

Pacific Flyway Council Representation on Associated Management Bodies

Revised: 29 Mar 2026, Todd A. Sanders, US Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Flyway Representative

Management Bodies and Council Representatives

- 1) Consultants to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee
 - a) Scott Gardner, California (Senior, Coastal, 2026 and 2027)
 - b) Ken McDonald, Montana (Junior, Inland, 2026 and 2027)
- 2) Representative on the National Flyway Council
 - a) Scott Gardner, California (2026 and 2027)
- 3) Representative on the North American Wetlands Conservation Council
 - a) Riley Peck, Utah
- 4) Representative on the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee
 - a) Blaire Stringham, Utah
- 5) Representative on the Sea Duck Joint Venture Management Board
 - a) Mick Cope, Washington
- 6) Representative on the Arctic Goose Joint Venture Management Board
 - a) Shane Roberts, Idaho
- 7) Liaison to the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC)
 - a) Bernadette, Oregon
- 8) Representative on AFWA Fall Flights Committee
 - a) Scott Gardner, California
- 9) Representative on AHM Task Force
 - a) Ken McDonald, Montana
 - b) Scott Gardner, California
- 10) Representative on AFWA HIP Working Group
 - a) Matt Eckert, Colorado

NOTES

Management Bodies and Council Representatives

- 1) Consultants to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee
 - a) Scott Gardner, California (Senior, Coastal, 2026 and 2027)
 - b) Ken McDonald, Montana (Junior, Inland, 2026 and 2027)
- 2) Representative on the National Flyway Council
 - a) Scott Gardner, California (2026 and 2027)
- 3) Representative on the North American Wetlands Conservation Council
 - a) Jeff Hagener, Montana, 2013–2016>Tony Wasley, Nevada, 2016–2022> Justin (“J”) Shirley, Utah, 2023–2025>Riley Peck, Utah, 2025–present
- 4) Representative on the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee
 - a) Eric Gardner, Washington>Blair Stringham, Utah 2021–present
- 5) Representative on the Sea Duck Joint Venture Management Board
 - a) Ryan Scott, Alaska>Mark Burch, Alaska, Aug 2024–2025>Mick Cope, Washington, 2025–present
- 6) Representative on the Arctic Goose Joint Venture Management Board
 - a) Ryan Scott, Alaska, 2024–2025>Shane Roberts, Idaho, Mar 2025–present
- 7) Liaison to the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC)
 - a) Ryan Scott, Alaska>Bernadette, Oregon Aug 2024–present
- 8) Representative on AFWA Fall Flights Committee
 - a) Vacant>Scott Gardner, California, Aug 2024–present
- 9) Representative on AHM Task Force
 - a) Ken McDonald, Montana, Aug 2024–present
 - b) Scott Gardner, California, Mar 2025–present
- 10) Representative on AFWA HIP Working Group
 - a) Josh Avies, Arizona>Matt Eckert, Colorado Mar 2026–present

BACKGROUND

Management Bodies and Attributes Associated with Representation

Consultant to the Service Regulations Committee (SRC)

Duties: Present Councils’ annual hunting season framework recommendations to the Service for discussion and possible adoption

Appointment: 2 representatives; determinant, see PFC rotation schedule

(https://www.pacificflyway.gov/Documents/Chair_rotation.pdf), AK 2020–2023, NV 2022–2025, CA 2024–2027

Term: 4 years, Jan–Dec; 2 years as junior and 2 years as senior

Term limits: None

Constraints: Council member, 1 representative from a coastal state and 1 from an interior state

Alternate: Chair appointment with consideration of experience level (Jr/Sr) and region (coastal/interior)

Meetings: 2 per year; usually 1 day in Apr virtually and 2 days in Sep or Oct in Bloomington, MN or Denver, CO

Additional: Senior also serves as NFC representative

Reference: Pacific Flyway Council bylaws

Notes: Next meeting is tentatively Oct 10 and 11, 2023 (virtual)

National Flyway Council (NFC)

Duties: Coordination on national migratory bird management issues and research, and meet with the Service to recommend annual regulations and management practices and policies

Appointment: 1 representative; determinant, see PFC rotation schedule

(https://www.pacificflyway.gov/Documents/Chair_rotation.pdf), AK 2022–2023, NV 2024–2025, CA 2026–2027

Term: 2 years, Oct–Sep (effectively Jan–Dec)

Term limits: None

Constraints: Council member

Alternate: Chair appointment

Meetings: 2–3 per year; usually 2 days in Mar at the NA Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference (and Pacific Flyway Council meeting), 1 day at the SRC meeting in Sep or Oct in Bloomington, MN or Denver, CO, and possibly in conjunction with the Sep business meeting of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Although the later meeting is described in the NFC bylaws, the NFC does not generally meet at this time

Additional: chairperson rotates annually (2023–2026; CF, MF, AF, PF), representative also serves on the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Migratory Wildlife Committee

Reference: Pacific Flyway Council bylaws and National Flyway Council bylaws

Notes: Next meetings are Mar 20 and 22 at the NA Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in St. Louis, MO

Arctic Goose Joint Venture Management Board (AGJVMB)

Duties: Represent the Council on the continent-wide partnership established under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) to improve our knowledge and management of North America's geese to ensure sustainable goose populations

Appointment: 1 representative; voluntary with Council confirmation

Term: Until resignation or replacement

Term limits: N/A

Constraints: Council member

Alternate: Chair appointment until Council confirmation possible

Meetings: 1 per year; usually 1 day in fall or winter (Sep–Oct or Jan–Feb) and rotates between Canada (2023) and the United States (2024), there are also 1–3 conference calls/virtual meetings as need for business outside of the annual meeting

Additional: there is 1 Council representative on the AGJV Technical Committee, and they do the bulk of creating documents, updating the Strategic Plan, reviewing proposals, etc. The technical committee usually has 1 1-day meeting per year, which is the day before the MB meeting, and they usually attend the MB meeting as observers. They also may have 1–3 conference calls/virtual meetings as need for business outside of the annual meeting. The technical representative is currently Jeff Knetter (ID)

Reference: AGJVMB Charter?

