

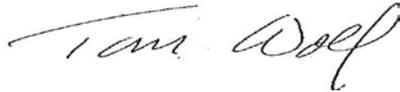
Executive Order

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Governor's Office

Subject:
Governor's Advisory Councils for Hunting,
Fishing and Conservation

Number:
2015-13



By Direction of: Tom Wolf, Governor

Date: November 24, 2015

WHEREAS, the Constitution of this Commonwealth proclaims that Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all people, including generations yet to come, and commands the Commonwealth to conserve and maintain its natural resources for the benefit of all the people; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has been blessed with abundant natural resources creating widespread recreational opportunities for both its citizens and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's rich outdoor heritage, including activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, nature photography, bird and wildlife watching, and hiking, are enjoyed by 6.4 million people annually; and

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation in Pennsylvania accounts for \$21.5 billion in consumer spending, supports 219,000 direct jobs, creates \$7.2 billion in wages and salaries, and generates \$1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, 1.42 million people hunt and/or fish in Pennsylvania, spending \$1.5 billion and creating a ripple effect on the economy valued at \$2.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, the future of our Commonwealth's natural resources rests in the hands of our children and in future generations, whose love of nature and the outdoors can be developed through meaningful experiences in the outdoors and through participation in organizations promoting hunting, fishing and conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, Commonwealth officials and agencies would benefit from the advice and counsel of an official representative body, concerned with the recreational use and conservation of the natural resources of the Commonwealth, comprised of dedicated hunters, trappers, anglers, hikers and other conservationists of all generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby establish the **Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation**, (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") and the **Governor's Youth Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation** ("Youth Council"), and do order and direct as follows:

- 1. Purpose.** The purpose of the Council shall be to provide a forum through which an open and forthright dialog will be fostered among a diverse group of outdoor recreation and conservation minded individuals, in order to provide the Governor, Commonwealth officials and agencies with sound advice on matters pertaining to the conservation of Pennsylvania's wildlife and other natural resources, and on ways to protect, promote and enhance the outdoor heritage of the Commonwealth. The purpose of the Youth Council shall be to identify effective strategies for engaging younger generations in the conservation and preservation of Pennsylvania's natural resources and the enhancement of the Commonwealth's hunting and fishing heritage.
- 2. Council Responsibilities.**
 - (a)** Review and make written recommendations to the Governor regarding any issue appropriate for governmental action that might affect the recreational use and conservation of the Commonwealth's wildlife and other natural resources.
 - (b)** Review and make written recommendations to the Governor on policies proposed or adopted, or regulations proposed or promulgated, by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Community and Economic Development and the Department of Agriculture, that might affect the recreational use and conservation of the Commonwealth's wildlife and other natural resources.
 - (c)** Review and make written recommendations to the Governor regarding pending legislation that might affect the recreational use and conservation of the Commonwealth's wildlife and other natural resources.
 - (d)** Upon request of the Governor, and in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, recruit candidates to serve on the boards of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and their Boating Advisory Board, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission, endeavoring to reflect the broad gender, racial, and ethnic makeup of the constituencies these entities serve.
 - (e)** Upon request of the Governor, and in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, review the qualifications of candidates seeking nomination to the boards of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and their Boating Advisory Board, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission, providing recommendations regarding the candidate to the Governor.

- (f) Upon request of the Governor, and in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, provide advice and recommendations to the Governor concerning board members of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and its Boating Advisory Board and the Pennsylvania Game Commission, who seek appointment to a second or third term as a member of those respective boards.
- (g) Convene at least four times a year and at the call of the Chair.
- (h) In consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources establish guidelines for the Youth Council.
- (i) Adopt rules of procedure consistent with the provisions of this Executive Order.

3. Composition of the Council. The members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor. The membership of the council shall consist of the following:

- (a) The Chair, who shall be appointed by the Governor and, on behalf of the Council, will direct its activities and agenda, conduct its meetings and be primarily responsible for advising the Governor on matters pertaining to the purposes of the Council.
- (b) No more than 20 residents of the Commonwealth representing diverse interests, all of whom shall have a fundamental understanding of wildlife and the natural resources of the Commonwealth and respect hunting, trapping, angling and other outdoor recreational activities as valuable and accepted priorities in determining wildlife and natural resource management.
- (c) No elected statewide officials, legislators or officials/employees of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Community and Economic Development and the Department of Agriculture, or their family members, shall be eligible for membership on the Council.

4. Terms of Membership.

- (a) Members of the Council will be appointed for a term of one year and will continue to serve thereafter until their successors have been appointed and qualified. A member may be reappointed for one or more additional terms. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- (b) A member who is absent, without excuse, from more than two meetings within the calendar year shall forfeit membership on the Council.

5. Staffing. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall provide staff resources to support the Council.

- 6. Governor's Youth Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation.** The Governor's Youth Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation is created separate and apart from the Council. The Youth Council shall be comprised of up to 20 individuals, ages 14 through 18, for the purpose of communicating their ideas and recommendations through the Council to the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Youth Council shall deliberate on all forms of outdoor recreation, including how to best engage their generation and future generations in the conservation and preservation of Pennsylvania's natural resources and the enhancement of the Commonwealth's hunting and fishing heritage. The Youth Council may, as the Council deems necessary, contribute to the fulfillment of the duties outlined in Section 2 (Responsibilities) of this Executive Order, specifically (a), (b), and (c). The terms of Youth Council membership shall be governed by the provisions of Section 4 (Terms of Membership) of this Executive Order.
- 7. Compensation.** Members of the Council and the Youth Council will receive no compensation for their service, except that members may be reimbursed for travel and related expenses in accordance with Commonwealth policy.
- 8. Cooperation by State Agencies.** All state agencies shall cooperate fully with the Council and upon request shall provide assistance and support as needed by the Council to carry out its responsibilities.
- 9. Reports.** By no later than December 31 of each calendar year, the Council shall submit an annual report to the Governor outlining the Council's and Youth Council's activities and accomplishments.
- 10. Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.
- 11. Termination Date.** This Executive Order shall remain in effect unless revised or rescinded by the Governor.
- 12. Rescission.** Effective immediately, *Executive Order 2012-02, Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation*, is hereby rescinded.