

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIES, HABITAT, OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Ronnie Rapp, Occidental Oil and Gas Corporation

The SHOC Committee meets bi-monthly meetings to discuss important issues related to species and/or their habitat that may impact operations in the Permian Basin. The SHOC submits the following Committee Report detailing significant issues that are being followed and worked by SHOC member companies.

Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC)

- PBPA in coordination with SHOC submitted a letter requesting an extension on the Determination of Threatened Status with Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment regarding the Lesser Prairie Chicken, [FWS-R2-ES-2021-0015, 86 FR 103 \(2021-11442\), June 1, 2021](#) Letter of request submitted May 19, 2022. Additional letters requesting an extension for the listing decision on the LPC were also submitted by WAFWA, submitted 5/26/2022 and United States Senator James M. Inhofe (Oklahoma), submitted 5/25/2022. We have not received information regarding an official extension to the final listing date (May 26, 2022).
- CEHMM has recently been notified that the draft EA for amendments to the NM CCA/A for the LPC and DSL have progressed from Region 2 to the Washington office for approval. If approved, Oil and Gas participants enrolled in the NM CCA/A for the LPC and DSL, will need to re-evaluate enrolled acreage in the program and re-sign CI's and/or CP's to execute the updated provision for all-activities for the program. Whit Story, long time project manager for the NM CCA/A for the LPC and DSL is retiring, and the program will be managed by Ryan Schmidt.
- PBPA/WAFWA Range wide Research Initiative to evaluate conservation genomics for the LPC and update geospatial resources for LPC habitat. Ben Shepperd gave a thorough update and explanation on the Range wide Research Initiative. Request for companies interested in contributing funding announced.

Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (DSL)

- a. In response to the DSL Lawsuit, <https://biologicaldiversity.org/programs/biodiversity/pdfs/dunes-sagebrush-lizard-filed-complaint-2022-05-19-cv-00387.pdf>, Occidental Oil and Gas in cooperation with CEHMM has initiated a work group to evaluate the need for the development of a Regional HCP for the DSL to work as a "combined program" in addition to the pre-listing conservation agreement currently in place for the species in TX (TCP, 2021 CCAA). There is currently a request for industry stakeholders that are interested in participating in the planning process for a regional HCP for the DSL.

Monarch Butterfly

- There is currently a Monarch Working Group engaging with the Nationwide Monarch CCAA administrators at University of Illinois at Chicago to evaluate the potential to amend or utilize changed and unforeseen circumstances mechanism within the agreement to incorporate upstream oil and gas development and geologic sequestration project development as covered activities in the CCAA.

Texas Hornshell Mussel (THM)

- The Texas Hornshell Mussel Recovery plan was approved on May 13, 2022
- CEHMM is currently waiting the final approval of their "combined program" HCP, to utilize in coordination with their current CCAA. THM HCP will give industry proponents not currently enrolled in the CCAA the ability to enroll projects and development areas now that the THM has been listed as Endangered.

Other

- API Bulletin 4565 – Species and Habitat Conservation Industry Fundamentals has been posted to balloting system for approval of first draft. Ballot responses due 7/22/2022
- API Partners with Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever on Habitat Enhancement on Pipeline Rights of Way & Industry Facilities, New Guidance released on Conservation Programs on Pipeline ROW's.