



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

ORDER NO. 3347

Subject: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.

Sec. 1 Purpose. The Department of the Interior (Department) is entrusted with overseeing Federal lands for the benefit of current and future generations. This includes advancing conservation stewardship and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing, for all Americans. The purpose of this Order is to enhance conservation stewardship, increase outdoor recreation, and improve the management of game species and their habitat.

Sec. 2 Background. Led by recreational hunters and anglers, America's conservation and outdoor recreation movements continue to be led by individual sportsmen working together with ranchers, farmers, state wildlife agencies, non-profit sportsmen-conservation organizations, and the Department.

The Department has vast management responsibilities across our Nation's Federal lands, waters, and mineral resources. In addition to overseeing with humility the conservation and management of fish and wildlife resources, the Department also stewards 20 percent of the Nation's lands, oversees the responsible development of over 20 percent of U.S. energy supplies, serves as the largest supplier and manager of water in 17 Western States, and maintains relationships with over 500 federally recognized tribes. Over 400 units of the National Park System provide unique outdoor recreation opportunities as well as preserve and protect nearly 27,000 historic structures, more than 700 landscapes, and nearly 100,000 archaeological properties. The Department has also partnered with over 45,000 landowners and 3,000 conservation partners to restore successfully more than one million acres of wetland habitat, three million acres of upland habitat, and 11,000 miles of streams.

President Theodore Roosevelt loved the outdoors, vigorously hunted wildlife, and developed a uniquely American conservation ethos. Executive Order 13443 built on President Roosevelt's conservation legacy and directed Federal agencies, including the Department of the Interior, to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and management of game species and their habitat.

As a servant of the American people, the Department will continue to strengthen President Roosevelt's conservation stewardship legacy through this Order by seeking to expand recreational and conservation opportunities for all Americans.

Sec. 3 Authority. This Order is issued under the authority of Section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended, as well as the Department's land and resource management authorities, including the following:

- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 742a, *et seq.*;
- National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*;
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, 43 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*;
- National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended, 54 U.S.C. 100101, *et seq.*; and
- Executive Order 13443, "Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation."

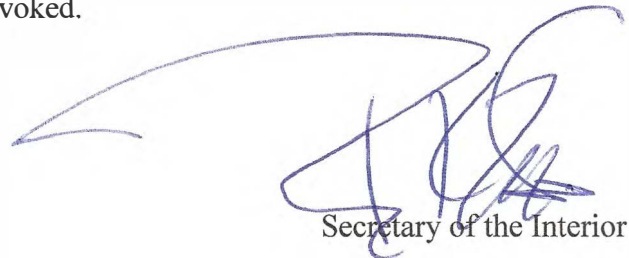
Sec. 4. Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation Directive.

- a. This Order directs the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks and the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management to:
 - (1) Report to the Secretary within 30 calendar days on:
 - a. All actions taken to implement with Executive Order 13443 and achieve its goals.
 - b. All actions described in by Executive Order 13443 that have not occurred, along with an explanation of any regulatory, legislative, policy or other barriers that have prevented or slowed successful implementation of Executive Order 13443.
 - c. Specific recommendations to improve implementation of Executive Order 13443.
 - (2) Report to the Secretary within 30 calendar days with specific recommendations to enhance recreational fishing, specifically regarding efforts to enhance and expand recreational fishing access.
- b. Upon approval of the reports by the Secretary, the Department shall:
 - (1) Submit the first report to the *Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council* (WHHCC) with a request for the WHHCC's consensus recommendations for improving implementation of Executive Order 13443.
 - (2) Submit the second report to the *Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council* (SFBPC) with a request for the SFBPC's consensus recommendations for enhancing and expanding recreational fishing access.
- c. Once WHHCC and SFBPC have responded with recommendations, the Department shall, within 30 calendar days:
 - (1) Identify specific actions to expand access significantly for recreational hunting and fishing on public lands as may be appropriate.
 - (2) Identify specific actions to improve recreational hunting and fishing cooperation, consultation, and communication with state wildlife managers.
 - (3) Identify specific actions to improve habitat for fish and wildlife.
 - (4) Identify specific actions to manage predators effectively and efficiently.

- (5) Encourage, promote, and facilitate greater public access to all Department lands consistent with applicable laws.
- d. The Secretary will designate an appointee in the Immediate Office of the Secretary to coordinate all activities by and among the Department, the WHHCC, the SFBPC, and their respective Designated Federal Officers with respect to implementation of this Order.

Sec. 5 **Effect of Order.** This Order is intended to improve the internal management of the Department. This Order and any resulting reports or recommendations are not intended to, and do not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person. To the extent there is any inconsistency between the provisions of this Order and any Federal laws or regulations, the laws or regulations will control.

Sec. 6 **Expiration Date.** This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until it is amended, superseded, or revoked.



Secretary of the Interior

Date: **MAR 02 2017**