



THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES POLICY COMMITTEE

Chair: Angi Bruce (WY)

Vice Chair: Eric Gardner (WA)

Vice Chair: Kyle Briggs (NC)

114th Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Meeting Madison, WI

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 – 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM CT

Agenda

1:00 PM Call to order– Angi Bruce, Chair

Introductions

Agenda Review/Repair

Approval of Meeting Summary: 2024 TESPC Spring Meeting – 89th North American Wildlife & Natural Resources Conference – Grand Rapids, MI

1:15 PM Panel Presentations: Transitions...What Happens When a Federally Listed Species No Longer Warrants Federal Listing?

Panelists, during their presentations and the subsequent discussion, will share their perspectives on: Best Management Practices, Data Sharing, Lessons Learned, Challenges and Opportunities, Setting the Stage for Successful State Management, Challenges of “Letting Go”, Celebrating Success, and explore New Ideas Surrounding ESA Downlistings/Delisting to Focus Specifically on the Transition Between Federal and State Management.

Julie Carter, Aquatic Wildlife Branch Chief, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Conservation Milestone: Apache Trout Delisting

Paul Souza, Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, USFWS
Federal agency perspective on downlisting and delisting and developing a culture of collaboration

Leo Miranda, Executive Director, Conservation Without Conflict Coalition
Lessons learned in the southeast and the power of collaborative conservation

David Willms, Associate Vice President - Public Lands, National Wildlife Federation
Exploring new tools in the toolbox to help ensure successful downlisting delisting

- 2:15 PM Panel Discussion: Guided Discussion and Committee Q/A with Panelists
Eric Gardner, Vice-Chair, Moderator
- 2:45 PM Break
- 3:00 PM Roundtable: Committee State Member Updates
- *In an effort to use the committee as a venue for learning, state agency members in attendance are encouraged to share opportunities, issues, challenges and lessons learned, and/or raise questions related to threatened and endangered species policy and management.*
- 3:30 PM USFWS Updates – Gina Shultz, Acting AD for Ecological Services, USFWS
- 3:50 PM USDA – APHIS – Wildlife Services Updates – Wendy Anderson, Western Region Director, USDA, APHIS, WS
- 4:00 PM Adjourn

Threatened and Endangered Species Policy Committee Charge

- Review procedural or categorical issues affecting threatened and endangered species listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as well as downlisting/de-listing and critical habitat designation proposals as reported in the Federal Register; suggest appropriate action.
- Keep abreast of legislative proposals and oversight hearings and recommend Association involvement when appropriate.
- Maintain active liaison with appropriate federal agency offices, the conservation community, states and regional associations.
- Serve as the subject matter and support group on endangered species that are covered by CITES or other international arrangements.