

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**SPORT FISHING AND BOATING PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL**

**CHARTER**

- 1. Official Designation:** Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council (Council).
- 2. Scope and Objective:** The Council will advise the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) and the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Director) about aquatic conservation endeavors that benefit recreational fishery resources and recreational boating and that encourage partnerships among industry, the public, and government.
- 3. Duration:** The Council is expected to exist into the foreseeable future. Its continuation is, however, subject to biennial rechartering in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).
- 4. Official to Whom the Council Reports:** The Council reports to the Secretary through the Director.
- 5. Bureau Responsible for Providing Necessary Support:** Support services for activities of the Council will be provided by the Service. A Coordinator for the Council will be an employee of the Service, appointed by the Director.
- 6. Estimated Operating Costs:** Funding will be provided for staff support; Council, delegate, and technical staff travel; meeting expenses; and products, and will be based on an annual work plan. Estimated operating costs for the Council will be \$400,000 per year. Operating costs include two person-years of staff support.
- 7. Description of Duties:** The Council's duties include:
  - a. Assisting the Secretary to comply with the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a-742j).
  - b. Fulfilling responsibilities established by the Executive Order 12962 for Recreational Fisheries, June 7, 1995:
    - (1) Monitoring specific Federal activities affecting aquatic systems and the recreational fisheries they support;
    - (2) Reviewing and evaluating the relation of Federal policies and activities to the status and conditions of recreational fishery resources.
  - c. Recommending policies or programs to increase public awareness and support for the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

- d. Recommending policies or programs that foster conservation and ethics in recreational fishing and boating.
- e. Recommending policies or programs to stimulate angler and boater participation in the conservation and restoration of aquatic resources through outreach and education.
- f. Fostering communication and coordination among government, industry, anglers, boaters, and the public.

**8. Allowances:** Council members serve without pay, but are eligible for reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses while attending Council meetings (in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5703). When an alternate attends a meeting in place of a Council member, the alternate is eligible for reimbursement of travel and per diem expenses. However, only one reimbursement claim per Council meeting can be submitted, either by the Council member or by the alternate member, but not both.

**9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** It is anticipated that the Council will meet at least twice annually from the date this charter is signed by the Secretary. Council meetings will be open to the public.

**10. Termination Date:** The Council is subject to the provisions of FACA, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, and will take no action unless the charter filing requirements of Section 9 of the Act have been met. The Council is subject to biennial renewal and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that time the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of the Act.

**11. Council Membership:**

a. The Council will consist of no more than 18 members and up to 16 alternates appointed by the Secretary for 2-year terms. The Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) will be ex officio members. The remaining 16 members will be senior-level representatives for recreational fishing, boating, and aquatic resource conservation and must have the ability to represent their designated constituencies. Appointees will be selected from among, but not limited to, the following national interest groups:

- (1) State fish and wildlife resource management agencies (two members- one a Director of a coastal State and one a Director of an inland State);
- (2) Saltwater and freshwater recreational fishing organizations;
- (3) Recreational boating organizations;
- (4) Recreational fishing and boating industries;

- (5) Recreational fishery resources conservation organizations;
- (6) Tribal resource management organizations;
- (7) Aquatic resource outreach and education organizations; and
- (8) Tourism industry.

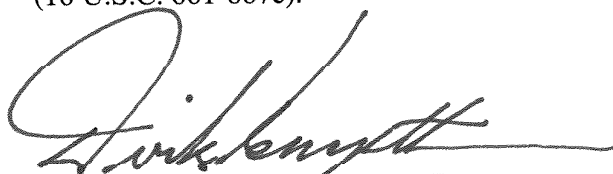
b. Council members may request that an alternate member be appointed. In cases where the primary member is unable to participate in a Council meeting, the alternate will have the same privileges as the primary member, including eligibility to vote. Alternate members may not represent primary members without prior approval by the Secretary. In cases where the AFWA President is unable to attend a meeting of the Council, the AFWA Executive Director will serve as the alternate member.

c. The Designated Federal Officer is the Council Coordinator.

**12. Ethics Responsibilities of Members:** No Council or subcommittee member may participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest.

**13. Subgroups:** With approval of the Designated Federal Officer, the Committee (or Workgroup) may establish subcommittees or subgroups as it deems necessary for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. Such subcommittees may not conduct business without the direction of the Committee (or Workgroup) and must report in full to the Committee (or Workgroup).

**14. Authority:** The Council is renewed in furtherance of 43 U.S.C. 1457 and provisions 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).



Secretary of the Interior

MAY 30 2008

Date Signed

JUN 24 2008

Date Filed