

The Federal Advisory Committee Act and The Regional Resource Stewardship Council

RRSC Orientation – Seventh Term



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Historical Background on Advisory Committees

- ◆ George Washington – Whiskey Rebellion

- ◆ Growth in advisory committees occurred after WWII

- ◆ Congressional concerns:
 - Proliferation of committees
 - Domination by special interest groups
 - Lack of transparency and accountability
 - Waste of federal funds



Key Elements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act

- ◆ Public access
 - Meetings (timely notice required)
 - Records

- ◆ Balanced membership

- ◆ Structured management
 - Filed charters
 - Expiration after two years
 - President reports to Congress
 - Attendance of federal officer

TVA's Regional Resource Stewardship Council

- ◆ Created by TVA “to provide advice on its stewardship activities and the priorities among competing objectives and values”

- ◆ TVA's stewardship activities include:
 - Operation of its dams and reservoirs
 - Navigation and flood control
 - Management of lands in TVA custody
 - Water quality
 - Wildlife
 - Recreation

Key Provisions of Council Charter

- ◆ Council provides advice only
 - Advice reported to the TVA Board's External Relations Committee
- ◆ Term of Council is two years
 - Seventh term is February 3, 2013 to February 2, 2015
- ◆ Typically two meetings per year
- ◆ Balanced membership to represent broad range of diverse views and interests
 - 20 members:
 - Valley Governors nominate one member each
 - Four representatives of distributors of TVA power
 - One representative each of TVA's direct-served customers, TVA's navigation program, TVA's flood control program, a recreation interest, and an environmental interest
 - Four TVA appointees to ensure a broad range of views
 - Maximum of 14 members from previous term may serve on next term



Mechanics of Council Meetings

- ◆ Designated Federal Officer (DFO): Joe Hoagland, Senior Vice President, Policy & Oversight
 - Alternate DFO: John Myers, Director, Environmental Policy & Regulatory Affairs

- ◆ Quorum: 11 voting members

- ◆ Council deliverable: Advice
 - Recommendations to TVA require an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the total Council membership present on that date.
 - During discussion, the Council drives toward consensus on the advice given.

- ◆ Public involvement

Your Role as a Member of the Council

- ◆ Not an employee of TVA
- ◆ Represent your constituent group
- ◆ Use your personal knowledge and experience



Most Importantly...

Thank You for Your Service!

Designated Federal Officer Briefing



Joe Hoagland
DFO
Regional Resource Stewardship Council

Vision for the Seventh Term RRSC

- ◆ Stakeholder viewpoints are critical
- ◆ TVA Management and Board uses your input
- ◆ RRSC meeting focus
 - Spring: Reservoir / Reservoir Operations
 - Fall: Natural Resource Plan

What we ask of you:

- ◆ Fully engage
- ◆ Open, honest and clear views



Introduction of the Advisory Session Topic

- ◆ Collaboration by TVA, USFWS and States established healthy coldwater habitat
- ◆ Funding increasingly a challenge
- ◆ Find a sustainable solution
- ◆ RRSC advice needed for workable solution





Regional Resource Stewardship Council

Discussion Questions

USFWS National Fish Hatcheries Provide Trout at TVA Projects in TN & GA: Need for a Sustainable Business Model for Funding – Agency Trout Program Descriptions & Perspectives on Funding

1. The construction of TVA dams and associated impoundments have had environmental impacts: but have also provided natural resource and economic benefits through reservoir release improvement modifications. What additional levels of support should ratepayers have to pay for programs that go beyond simply improving the environment for recreational and economic gain (e.g., fish stocking)?
2. If the Council believes such stocked fisheries are essential and assuming that the traditional model for funding these sport-fishing hatcheries is no longer viable due to federal and state budget constraints, what advice and/or recommendations can the Council offer to the interested parties on a new financial model for sustaining these programs?
3. What role should TVA, other natural resource agencies, non-governmental organizations, user public, the states, local communities, and industry play in maintaining hatcheries to support sport fishing and ensuring a sustainable funding source is provided?
4. What recommendations does the Council have as to the appropriate membership composition of the Hatchery Stakeholder Working Group envisioned by the Interagency MOA?