

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## SPECIES, HABITAT, & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE CONTINUED

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The SHOC Committee meets bi-monthly 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 for Q1 2019 detailing significant issues that are being followed and worked by SHOC member companies.

### Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (DSL)

- On June 1, 2018, a petition to list the DSL was submitted to FWS by Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and Defenders of Wildlife (DoW). FWS is working towards completing their 90-day finding determination; however, the statutory deadline of November 1, 2018 has passed.
- A Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the DSL and Permit Application was submitted to FWS Region 2 on August 3, 2018. Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) revised the CCAA and re-submitted to FWS Region 2 on February 15, 2019. The latest version of the new CCAA was sent to SHOC members on February 22, 2018 and April 11, 2019.
- FWS is reviewing the Environmental Assessment EA for submission to the Federal Register; however, no estimated publication date is available for the EA and the CCAA.
- Dr. Robert Gulley is retiring effective April 15, and Robert Wood is the new DSL CCAA contact at CPA.
- On February 13, 2019 a small group of SHOC members toured Schlumberger's frac sand mining operations in Monahans, Texas. This site visit was organized in place of SHOC's bi-monthly meeting.

### Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC)

- In a letter to Industry Enrollees dated March 22, 2019, WAFWA announced the re-evaluation of their role in the administration of the Range-Wide Conservation Plan and the beginning of a thorough review and audit of the mitigation framework. A copy of the notice was sent to SHOC members on March 25, 2019.
- WAFWA also announced a potential partnership with Common Ground Capital, a private sector conservation mitigation banking company.
- On February 14, 2019, CBD, DoW and WildEarth Guardians filed a 60-day Notice of Intent to Sue the FWS for failure to issue a 12-month finding on the petition to list the LPC as Endangered or Threatened.

### Monarch Butterfly

- Committee members are watching activities around the Monarch Butterfly and the development of CCAA plans with WAFWA and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).
- The draft Monarch CCAA for Energy and Transportation Lands is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register mid-April 2019.

### Other Issues

- David Bernhardt was confirmed by the Senate as the new Secretary of the Interior on April 11, 2019.