Code of Conduct
Fish, Wildlife & Habitat Coalition

This Code of Conduct sets out shared expectations for members to protect the Coalition's credibility, prevent misrepresentation of its positions, and maintain trust among participating organizations.

General Conduct

All participants must:

- Act in good faith and in alignment with the Coalition's objectives.
- Respect differing perspectives and contribute to welcoming, inclusive discussions.
- Disclose relevant conflicts of interest.
- Respect the confidentiality of sensitive discussions, materials, and draft positions.
- Respect meeting agendas, deadlines, and agreed processes.
- Use the Coalition's name, logo, and identity only with appropriate authorization.
- Avoid actions that undermine the Coalition's credibility or relationships among participants.

Coalition Positions

Correspondence, submissions, and public statements issued by the Coalition will carry the logos of all member organizations unless a member formally requests removal from a specific communication prior to issuance. Members retain the right to opt-out of individual correspondence; however, such requests must be made in advance of established deadlines for correspondence release.

Speaking on Behalf of the Coalition

3.1 Coalition Voice

Only positions that have been formally adopted by Coalition members may be represented as the position of FWHC.

No participant may present personal, organizational, or sector-specific views as Coalition positions unless those views have been formally adopted by the Coalition.

3.2 External Engagement (Government, Elected Officials, Media)

When participating in meetings, events, or correspondence involving elected officials, ministries, or media:

Participants must clearly state whether they are speaking:

- On behalf of their own organization
- On behalf of FWHC (only if authorized)

If speaking in a personal or organizational capacity, participants must not imply Coalition endorsement.

3.3 Expectations at Advocacy and Lobbying Events

When participating in advocacy, policy, or lobbying events where FWHC is present as a Coalition:

- Messaging must be aligned with agreed Coalition positions
- Participants must not introduce new positions on behalf of FWHC without prior approval
- If conversations arise that touch on topics not specifically addressed in the approved plan, members respond with: “we do not have a statement as a Coalition on this matter”

Where a participant wishes to raise an issue not formally adopted by the Coalition, they must do so explicitly in their own organizational capacity.

Breach and Resolution

Where conduct is believed to have breached this Code:

- Concerns may be raised with Coalition representatives
- The Coalition may seek clarification or correction
- Continued participation may be reviewed where conduct undermines Coalition integrity

The Coalition’s objective in addressing breaches is correction and alignment, not punishment.

Agreement

All member organizations must confirm acceptance of this Code as part of their participation in the Coalition.