



Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

2426 North Second St. • Harrisburg, PA 17110

Phone: 717-232-3480

info@pfsc.org • www.pfsc.org

Providing leadership and advocacy for the enhancement of our fish and wildlife resources for the benefit of all hunters, trappers, anglers and conservationists. Protecting our 2nd Amendment Rights.

PGC Board of Commissioners Meeting

Testimony

April 10, 2021

Commissioners, Executive Director Burhans, Deputy Executive Directors Grohol & Palmer and Staff:

On behalf of the nearly 70,000 sportsmen, women and conservationists represented by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists (PFSC), we thank you for the opportunity to share our positions on the issues.

The PFSC continues to strongly support the agency's commitment to being inclusive and providing additional opportunities for Pennsylvania's outdoor enthusiasts. A "resource first" commitment in all decisions and the optimization of opportunity whenever possible when the resource can sustain that opportunity should always be the top priorities.

With that in mind, we'd like to reiterate our support for expanding the legal game species allowed to be hunted on the three approved Sundays. Over 90% of our members expressed they wanted full inclusion on those precious Sundays.

A recent survey of our members produced the following responses on issues relative to current agenda items:

- **Fall Turkey Season:**
 - PFSC members strongly support (>90%) the PGC recommendations to reduce the fall turkey season due to the turkey population being "below goal" in some WMU's
 - PFSC members support (70%) the restriction of rifles during fall turkey season if the science shows the need
 - Based on comments from members, we would like to ask the Commission to consider possibly allowing a 1-3 day Thanksgiving season for bearded birds only with the option to use rifles
- **Concurrent Deer Season:**
 - PFSC members support (73%) the proposal of a statewide concurrent deer season
- **Doe Tags:**
 - PFSC members support (73%) the proposal to allow unlimited over the counter doe tags
 - PFSC members support (77%) legislation to allow the point of sale purchases of doe tags

One final topic we'd like to address is the issue of organized hunts and tournaments. Recent communications from anti-hunting groups show pushing legislation to outlaw these events is a top priority for them. PFSC requests the Commissioners introduce and pass a resolution supporting these regulated legal hunting events, including coyote hunts, squirrel tournaments, rabbit hunts, youth hunts, etc. The PFSC will strongly oppose any legislation introduced that would restrict or curtail such hunts. This is an attempt to open the door to other hunting restrictions via legislative mandates.

While 2020 was a challenging and unpleasant year for many of us, our outdoor heritage and outdoor pursuits saw exemplary growth. We look forward to continued growth and opportunity in 2021.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and thank you all for serving Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,



Harold Daub
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

PFSC's Mission: To protect and conserve Pennsylvania's natural resources, outdoor heritage, and Second Amendment Rights.