



May 11, 2023

To: Governor Katie Hobbs
Senate President Warren Petersen
Senate Natural Resources Chair Sine Kerr

RE: Arizona Game and Fish Commission Nominations

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is the leading 501c-3 non-profit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation, habitat improvement, youth recruitment and retention, as well as providing education for outdoor enthusiasts on issues important to their passions. AZSFWC currently consists of 37 member, affiliate, and associate groups that reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation, and businesses from across Arizona. Our member groups represent well over 27,000 people from Arizona.

Arizona's Game and Fish Commission (Commission) stands as one of the premier wildlife agency governing Boards from across North America! In turn, the Commission provides guidance and direction to arguably the best wildlife agency from across the continent too, our Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department).

The Commission and Department's statutory responsibility to manage Arizona's more than 800 species of wildlife, both game and non-game, for all of Arizona's citizens is an important task. The ability to provide guidance and direction to Department staff requires a fully engaged and staffed Commission, and to that end, we collectively need your help!

ARS 17-202 sets forth the process by which Commission candidates are screened, interviewed, and recommended based on their resumes, qualifications, and respect for wildlife and conservation, by the very constituents that provide the primary funding and support for both the Commission and Department.

Two qualified and dedicated Commission candidates are patiently waiting to be confirmed by the Senate. Marsha Sue and Jeffrey Buchanan have cleared all the requirements of the process, they simply need their appropriate confirmation paperwork submitted to the Senate. AZSFWC and thousands of your constituents urge you to do this before sine die!

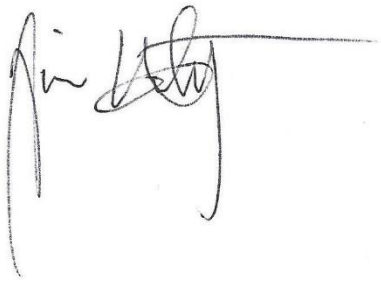
Both candidates can serve for a year pending their confirmation, however after that, they can no longer participate, which would leave our Commission down to only three people. That would be a detriment to not only Arizona's wildlife, but also all Arizona citizens.

AZSFWC letter of support for Game and Fish Commission Nominations – 5-11-23

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation
PO Box 75731 New River, AZ 85087

With your collective success in negotiating a bipartisan budget, we would greatly appreciate it if you would ensure that the Arizona Game and Fish Commission receives its full complement of Commissioners.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Timothy", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Executive Director