

## MINUTES

Of the Regular Meeting on January 11, 2021 of the

### OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Held at the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, January 11, 2021. Commission meeting dates are filed with the Secretary of State, Office of Administrative Rules before December 15, annually. The Agenda is listed on the Department's website and was posted at the entrance of the Wildlife Department Building on January 4, 2021 at 11:35 a.m.

Due to social distancing requirements, seating may be limited, but for additional public accessibility, in compliance with the Open Meeting Act, this meeting is also scheduled to be streamed live and recorded at [www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma](http://www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma)

Chairman Bruce Mabrey called the Commission in session at 9:08 a.m.

Rhonda Hurst, Executive Assistant, called the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT:      BRUCE R. MABREY, Chairman  
                                 ROBERT S. HUGHES II, Vice-Chairman  
                                 LEIGH A. GADDIS, Secretary  
                                 JAMES V. BARWICK, Member  
                                 D. CHAD DILLINGHAM, Member  
                                 JOHN P. ZELBST, Member  
                                 C. RICK HOLDER, Member

ABESENT:                      BILL K. BREWSTER, Member

J.D. Strong, Director, introduced the following guests: Laura McIver, Quail Forever; John D. Groendyke, Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation (OWCF) board member and former Wildlife Commissioner. Rick Grundman, Executive Director of OWCF was also in attendance.

Director Strong recognized Kurk Kuklinski, Research Supervisor for 20 years of service and Todd Craighead, Information & Education Specialist for 25 years of service.

Motion was made by Ms. Gaddis, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2020 regular Commission meeting. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes".

Director Strong gave a brief Oklahoma Legislative update and highlighted the Congressional report submitted by Brittnee Preston, the Department's part-time Federal and Congressional Liaison. This report was sent to all Commissioners and will be kept with the minutes of this meeting. Director Strong gave a Director's Report on calendar items and agency updates. This report was given to the Commission and will be kept with the minutes of this meeting. Director Strong gave an update on license sales:

2020 Licensing Wrap Up – Data Dashboard

- Recreational License Sales (All non-lifetime licenses) - +27%
  - Nonresident +20% (As low as -3% in April 2020 due to lower NR Hunting sales)
    - NR Revenue +22% - Over \$11 million in sales

- Resident +28%
      - Revenue +34% - Over \$12 million in sales
  - Lifetime Licenses
    - Overall +36%
    - Lifetime Fishing +67%
    - Senior Fishing +47%
    - Online transactions +145%
    - Mail-in applications reduced by 24%
    - LT Revenue up 38% - \$2.9 million in sales
  - Resident Fishing Licenses
    - +49% vs 2019
    - May doubled license revenue (110%)
  - Nonresident Fishing Licenses
    - +31% vs 2019
    - May doubled license revenue (115%)
    - June +71%
  - Resident Hunting Licenses
    - +15%
    - April transactions +44% vs 2019
    - September transactions +60% vs 2019
    - December transactions +68% vs 2019
  - Nonresident Hunting Licenses (5-Day/Annual)
    - Annual -6% (April -30% during turkey season)
    - 5-Day +6%
  - Resident Combos
    - 5-Year +42%
    - Annual +50% (58% increase in April, 96% in May)
  - Deer Archery Licenses (vs. 2019)
    - Nonresident +28%
    - Resident +15%
    - September transactions +77% vs 2019 - Hunters buying earlier
    - December transactions +26%
  - Youth Deer Gun
    - Resident Youth +11% for October season
    - 2019 was -10% vs. 2018 - Notable rebound year back to 2018 numbers
  - Deer Muzzleloader Licenses (vs. 2019)
    - Nonresident +31%
    - Resident +8%
  - Deer Gun Licenses
    - Nonresident +13%
    - Resident +16%
      - Antlerless sales +24% (37% increase in December)
  - Holiday Antlerless Gun Licenses
    - Resident +34% (49% increase in December)
    - Factors: Increased bag limit and marketing efforts (email/texts)
- Buying Takeaways from 2020
- Over 700,000 orders
    - Up from over 500,000 in 2019

- Online orders increased by 84% (over 403,000) in 2020
- Online orders represented 57% of all orders in 2020
  - 41% in 2019
- Rising popularity in Hard Cards
  - Total increase of 75% in 2020
    - 61,452 Collectible Cards (Jan-Dec)
    - 4,390 Retro Lifetime Cards (November 13<sup>th</sup>-December 31<sup>st</sup>)
    - 982 Hunter Education Cards

Also during the Director's Report, Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife Division, gave a deer harvest update. To date, 124,873 deer have been harvested and there are still a few days left in the archery season. This harvest number is an all-time high record for Oklahoma. He also indicated that the antlerless deer harvest is 42% of the total harvest, up from 35% last year. Mr. Dinkines thanked the Wildlife management staff for their continued efforts to manage the resources based on science, Law Enforcement for protecting the resource, Information & Education division for their efforts to encourage antlerless harvest and to the Commission for their continued support.

