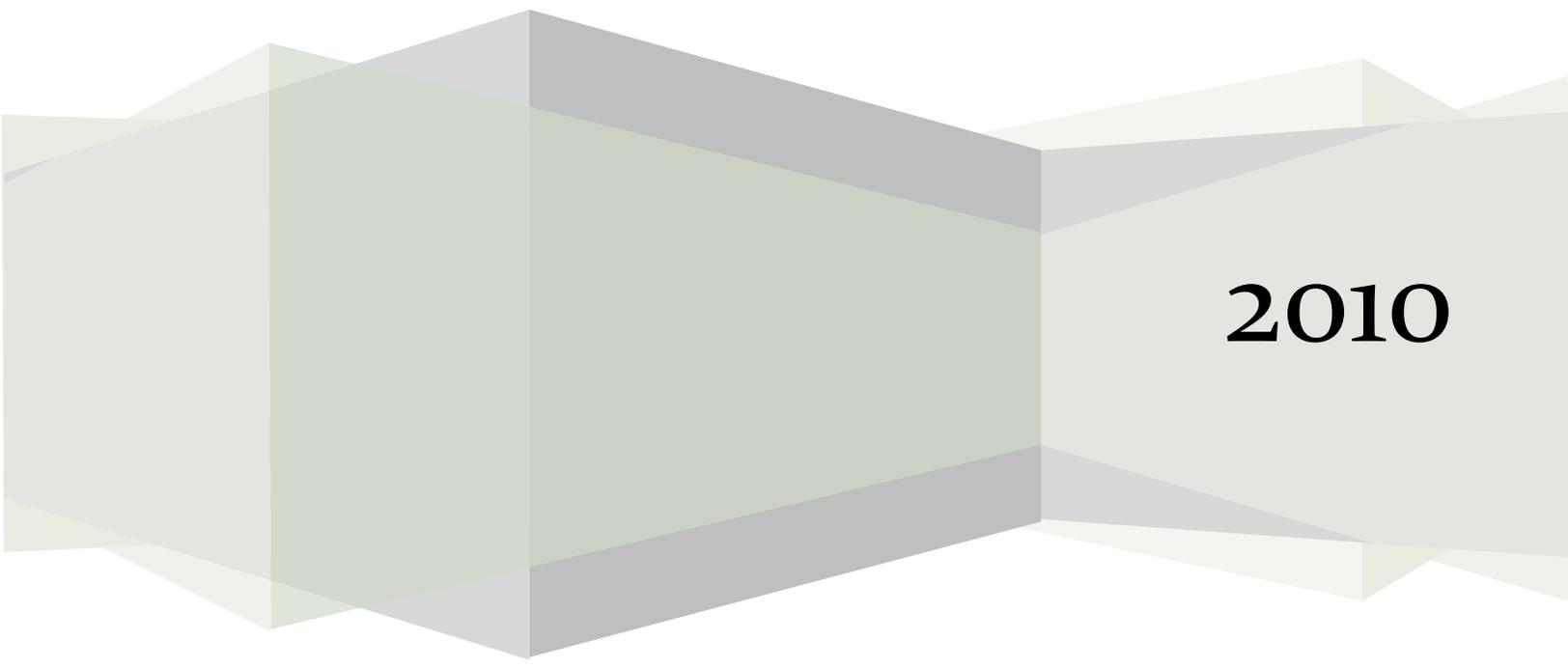


Conducted by the Management Assistance Team

A Comparison of the Organizational
Structure of State Fish and Wildlife
Agency Commissions and Boards
Survey Report



2010

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Purpose:

In 2010, the Management Assistance Team conducted a nationwide survey of state fish and wildlife agencies to obtain information for creating a comparison of the organizational structures of their boards and/or commissions.

Background:

The Management Assistance Team (MAT), while working with state fish and wildlife agencies, was continuously asked how other state agencies' boards and/or commissions were structured and what policies governed their work. The diverse and broad spectrum of organizational structures across state fish and wildlife agencies made it difficult to determine a "standard" or a set of "best practices" relevant to agency commission and boards.

In order to provide a resource document for state agencies, the Management Assistance Team set out to conduct a nationwide survey of state fish and wildlife agencies to ascertain, compare, and provide a comprehensive view of the organizational structures of all state fish and wildlife agency boards and commissions.

