

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The Pennsylvania Game Commission Compliance with its Strategic Plan 2020-2023

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A 1998 amendment to the Game and Wildlife Code requires the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct a performance audit every three years to ensure the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) compliance with its strategic plan for agency operations. This is the ninth report issued under this mandate. The Strategic Plan identifies six core goals and 41 strategic objectives that establish initiatives or issues to accomplish each goal. The PGC completed 68 percent of its 41 objectives.

- ❖ **Manage Wildlife** - Manage diverse and sustainable wildlife for current and future generations.
 - Developed a strategic plan for the Wildlife Futures Program.
 - Released 50 northern bobwhite quail at Lettorkenny Army Depot in March 2024.
 - PGC could not maintain an annual prevalence of chronic wasting disease (CWD) below 5 percent in CWD-established areas.
- ❖ **State Game Lands and Habitat Management** - Optimize opportunities for all Pennsylvanians to enjoy and experience wildlife in its natural habitat.
 - Enacted a Special Use Permit system for sharecropping that has significantly reduced high-intensity agriculture across State Game Lands.
 - PGC failed to reach its goal of burning 20,000 acres annually to improve habitats.
- ❖ **Hunting, Trapping, and Wildlife Viewing** – Provide and promote world-class hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities.
 - Issued 56,632 adult and 18,915 junior pheasant licenses.
 - Completed new shooting ranges, making 36 ranges managed by the PGC.
 - Legislation has not been passed to give PGC full authority for Sunday hunting Opportunities.
- ❖ **Staff Recruitment, Development, Retention, and Support** – Engage, develop, and better inform employees to strengthen the PGC team.
 - Developed and implemented a New Employee Orientation Program.
 - PGC was not able to cross-train employees due to repeated turnover.
- ❖ **Agency Sustainability, Operations, and Customer Experience** – Embrace emerging technologies, enhance operations, and maintain financial sustainability and accountability to sustain the PGC into the future.
 - Consolidated its dispatch operations into one location in Harrisburg.
 - Added three additional canine units for a total of six, one in each region.
 - Implemented a new license sales system, Hunt-FishPA.
 - Failed to finalize a replacement schedule for equipment, vehicles, and buildings.
- ❖ **Agency Communications and Branding** – Communicate and promote the value and varied programs, services, and resources the PGC provides.
 - Implemented a communications plan to grow social media and increase marketing efforts.
 - PGC continues to work on its marketing program.

❖ Overview of the status of goals and objectives:

Goal	Title	Objectives	Objectives Complete	Completion Rate
1	Manage Wildlife	9	7	78%
2	State Game Lands and Habitats Management.	7	3	43%
3	Hunting, Trapping, and Wildlife Viewing	6	3	50%
4	Staff Recruitment, Development, Retention, and Support.	8	6	75%
5	Agency Sustainability, Operations, and Customer Experience.	7	6	86%
6	Agency Communications and Branding.	4	3	75%

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