Amanda Storck, CFO and Chief of Administration, presented the Financial Statement for November 30, 2020. Motion was made by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Gaddis to accept the statement as presented and approve miscellaneous contributions. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes."

Amanda Storck requested Commission approval on a budget revision for \$3,203,110 to be added to the FY21 budget. This add-on would allow for several projects that were cut from the budget in the beginning of the fiscal year that would be able to be completed by the end of the fiscal year and also includes a 3% across the board cost of living adjustment to all qualified employees effective January 1, 2021. Mr. Dillingham asked for clarification on if the total amount proposed included the required retirement contribution and if the required COLA requirement for retirees was included in the requested amount. Ms. Storck explained that the retirement for active employees was considered in the total request and that the separate COLA requirement for retirees was in the original budget and that the difference in the amount budgeted and required to make the full contribution in the amount of \$130,000 was also included in the mid-year budget revision request. Mr. Holder, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the committee had reviewed this request and supported this budget revision. Motion was made by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Zelbst to approve the budget revision as presented. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes."

Barry Bolton, Chief of Fisheries Division introduced Shane Lewis, Assistant Hatchery Manager to update the Commission on the progress of the Durant Fish Hatchery renovations. Durant Hatchery is the second oldest and second largest hatchery in the state. Mr. Lewis outlined the first and second phases of improvements already accomplished and gave a brief update on future improvements to modernize the facility. Mr. Bolton indicated that future improvements can be phased in as well and that they are looking at several revenue sources to help accomplish these improvements.

Motion was made by Mr. Zelbst, seconded by Mr. Dillingham to enter into Executive Session to discuss the appraisal and/or purchase of certain real property located in Beckham and Harmon counties. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes."

Motion was made by Mr. Zelbst, seconded by Mr. Barwick to return to Open Session. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes."

Motion was made by Mr. Barwick, seconded by Mr. Dillingham to authorize the Director to pursue the purchase of certain real property located in Beckham and Harmon counties including a 520 acre inholding using existing land as a match for no less than appraised value. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Hughes, Gaddis, Zelbst, Dillingham, Holder and Mabrey voting "Yes."

Chairman Mabrey announced the next Commission meeting is scheduled on Monday, February 1, 2021 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Bruce R. Mabrey, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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Leigh A. Gaddis, SECRETARY

**AGENDA**  
**Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**

**Public Meeting:**     **Monday, February 1, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**  
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
1801 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Due to social distancing requirements, seating may be limited, but for additional public accessibility, in compliance with the Open Meeting Act, this meeting is also scheduled to be streamed live and recorded at [www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma](http://www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma)

The Commission may vote to approve, disapprove or take other action on any of the following items. The Commission may vote to authorize public comment on any agenda item requesting a rule change.

1. Call to Order – Chairman Bruce Mabrey
2. Roll Call – Rhonda Hurst
3. Invocation – Wade Farrar
4. Pledge of Allegiance – Wade Farrar
5. Introduction of Guests
6. Presentation of Awards – J.D. Strong, Director

Kristen Gillman, Wildlife/Lands Minerals Coordinator/GIS Supervisor – 20 years

7. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject or take other action on minutes of the January 11, 2021 regular Commission meeting.
8. Director's Report – J.D. Strong
  - a. Federal and Congressional Update
    - Oklahoma Legislative Update – Corey Jager, Legislative Liaison
  - b. Calendar Items – discussion of upcoming department calendar items.
  - c. Agency Update – an update on current activity within each division of the agency.
9. Presentation of the December 31, 2020 Financial Statement and consideration and vote to approve, amend or reject miscellaneous donations – Amanda Storck, CFO and Chief of Administration.
10. Presentation on Oklahoma's native non-game fishes and bowfishing management – Barry Bolton, Chief of Fisheries Division and Jason Schooley, Senior Biologist.
11. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject or take other action on a donation from OnX Maps as a result of a collaborative marketing effort – Nels Rodefeld, Chief of Information and Education Division.
12. Presentation on the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's thriving marketing efforts including review of recent and upcoming projects – Nels Rodefeld and Michael Bergin, Information and Education Senior Specialist.

