

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Agencies: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (National Marine Fisheries Service)

Citation: [16 U.S.C. §§ 661 – 666c](#)

Enacted as: “An Act - To promote the conservation of wild life, fish, and game, and for other purposes”, on March 10, 1934.

Summary:

The [Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act \(FWCA\)](#) provides the basic authority for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (FWS) involvement in evaluating impacts to fish and wildlife from proposed water resource development projects. The FWCA requires that fish and wildlife resources receive equal consideration as other project features. The FWCA also requires federal agencies that construct, license or permit water resource development projects to first consult with the FWS (and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in some instances) and state fish and wildlife agency regarding the impacts on fish and wildlife resources and measures to mitigate these impacts.

A more complete discussion of the Act and the FWS' role in conservation partnerships is found in [Water Resources Development Under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act](#). This document is meant to serve as a one-stop shopping guidebook for FWS biologists and government and non-government partners in collaborative efforts to advance positive water projects and conserve fish and wildlife resources.

Source: <http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/fwca.html>

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