife poaching and trafficking, the promotion of wildlife conservation, the management of invasive

species, the protection of endangered species, the nonlethal management of human-wildlife conflicts, and the reduction of human-predator conflict.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

As much as is practical, members were selected to represent a broad geographical area of the United States. Council membership, balance, and individual perspective and expertise were in large part dictated by the establishing legislation and the Council charter itself. To ensure balance, appointees were selected from among, but not limited to, individuals with the following expertise: (a) Wildlife trafficking and trade; (b) Wildlife conservation and management; (c) Endangered species; (d) Invasive species; (e) Nonlethal wildlife management; (f) Social aspects of human-wildlife conflict management; (g) Predatory-human interactions; (h) Habitats of large predators; (i) Biology; (j) Technology development; (k) Engineering; (l) Economics; (m) Business development and management; and (n) Any other discipline that the Secretary determined to be necessary to achieve the purposes of the Council. It was required for there to be at least 12 members on the Council and no more than 18. Each board was required to have at least 9 members.

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

The Council met approximately twice a year.

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

The Council was established under the John D. Dingell, Jr., Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, March 12, 2019 (Public Law 116-9); the America's Conservation Enhancement

Act, October 30, 2020 (Public Law 116-188); and the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719). The first two establishing laws required the advice be obtained from members on the Council.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

Thirteen recommendations were approved at the November 2023 meeting. The recommendations fall within three larger categories: encourage and amplify technological innovations, leverage expertise to foster development and implement innovation, and encourage and amplify technological innovation. A full copy of those recommendations can be found on the website and in the documents in this system.

Designated Federal Officer

Stephanie Rickabaugh Senior Biologist

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Barger, Charles	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	University of Georgia	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Callahan, April	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Arc Solutions	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Comer, Christopher	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Safari Club International	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fuller, Pamela	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Retired from USGS	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Gaskamp, Joshua	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Noble Research Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Gore, Meredith	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	University of Maryland	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Grow, Shelly	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Association of Zoos and Aquariums	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Heffelfinger, James	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	University of Arizona	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lute, Michelle	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Project Coyote	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Moreland, Thomas	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	USFS	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Pauley, Sara	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Missouri Department of Conservation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Piaggio, Antoinette	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	USDA	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Roth, Terri	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Zoological Society of Cincinnati	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Segev, Tchelet	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	USFS	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Stone, Suzanne	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	Wildlife Coexistence	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wolstenholme, Rachel	06/11/2021	12/31/2023	NPS	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 16

Narrative Description

The response letter thanks the Council for their work and explains the Department will consider the recommendations.

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

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" 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

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

The outcome of the prize competitions may be better technology, an innovative use of technology, and the building of non-traditional innovator community to partner with to accomplish the mission, any potential costs savings cannot be estimated at this time.

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

Number of Recommendations Comments

Thirteen recommendations were approved in the November 2023 meeting. The recommendations fall within three larger categories: encourage and amplify technological innovations, leverage expertise to foster development and implement innovation, and encourage and amplify technological innovation. A full copy of those recommendations can be found on the website and in the documents in this system.

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

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Do not have evidence of partial or full implementation.

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

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Although there has been some additional discussion and stakeholder engagement on human predator conflict issues, there is no evidence to establish a percentage of implementation.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

A response letter, signed by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was received by the Council.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

The Council's letter and response from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are attached in this system.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

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

Access Comments