13. Update on ODWC's lands/minerals program - Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife Division and Kristen Gillman, Wildlife Division Lands/Minerals Coordinator/GIS Supervisor.
14. Consideration and Vote to Approve, Amend, Reject or Take Other Action on Solicitation to Lease ODWC Owned Mineral Interests in Beaver County - Bill Dinkines and Kristen Gillman.
15. Update on the USDA Feral Swine Eradication and Control Pilot Program in Oklahoma – Bill Dinkines and Scott Alls, Oklahoma State Director of USDA APHIS Wildlife Services.
16. New Business – Discussion of any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
17. Announce the date for the next regular Commission Meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
18. Adjourn

**People with disabilities may request accommodations by calling 405-522-6279 at least three days before the meeting.**

***Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
Financial Statement***

***For the period July 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2020***

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Accounts Groups**  
**December 31, 2020**

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary	Account Groups			
	General	Capital Projects	Fund Types	General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Debt	12/31/2020	12/31/2019
			Trust			Totals	Totals
<b>Assets and Other Debits:</b>							
Cash	15,856,124		3,684,071			19,540,195	18,834,631
Investments	0		261,216,712			261,216,712	230,656,324
Accounts Receivable	3,213,903					3,213,903	3,088,768
Monthly Lifetime License			495,425			495,425	356,775
Legacy Permit / Operation game Thief	4,302,769		7,000			4,309,769.00	3,679,941.00
Fixed Assets				69,973,589		69,973,589	69,410,609
Land				95,408,697		95,408,697	90,937,707
<b>Other Debits:</b>							
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Compensated Absences					3,225,431	3,225,431	3,207,567
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Net Pension Obligation					16,555,543	16,555,543	11,509,243
	23,372,796	0	265,403,208	165,382,286	19,780,974	473,939,264	428,008,624
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>							
<b>Liabilities:</b>							
Accounts Payable (accrual)	481,278					481,278	970,163
Due to Other Funds (current month Lifetimes)	495,425					495,425	356,775
Compensated Absences Payable (leave accrual)					3,225,431	3,225,431	3,207,567
Net Pension Obligation					16,555,543	16,555,543	11,509,243
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>976,703</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19,780,974</b>	<b>20,757,677</b>	<b>16,043,748</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>							
Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			133,741,654			133,741,654	122,428,341
Reserved for Defined Contribution Benefits (DC)			4,835,182			4,835,182	3,495,670
Investment in General Fixed Assets				165,382,286		165,382,286	160,348,316
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>22,396,093</b>		<b>126,826,372</b>			<b>149,222,465</b>	<b>125,692,549</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>22,396,093</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>265,403,208</b>	<b>165,382,286</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>453,181,587</b>	<b>411,964,876</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>23,372,796</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>265,403,208</b>	<b>165,382,286</b>	<b>19,780,974</b>	<b>473,939,264</b>	<b>428,008,624</b>



**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**Trust Funds**

**Combining Balance Sheets**  
**December 31, 2020**

	Expendable Trust	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust	12/31/2020 Totals	12/31/2019 Totals
<b>Assets:</b>						
Cash (Wildlife Heritage)	354,248	3,329,823			3,684,071	3,383,302
Investments	31,578,736	91,061,140	133,741,654	4,835,182	261,216,712	234,151,994
Due From Other Funds		495,425			495,425	356,775
Restricted Assets (OP. Game Thief)		7,000			7,000	7,000
	<b>31,932,984</b>	<b>94,893,388</b>	<b>133,741,654</b>	<b>4,835,182</b>	<b>265,403,208</b>	<b>237,899,071</b>
<b>Fund Balance:</b>						
Fund Balance Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			133,741,654	4,835,182	138,576,836	125,924,011
Fund Balance	31,932,984	94,893,388			126,826,372	111,975,060
Total Fund Balance	<b>31,932,984</b>	<b>94,893,388</b>	<b>133,741,654</b>	<b>4,835,182</b>	<b>265,403,208</b>	<b>237,899,071</b>

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Fund**  
**For the Period July 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2020**

