

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIES, HABITAT, OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Ronnie Rapp, Occidental Oil and Gas Corporation

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

The PBPA, SHOC, and WAFWA met in a coordinated meeting and tour on December 7, 2022; Q4.

Field Tour and Lesser Prairie Chicken Listing Decision Discussion and Informational Meeting
Guests in attendance: Beth Forbes, USFWS; Zach Lowe, Chanda Pettie, Julian Ellis, Ben Guillon, WAFWA; Ben Shepperd, Stephen Robertson, PBPA; Ron Schindler, Kyle Hughes, Ross Garner, Henry Hill, Pioneer; Veronica Rapp, Myles Culhane, Dave Applegate, Oxy; Brad Loveless, Kansas Department of Wildlife; Russ Horton, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation; Reid DeWalt, Colorado Department of Natural Resources; John Silovsky, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Andrew DeWoody, Purdue University; Tommy Taylor, Fasken Oil and Ranch; Chad O'Connor, Admiral Permian Energy; Kanicia Schlichting, Coterra; Jesse Wood, Conoco; Kyle McGraw, Trinidad Energy.

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 -- Pioneer hosted an Industry Technology Update to give a high level overview of the advances in horizontal drilling being implemented by the oil and gas industry and the impacts that it has on minimizing our disturbance footprint.

December 7, 2022 - Field Tour – Hosted by Pioneer (PXD)

Guests were taken to a drilling location, a production pad site that is utilizing cellar tech to hold 12 well heads subsurface, and to a central tank battery. Oil and Gas industry professionals were able to show the technological advances being used in today's drilling, production and distribution of oil and gas, that provide protections wildlife and habitat, beyond conservation measures being implemented under conservation agreements for the LPC.

The afternoon information meeting was hosted by Oxy, and consisted of presentations by Dr. DeWoody, from Purdue University on the Genomic Mapping of the LPC funded by industry partners through PBPA being conducted to support conservation of the species.

Genomics Update – Dr. Andrew DeWoody, Purdue University

- Based on analysis of hundreds of LPC samples, there appears to be modest genetic differentiation between the northern and southern DPS
- There is slightly less genetic diversity in the southern DPS (to be expected; smaller population) However, there is little indication that Shinnery Oak Ecoregion population (southern DPS) hosts unique genes as compared to the northern DPS.
- There are new questions raised regarding genetic differentiation and distinction between the LPC and greater prairie-chicken (GPC); Dr. DeWoody hopes to collect samples from GPC to compare to LPC samples.

Additionally, a presentation was given by Chanda Pettie, with WAFWA on the Geospatial work being conducted to update the working databases for the LPC and provide for more directed conservation.

Geospatial Update – Chanda Pettie, LPC Program Manager, WAFWA

- The Species Status Assessment was completed 3/2021
- Discussion focused on data gap analysis and support for improving data layers; 5 findings:
 1. Data Quality (Update) – new data sources are publicly available (21 sources have been used previously; 18 have been updated since 3/2021). LANDFIRE EVT (existing vegetation type) became available 6/2022
 2. Data Quality Issues – 3 layers were identified that would benefit from adjustments. Improvements would help identify woody plant encroachment, cropland conversion potential, and buffering around leks). 9 other layers need to be updated to improve utility

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3. Data Coverage – gap in coverage identified for expanded 2021 Estimated Occupied Range (EOR); currently limited to 2013 EOR
 4. Data Accessibility – data not readily available to all stakeholders
 5. Data Gaps – SSA lack of layers addressing impacts and exclusion areas; does not address habitat quality
- Strategy to Improve Data:
 1. Update existing data and expand range
 2. Improve data quality and delivery
 3. Utilize publicly available data
 4. Incorporate updated spatial data into WAFWA CCAA mitigation program
 5. (Key Item) Data maintenance – perform maintenance to update data on an ongoing basis