

**Legislative Budget and Finance Committee**

***Pennsylvania Game Commission Compliance with its  
Strategic Plan FY 2020-2023***

**Report Presentation by Anne Witkonis, Project Manager**

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**June 26, 2024**

Good morning, Madam Chair and members of the Committee. I am pleased to be here to discuss the results of our study in response to Act 166 of 1998, which requires the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a performance audit every three years of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) compliance with its strategic plan. This is our ninth performance audit on this topic. This audit of the PGC's compliance with its Strategic Plan sought to determine the PGC's progress in realizing its six core goals, which are:

1. Manage diverse and sustainable wildlife for current and future generations.
2. Optimize opportunities for all Pennsylvanians to enjoy and experience wildlife in its natural habitat.
3. Provide and promote world-class hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities.
4. Engage, develop, and better inform employees to strengthen the PGC team.
5. Embrace emerging technologies, enhance operations, and maintain financial sustainability and accountability to sustain the PGC into the future.
6. Communicate and promote the value and varied programs, services, and resources the PGC provides.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission Strategic Plan 2020-2023 identifies the PGC's vision, values, mission statements, and the previously mentioned core goals. The plan also identifies 41 Strategic Objectives that establish specific initiatives to accomplish each core goal.

We generally report that the six core goals' objectives are complete or incomplete. Our evaluation was based on documentation provided by the PGC to assess the level of achievement of their objectives. We also reviewed PGC Annual Reports and other supplemental materials for these assessments. Although the PGC made progress on each goal, none were 100 percent complete. However, four of the six core goals had completion rates of 75 percent or higher. Overall, the PGC completed 68 percent of the 41 initiatives supporting its core goals.

Some of the PGC's goals include releasing 50 northern bobwhite quail at Letterkenny Army Depot, consolidating its dispatch operations in one location, and implementing a new license system. Some of the goals not completed include PGC's failure to reach its goal of burning 20,000 acres annually to improve habitats; its inability to finalize a replacement schedule for equipment, vehicles, and buildings; and maintain an annual prevalence of chronic wasting disease (CWD) below 5 percent in CWD-established areas.

In conclusion, we thank the Pennsylvania Game Commission and its staff, especially Daniel Dunlap, Director of Administrative Services, for their assistance in completing this report. Finally, I would also like to thank the staff analysts who worked on this project, including Amy Hockenberry and James Wynne. At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.