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	Percent of Inc. or Dec.
	General	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals	Totals	
<b>Revenues:</b>						
Licenses (without Lifetimes)	12,431,271			12,431,271	10,274,025	21.00%
Other Wildlife Sales	1,509,007			1,509,007	1,641,458	-8.07%
Agriculture and Oil Lease	431,816			431,816	559,724	-22.85%
Grant Revenue	12,090,492			12,090,492	14,209,664	-14.91%
Investment Income	147,618		34,652	182,270	247,731	-26.42%
Miscellaneous	2,240,072			2,240,072	461,410	385.48%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>28,850,276</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34,652</b>	<b>28,884,928</b>	<b>27,394,012</b>	<b>5.44%</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>						
Administration	3,359,646			3,359,646	3,557,581	-5.56%
Wildlife	6,991,572			6,991,572	6,621,180	5.59%
Fish	5,067,394			5,067,394	5,081,290	-0.27%
Law Enforcement	5,681,984			5,681,984	6,374,281	-10.86%
Information and Education	1,469,593			1,469,593	1,613,682	-8.93%
Capital Improvements	5,154,429			5,154,429	6,959,600	-25.94%
Land Acquisitions		-		-	1,065,241	-100.00%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>27,724,618</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>27,724,618</b>	<b>31,272,855</b>	<b>-11.35%</b>
Excess(deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,125,658	0	34,652	1,160,310	(3,878,843)	-129.91%
<b>Other Financing Sources(uses):</b>						
Sale of General Fixed Assets	2,178,565			2,178,565	281,955	672.66%
Operating Transfers In	94,558	0	15,683,920	15,778,478	11,162,078	41.36%
Operating Transfers Out	0		(94,558)	(94,558)	(5,657,415)	-98.33%
Operating Transfers Out (215)			0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Total Other Financing Sources(uses)</b>	<b>2,273,123</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,589,362</b>	<b>17,862,485</b>	<b>5,786,618</b>	<b>208.69%</b>
Excess of revenues & other financing sources over expenditures & other financing uses	3,398,781	0	15,624,014	19,022,795	1,907,775	897.12%
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year:	18,997,312	0	16,308,970	35,306,282	35,919,682	-1.71%
<b>Fund Balances December 31, 2020:</b>	<b>22,396,093</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,932,984</b>	<b>54,329,077</b>	<b>37,827,457</b>	<b>43.62%</b>

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Trust Funds**

**For the Period July 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2020**

	Fiduciary Fund Types			12/31/2020 Totals	12/31/2019 Totals
	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust		
<b>Operating Revenues:</b>					
Licenses (Lifetime)	1,858,050			1,858,050	1,352,525
Other Sales (Senior Citizen Licenses)	84,565			84,565	58,015
Interest and Investment Income	0	16,787,371	801,710	17,589,081	7,101,703
Employer Contributions		2,472,744	230,950	2,703,694	1,724,403
Employee Contributions		282,317	165,800	448,117	445,219
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>1,942,615</b>	<b>19,542,432</b>	<b>1,198,460</b>	<b>22,683,507</b>	<b>10,681,865</b>
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>					
Administration		119,363	2,688	122,051	139,457
Benefits and Participant Refunds	0	4,153,397	63,399	4,216,796	3,954,509
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,272,760</b>	<b>66,087</b>	<b>4,338,847</b>	<b>4,093,966</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>1,942,615</b>	<b>15,269,672</b>	<b>1,132,373</b>	<b>18,344,660</b>	<b>6,587,899</b>
<b>Nonoperating Expenses:</b>					
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Nonoperating Expenses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,942,615</b>	<b>15,269,672</b>	<b>1,132,373</b>	<b>18,344,660</b>	<b>6,587,899</b>
<b>Fund Balances, Beginning</b>	<b>92,950,773</b>	<b>118,471,982</b>	<b>3,702,809</b>	<b>215,125,564</b>	<b>210,874,145</b>
<b>Fund Balances, December 31, 2020</b>	<b>94,893,388</b>	<b>133,741,654</b>	<b>4,835,182</b>	<b>233,470,224</b>	<b>217,462,044</b>



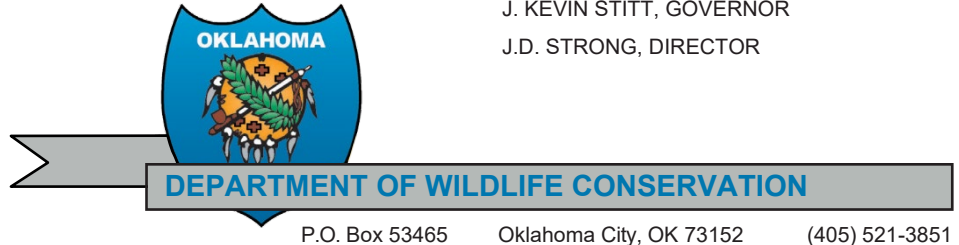
## Wildlife Contributions Report

December 2020

Order ID	Order Date	Total Payment Amount	Name Of Individual Or Business	Description Of Contribution
20217658	12/29/2020 3:59 PM	\$50.00	Merritt Public Schools	In Memory of Jake Briggs
20217655	12/29/2020 3:57 PM	\$50.00	James or Erin Gibbins	In Memory of Jake Briggs
20017007	12/9/2020 3:50 PM	\$50.00	Bud & Pat Millard	In Memory of Ronnie Gunn
20017000	12/9/2020 3:45 PM	\$30.00	Anna Grady	In Memory of Jake Briggs
20003650	12/2/2020 2:17 PM	\$100.00	First Presbyterian	In Memory of Jake Briggs
20003649	12/2/2020 2:15 PM	\$1,200.00	89er Chapter Trout Unlimited	Fish Division/Dolese Youth Park Pond
20003645	12/2/2020 2:11 PM	\$1,500.00	Oklahoma Striper Association	Fish Division
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,980.00</b>		