Notes: Next MB meeting is Feb 16 (technical committee Feb 15) in Ottawa, Ontario

Sea Duck Joint Venture Management Board (SDJVMB)

Duties: Represent the Council on the continent-wide partnership established under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) to improve our knowledge and management of North America's sea ducks to ensure sustainable sea duck populations

Appointment: 1 representative; voluntary with Council confirmation

Term: Until resignation or replacement

Term limits: N/A

Constraints: Council member

Alternate: Chair appointment until Council confirmation possible

Meetings: 1 per year; usually 1–2 days in early Nov and rotates between Canada and the United States and east and west coast (but may be central to increase participation), there are also 1–3 conference calls/virtual meetings as need for business outside of the annual meeting

Additional: there is 1 Council representative on the SDJV Continental Technical Team, and they do the bulk of creating documents, updating the Strategic Plan, reviewing proposals, etc. The technical team has 1, 3–4 day meeting per year, which is just before the MB meeting, and they usually attend the MB meeting as observers/presenters. The technical representative is currently Kyle Spragens (WA)

Reference: SDJVMB Charter?

Notes: Next MB meeting is week of Nov 6–9 (probably 8 and 9) at location TBD in about Mar, with conference calls on Feb 8 and Mar 30

Liaison to the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC)

Duties: Share information between the Council and AMBCC for the cooperative management of migratory game birds in the Pacific Flyway, including game birds hunted during the fall-winter general hunting season and Alaska subsistence game birds hunted during the spring-summer Alaska subsistence season

Appointment: 1 representative; voluntary with Council confirmation

Term: Until resignation or replacement

Term limits: N/A

Constraints: Council member

Alternate: Chair appointment until Council confirmation possible

Meetings: 2 per year; usually 2 days each in Apr and Sep–Oct in Anchorage, AK; the spring meeting is regulatory and in person whereas the fall meeting is mostly other business and there is a trend toward this meeting becoming virtual

Additional: The state of Alaska has a representative on the AMBCC and a technical representative, and these are usually Alaska's representatives on the Pacific Flyway Council. Thus there is Council representation at these meetings by default.

Reference:

Notes: Next meeting is Apr 5 and 6 with the technical staff meeting Apr 3–6; recent past liaisons have been Ron Anglin (OR), Stafford Lehr (CA), Toby Boudreau (ID), Kevin Blakely (OR), and Bernadette Graham-Hudson (OR) or Ryan Scott (AK) [Todd is working to confirm which is correct]

North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee (NAWMP PC)

Duties: The PC is an international body that provides leadership and oversight for the activities undertaken in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (i.e., leadership and management). The PC consists of up to 18 members, 6 each from Canada, the United States, and Mexico. In the U.S., each Flyway Council nominates a representative, and the Service Director appoints up to two federal representatives from the directorate

Appointment: 1 representative; voluntary with Council confirmation; requires nomination letter from the Council to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Assistant Director, Migratory Bird Program; the appointment is confirmed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Director

Term: 3 years

Term limits: N/A

Constraints: Council member

Alternate: Chair appointment until Council confirmation possible

Meetings: 2 per year, usually 2 days each in winter (Feb) and late summer (Sep), meetings are usually in person, but recently have been virtual

Additional: there is 1 US technical advisor to the US side of the PC, which is currently Todd Sanders, US Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Flyway Representative

Reference: NAWMP PC Roles Responsibilities Functions 2019 Addendum 06 Feb 2020

Notes: Next meeting is Apr 18 and 19 virtually; recent past representatives include Red Hunt (CA), Dan Yparraguirre (CA), and Stafford Lehr (CA). Eric Gardner (WA) is the current representative

North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC)

Duties: NAWCC meets three times each year to review and select Standard Grant (\$250,000–3,000,000) proposals that they will take before the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission for funding approval. In the case of Small Grants (\$10,000–250,000), the Commission has pre-approved an amount of funds to be used each year for this program and has delegated project selection and funding authority (within the approved amount) to the Council. The Council also develops policy affecting the grant application and administration processes.

Appointment: 1 representative; voluntary with Council confirmation; requires a nomination letter from the Council to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to the Secretary of the Interior; the appointment is confirmed by the Secretary of the Interior

Term: 3 years

Term limits: N/A

Constraints: State Director nominated by the Council but they do not have to be a member of the Council

Alternate: Chair appointment until Council confirmation possible

Meetings: 3 per year; 1 is a two hour virtual meeting (Feb or Mar) and 2 are in person (June and early December). The Service pays for all travel for NAWCC Members to participate in these meetings. The individual members decide if they want Staff to participate in the meetings, some do and some don't. We don't pay for Staff travel to these meetings.

Additional: The NAWCC representative selects a staff person, usually from within their organization, but not always. NAWCC Staff are the individuals who review and score proposals on behalf of the NAWCC Members. NAWCC Staff score two cycles of U.S. Standard grant proposals, and either U.S. Small grant proposals or Mexico grant proposals. NAWCC Staff meet four times per year, 1 of those is virtual (Feb) and 3 are in person (May, Sep, and Oct). The Service pays for all travel for NAWCC Staff to participate in these meetings

Reference:

Notes: recent representatives include December 2016 Tony Wasley (NV) and his staff person Mike Zahradk (NV); and April 2023 Justin (“J”) Shirley (UT) and his staff person Jason Jones (UT).