

Western Governors' Wildlife Council Stakeholder Advisory Group

Charge

The Western Governors' Wildlife Council agreed to form an ongoing stakeholder advisory group (SAG) for the purpose of acting as a sounding board for WGWC activities and products and to provide periodic briefings to the Council on issues of mutual interest. Upon request of the Council, particular tasks of the SAG could include:

- Provide feedback to enhance the Council's white paper on developing a regional decision support system framework;
- Assist the Council and individual members with feedback including sharing relevant data and information, coordination and communications as they develop and implement DOE-funded pilot projects;
- Highlight opportunities for Council engagement on wildlife issues of regional interest; and
- Assist the Council with communicating its work plan and products to SAG member colleagues and constituents and with seeking feedback from them.

The SAG will attempt to achieve consensus, bringing advice and recommendations to the Council. At each Council meeting, the SAG will have an opportunity to brief the Council about their findings and recommendations for Council requested tasks. They will also have an opportunity to bring new issues to the Council's attention.

SAG members will be expected to impartially represent a class of stakeholder interests, to report Council activities to those stakeholders, and to share stakeholder concerns objectively with the Council. SAG members will actively recruit stakeholder participation in the WGWC activities and will be supported by WGA project staff in this effort. SAG members will not represent themselves as an official spokesperson of the Council or represent interests of a specific organization, unless they have been so designated by the Council.

WGA staff will ensure the necessary coordination and communications between the SAG and the State-Federal Implementation Group are also formed.

Composition

Membership should be limited to approximately 20 representatives and should include potential customers of wildlife decision support systems such as industry, the environmental community, other state agencies, private land owners and the agricultural sector. Federal agency participation will be valuable to this group, so they may designate a representative to participate from the State/Federal Implementation Group formed by the Council.)

- 2-4 Council members
- Electricity/Energy (approx 4)
 - Utility
 - Traditional energy
 - Renewable energy
- NGOs (approx 4)
 - Wildlife management/conservation/science
 - Conservation membership organization
 - Energy/lands advocate
 - Sportsman Group

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- State agencies
 - WASHTO
- Agricultural/Land Ownership (approx 2)
 - Stockgrowers
 - Land Trusts
- Tribal rep
- Local Government
- Federal/SFIG rep

Meetings

In 2010, the SAG will likely meet in person a maximum of two times, typically in conjunction with WGWC meetings. The majority of work will be conducted through conference calls and webcasts to reduce workload and travel requirements, and will likely be scheduled for a maximum of one per month. The first meeting of the SAG could take place in the first quarter of 2010.