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Bruce Mabrey CHAIRMAN	Bill Brewster MEMBER
Robert S. Hughes II VICE CHAIRMAN	D. Chad Dillingham MEMBER
Leigh Gaddis SECRETARY	Rick Holder MEMBER
James V. Barwick MEMBER	John P. Zelbst MEMBER



**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 20, 2021

**TO:** OK Department of Wildlife Commission and Staff

**FROM:** Brittnee Preston

**RE:** Report on December and January Federal and Congressional Issues for February Commission Meeting

**Election and Transition:**

- > The 117<sup>th</sup> Congress convened on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nancy Pelosi was re-elected as Speaker of the House.
- > On January 5<sup>th</sup>, the final two Senate races in Georgia were decided. The Democrat candidates won in both races, which effectively tied the Senate and setting up Vice-President Kamala Harris as the tie-breaker. This gives the Democrats a 51-50 majority over the Republicans giving them the majority in the Senate.
- > On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the House and Senate convened to certify the election results with Vice-President Pence presiding over the Senate. Within a short amount of time, the day the Capitol building, our very symbol of freedom and democracy, was overtaken, damaged and disrespected. The Vice-President and members of Congress were whisked away through tunnels in the Capitol to safer places where they sheltered in place for hours as the Capitol was under attack. While we all mourn for the lives lost and pray for those injured, thankfully our democracy still stands and Congress was able to stand back up and continue on with their constitutional duties to serve the people of the United States that very evening. Ultimately, the House and Senate voted to certify Joe Biden as President-elect in the early morning hours of January 7th and both chambers recessed for the remainder of the week.
- > In the wake of the riots on Capitol Hill, two Cabinet secretaries, Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation and Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Education, resigned their posts. Other Cabinet Secretaries began debating whether they would invoking the 25th amendment but ultimately, under the leadership of Vice President Pence that effort did not move forward.
- > Instead, the House passed H. Res. 21, which urged Vice President Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment of the Constitution to immediately remove President Trump from office. The Vice President did not do this within the House's timeframe, so the House decided to move forward with the impeachment process. The impeachment resolution charged President Trump for high crimes and misdemeanors for inciting an insurrection against the U.S. government. On January 13th, President Trump was impeached by a vote of 232-197 making him the first President in history to be impeached twice.

**State of Play:**

President –

- > Largely, President Trump has been quiet since the beginning of January only putting forward some budget recissions, final Executive Orders and last-minute pardons.
- > Here is a list of President-elect Biden's Cabinet and Administration heads and nominees announced so far:
  - o Secretary of State - Antony Blinken
  - o Treasury Secretary - Janet Yellen
  - o Attorney General - Merrick Garland
  - o Homeland Security Secretary - Alejandro Mayor
  - o Health and Human Services Secretary - Xavier Becerra
  - o Secretary of Defense - Gen. Lloyd Austin
  - o Secretary of Veterans Affairs - Denis McDonough

We manage and protect fish and wildlife, along with their habitats, while also growing our community of hunters and anglers, partnering with those who love the outdoors, and fostering stewardship with those who care for the land.

- Secretary of Transportation - Pete Buttigieg
- Secretary of Energy - former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm
- Secretary of Interior - Rep. Debbie Haaland
- Secretary of Education - Connecticut schools chief Miguel Cardon
- Secretary of Labor - Boston Mayor Marty Walsh
- Secretary of Commerce - Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo
- Office of Management and Budget Director - Neera Tanden
- EPA Administrator - Michael Regan
- Director of the CDC - Rochelle Walensky
- Surgeon General - Vivek Murphy
- Chief Medical Advisor - Anthony Fauci
- Director of National Intelligence - Avril Haines
- UN Ambassador - Linda Thomas-Greenfield
- Chair of Council of Economic Advisers - Cecilia Rouse
- Special Envoy for Climate - John Kerry
- Domestic Climate Policy Chief - Gina McCarthy (Former EPA Administrator)

### **Congress:**

- > Omnibus Appropriations & COVID-19 Stimulus –
  - President Trump issued a list of budget rescissions after the Omnibus bill's passage just before Christmas. This included \$24.7 billion in programmatic budget freezes to 73 cutbacks. This move places a temporary hold on the funds at least until Biden's budget team gets situated.

### **Agencies:**

- > Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)
  - The USFWS [issued a final](#) Migratory Bird Protection Act rule [Record of Decision](#) on Regulations Governing Take of Migratory Birds. The rule “determined that the MBTA's prohibitions on pursuing, hunting, taking, capturing, killing, or attempting to do the same, apply only to actions directed at migratory birds, their nests, or their eggs.”
  - The USFWS [established](#) a new permit for State and federally recognized Tribal fish and wildlife agencies for the management of double-crested cormorants.
  - USFWS [announced](#) a grant opportunity through their Outreach Assessment for Science and Technology and other Research and Development. The USFWS will not be substantially involved in projects under this funding opportunity. However, the USFWS and ANS Task Force will assist the awardee, as able and appropriate, by providing information that may assist the assessment (e.g., existing outreach materials and logo, lists of partners). Applications are due by February 22, 2020.
  - The USFWS announced the FY21 [Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund: Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition Grants](#) and the [Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund: Recovery Land Acquisition Grants](#). Only State agencies that have entered into a Cooperative Agreement pursuant to Section 6(c) of the ESA and have provided the information necessary for the annual renewal (reconfirmation) of their Cooperative Agreement are eligible to apply for funding. Applications are due by April 9, 2021.
  - The USFWS [announced](#) a grant opportunity for the FY21 under the Webless Migratory Gamebird Program. The description of this opportunity states, “The primary purpose of the Webless Migratory Gamebird Program (WMGBP) is to support activities that will improve management of the 16 species of migratory shore and upland game birds (MSUGBs) in North America. The Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Support Task Force, organized through the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, developed a set of priority information needs by convening a series of workshops. Priorities identified at the workshops should be used to guide proposal development and will be used by the review committee to select projects that address these priority information needs. The USFWS administers financial assistance awards (grants and cooperative agreements), purchase orders, and contracts on a competitive basis for

projects and studies that advance the general scientific community's understanding of MSUGB ecology and management and is seeking proposals from interested parties.”

- The USFWS [announced](#) a final rule on the Least Tern, removing the inland population of the least tern from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife due to recovery.
- The USFWS [announced](#) a grant opportunity for common loon restoration projects. The description of the grant states, “Funds for this award were derived from a natural resource damages settlement with Bouchard Transportation Co., Inc; to compensate for common loon injured by the Bouchard Barge 120 Oil Spill in Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Natural Resource Trustees (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and State of Rhode Island) prepared a publicly reviewed Final Restoration Plan for Common Loon and Other Birds (Restoration Plan) that identified the Trustees approach for restoration (<http://www.fws.gov/newengland>). As authorized in the Restoration Plan, the Trustees approved the use of \$3,685,500 for a competitive grant to restore common loon through the use of management techniques, including artificial nest sites, signage and wardening, protection of breeding habitat, and through rescue and rehabilitation of stranded individuals and decreasing exposure to lead fishing tackle.”

Coming up...

- > President Biden to begin implementing his agenda.
- > The Democrats assume majority of the Senate
- > Appropriations season for fiscal year 2022 begins

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**J.D. Strong, Director**

**Personnel Actions**  
**December 2020**

**New Hires**

James R. Morel – Wildlife Biologist, Waterfowl & Migratory Birds, 12/1/2020

Michael S. Williams – Fish Technician, SE Region/Higgins, 12/1/2020

Kyle Troxell – Fish Technician, Blue River PHFA, 12/14/2020

**Promotions**

Matt Mattioda – Wildlife Biologist to SR Wildlife Biologist, Central Region,  
12/1/2020

Eric Suttles – Wildlife Senior Biologist to Wildlife Regional Supervisor, SE,  
12/1/2020

**Transfers**

**Resignations/Terminations**

**Retirements**



**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**  
**J.D. Strong, Director**

**Personnel Actions**  
**January 2021**

**New Hires**

**Promotions**

Austin Griffin – Fish Technician at OFRL to Fish Biologist at OFRL, 1/15/2021

**Transfers**

Josey Branch – Warden, Muskogee County to Warden, Tulsa County, 1/1/2021

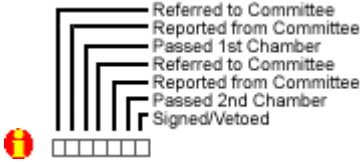
Zack Smith – Wildlife Technician, Cross Timbers WMA to Wildlife Technician,  
Kaw WMA, 1/1/2021

**Resignations/Terminations**

**Retirements**



**WILDLIFE BILLS**  
01-23-2021 - 19:38:53



Select All    Deselect All

[HB 1112](#) Talley, John(R)

Removes provisions governing the hunting of furbearing animals and places rulemaking authority over such hunting with the Wildlife Conservation Commission.

**Specific Remarks:** ODWC and constituent requested bill.

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-15-21 H Filed		
<b>Citations:</b>	29:5-201, OS	Amend	Introduced
	29:5-405, OS	Amend	Introduced
	29:5-409, OS	Amend	Introduced
	29:5-501, OS	Repeal	Introduced
	29:5-502, OS	Repeal	Introduced

[HB 1531](#) McCall, Charles(R)

Creates the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021.

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-17-21 H Filed		
<b>Citations:</b>	, NR	Amend	Introduced

[HB 1532](#) McCall, Charles(R)

Creates the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021.

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-17-21 H Filed		
<b>Citations:</b>	, NR	Amend	Introduced

[HB 1533](#) McCall, Charles(R)

Creates the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021.

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-17-21 H Filed		
<b>Citations:</b>	, NR	Amend	Introduced

[HB 1534](#) [McCall, Charles\(R\)](#)

Creates the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-17-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** , NR Amend Introduced

[HB 1535](#) [McCall, Charles\(R\)](#)

Creates the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-17-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** , NR Amend Introduced

[HB 1575](#) [Smith, David\(R\)](#)

Removes squirrel hunting season provisions, permitting hunters to hunt squirrels up to the established limit at any point throughout the year.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-19-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** 29:5-409, OS Amend Introduced

[HB 1576](#) [Smith, David\(R\)](#)

Prohibits the knowing removal of a tracking collar from a dog engaged in hunting activities.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-19-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** 70:1685.2, OS New Language Introduced

[HB 1648](#) [Humphrey, Justin J.J.\(R\)](#)

Directs the Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish a big foot hunting season.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-20-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** 29:5-603, OS New Language Introduced

[HB 1693](#) [Newton, Carl\(R\)](#)

Adjusts provisions prohibiting the killing of certain furbearing animals to permit such killing when the animals are presenting a threat to livestock or other animals.

□□□□□□□□

**Companions:** [HB 3299](#) (Refiled from 57R Session)  
**Last Action:** 1-20-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** 29:5-405, OS Amend Introduced

[HB 1768](#) [Roberts, Eric \(F\)\(R\)](#)

Extends the Wildlife Diversity Program income tax checkoff to 2022.

□□□□□□□□

**Specific Remarks:** ODWC request bill to reauthorize the Wildlife Diversity Tax-Checkoff  
**Last Action:** 1-20-21 H Filed  
**Citations:** 29:3-310, OS Amend Introduced

[HB 2101](#) [Lepak, Mark\(R\)](#)

Game and fish; creating the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021; effective date.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** , NR Amend Introduced

[HB 2214](#) McDugle, Kevin(R)

Game and fish; directing the Oklahoma Wildlife Commission to establish licenses; effective date.



**Specific Remarks:** ODWC request bill to overhaul licensing.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

<b>Citations:</b>		
<a href="#">29:4-101, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-103, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-103A, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-103B, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-104, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-104A, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-105, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-106, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-107, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-108, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-108A, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-109, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-110, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-112, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-111, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-113, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-113A, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-113.1, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-115, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-116, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-117, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-118, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-119, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-120, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-121, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-122, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-123, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-124, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-128, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-128.1, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-129, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-132, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-134, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-130, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-136, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-138, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-141, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-140, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-143, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-144, OS</a>	Repeal	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-301, OS</a>	New Language	Introduced

<a href="#">29:4-302, OS</a>	New Language	Introduced
<a href="#">29:4-303, OS</a>	New Language	Introduced
<a href="#">29:5-203, OS</a>	Amend	Introduced

[HB 2366](#) Burns, Ty(R)

Game and fish; creating the Wildlife Reform Act of 2021; effective date.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [, NR](#) Amend Introduced

[HB 2639](#) Roberts, Sean(R)

Game and fish; creating the Protecting Oklahoma Families from Feral Hogs Act of 2021; effective date.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [, NR](#) Amend Introduced

[HB 2721](#) Blancett, Meloyde(D)

Game and fish; prohibiting waste of edible meat of wildlife; effective date.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [29:7-205, OS](#) Amend Introduced

[HB 2778](#) Pfeiffer, John(R)

Counties and county officers; clarifying circumstances that allow for the destruction of certain records and files of the district attorney; effective date.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [19:215.22, OS](#) Amend Introduced

[HB 2858](#) Roberts, Sean(R)

Game and fish; creating state-employee discount for hunting and fishing licenses; effective date.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [29:4-110, OS](#) Amend Introduced  
[29:4-112, OS](#) Amend Introduced

[HR 1002](#) Talley, John(R)

Supports efforts that highlight the importance of public lands to Oklahomans and recognizes their importance to the state's economy.

**Last Action:** 1-15-21 H Filed

**Citations:** [, NR](#) Amend Introduced

[SB 47](#) Coleman, Bill (F)(R)

Includes wildlife investigations among the types of cases for which physical records may be destroyed by district attorneys' offices and makes mandatory certain standards for digitization prior to such destruction.

**Last Action:** 11-23-20 S Filed

**Citations:** [19:215.22, OS](#) Amend Introduced

[SB 769](#) Murdock, Casey(R)

Wildlife Conservation Commission; mountain lion season by lottery; setting bag limit. Effective date.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 29:5-401, OS Amend Introduced

SB 770

Murdock, Casey(R)

Wildlife Diversity tax check-off; extending reauthorization date; Effective Date.

□□□□□□□□

**Specific Remarks:** ODWC request bill to reauthorize the Wildlife Diversity Tax Check-off

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 29:3-310, OS Amend Introduced

SB 772

Murdock, Casey(R)

Nuisance wildlife; controlling coyote at night with permit; spot light; Effective Date.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 29:4-135, OS Amend Introduced  
29:4-135.2, OS New Language Introduced  
29:5-203.1, OS Amend Introduced

SB 773

Murdock, Casey(R)

Nuisance wildlife; hunt and kill prairie dogs without permit; Effective Date.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 29:4-135.2, OS New Language Introduced

SB 774

Murdock, Casey(R)

Game and fish; requiring license, permit or stamp to hunt or fish; establishing licenses by rule; Effectiv Date.

□□□□□□□□

**Specific Remarks:** ODWC request bill to overhaul licensing.

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 29:4-101, OS Amend Introduced  
29:4-103, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-103A, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-104, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-104A, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-105, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-106, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-107, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-108, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-108A, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-109, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-103B, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-110, OS Amend Introduced  
29:4-112, OS Amend Introduced  
29:4-111, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-113, OS Repeal Introduced  
29:4-113A, OS Repeal Introduced

29:4-113.1, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-115, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-116, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-117, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-118, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-119, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-113.2, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-114, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-120, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-121, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-122, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-123, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-124, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-128, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-128.1, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-129, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-132, OS	Amend	Introduced
29:4-134, OS	Amend	Introduced
29:4-130, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-136, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-135.1, OS	Repeal	Introduced
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29:4-141, OS	Amend	Introduced
29:4-140, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-143, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-144, OS	Repeal	Introduced
29:4-301, OS	New Language	Introduced
29:4-302, OS	New Language	Introduced
29:4-303, OS	New Language	Introduced
29:5-203, OS	Amend	Introduced

SB 776 Murdock, Casey(R)

Game and fish; Wildlife Conservation Commission; aquisition of property. Effective Date.

□□□□□□□□

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-21-21 S Filed	
<b>Citations:</b>	29:3-103, OS	Amend Introduced

SB 812 Murdock, Casey(R)

Game and fish; authorizing submission of license or permit. Effective date.

□□□□□□□□

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-21-21 S Filed	
<b>Citations:</b>	29:4-101, OS	Amend Introduced
	29:5-202.1, OS	Amend Introduced
	29:7-205, OS	Amend Introduced

SB 839 Dahm, Nathan(R)

Game wardens; prohibiting cameras on private property without permission. Effective date.

□□□□□□□□

<b>Last Action:</b>	1-21-21 S Filed	
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**Citations:** 29:3-201, OS Amend Introduced

SB 964

Bergstrom, Micheal(R)

Property rights; authorizing certain officers or employees to enter private land under specified circumstances. Effective date.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** 21:1835, OS Amend Introduced  
21:1835.2, OS Amend Introduced  
22:1221, OS Amend Introduced

SR 1

Stanley, Brenda (F)(R)

Proclaims that the Oklahoma State Senate supports efforts highlighting the importance and benefits of public lands.

□□□□□□□□

**Last Action:** 1-21-21 S Filed

**Citations:** , NR Amend Introduced

	All	Track
<b>Total Bills:</b>	30	30

Track(s): (Master List Only) ▼  
 Position: (None) ▼

**Add to Track**

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