Method:

Each state fish and wildlife agency was contacted by phone and/or email to identify the best person to answer board and/or commission related questions. These individuals were then directed to a website and asked to respond to a 21 question online survey about their board and/or commissions' organizational structure. In some state agencies, the questions were asked by phone and the responses were entered into the electronic survey by MAT staff.

The survey asked board and commission organizational structure questions such as number of boards serving an agency, number of seats on the board, term limits, appointment process, compensation, staff, advisory and regulatory authority, etc.

Forty-nine state fish and wildlife agencies, representing 48 states, responded to the survey. (Rhode Island and Hawaii did not respond) There were 64 data entries for individual commissions and/or boards. In addition, the survey process enabled the compilation of the most appropriate person to contact in each state regarding boards and/or commissions, their contact information, and board/commission websites where applicable.

The responses were compiled into two reports: (1) Commission and Board Comparison: Executive Summary (2) Commission and Board Comparison Raw Data.

The Executive Summary includes the contact information and quantified responses to the survey questions. The second report containing the raw data is considerably larger and is available by downloading from the MAT website: http://matteam.org/reports/CB_SurveyReport_RawData.pdf

Findings:

1. A compilation of current contact information for state fish and wildlife agency commission and/or boards nationwide.
2. An analysis and distillation of data displayed in a table showing comparisons between the variations of responses overall.
3. In most cases the responses to each survey question were displayed in greater detail either in a bar chart or a listing of the qualitative responses without analysis.

About the Management Assistance Team

The Management Assistance Team (MAT) is a non-profit, organization development and training consultancy who work exclusively for state fish and wildlife agencies nationwide. MAT is a project of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and is funded by a Multi-State Conservation Grant.

Management Assistance Team

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Online Survey Form

Survey of State Agencies Commissions and Boards

Page 1 of 2

Survey of State Agencies Commissions and Boards

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Management Assistance Team needs your help. We are seeking to compile data on state fish and wildlife agency's commission and board structure. It is our hope that this will provide useful information to member agencies. Please take a few moments to answer the following questions by November 28, 2010. You will receive a confirmation that the survey has been completed after you press the 'Submit' button. If you do not receive the confirmation screen, and the survey page shows up again after hitting 'Submit', then your responses have not gone through. Please make sure you did not choose more than one answer to any question, and that all questions have been answered. If you need assistance, please call 304-876-7797. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

1. What state does your agency serve?

Alabama

2. How many separate boards/commissions serve your agency?

1 2 3 4

If there is more than one board/commission for your agency, please fill out a separate survey for each.

3. Please provide the name of the board/commission.

4. Please indicate the area of authority of the board/commission. (i.e. Freshwater Fish, Natural Resources, etc)

5. How many seats are on the board/commission?

1

6. What is the term length for each seat?

1 year 2 year 3 year 4 year more than 4 years

7. What is the number of terms?

1 term 2 terms 3 terms 4 terms no term limits

8. Are the terms staggered?

Yes No

9. How are the seats appointed? Governor? Elected?

Governor Elected Other - Please describe

10. Do members receive payment for their services?

Pay No Pay Travel/Per Diem

11. Does the board/commission have hiring/firing authority over the Director?

Hiring Firing Both Neither

12. Does the board/commission conduct a formal evaluation of the Director?

Yes No

13. What statewide regulatory authority does the board/commission have?

14. What statewide advisory authority does the board/commission have?

15. Are there paid staff that work only for the board/commission?

Yes No

16. Please describe briefly any regulations regarding public meetings (i.e. Sunshine law, etc.)

17. How often does the board/commission meet?

1 time/year 2 times/year 3 times/year 4 times/year monthly other - please describe _____

18. Are new members provided with a formal orientation?

Yes No

19. How is the chair appointed/elected?

20. Does the board/commission have a website?

Yes (if so, please provide website address) _____ No

21. Please provide the name, phone number, and email address of the contact person to direct future commission/board questions.

-

powered by [phpQuestionnaire](#)

State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Alabama	1	1 Commissioner and 1 advisory board	Fred R. Harders Assistant Director 334/ 242 - 3849 wmccullers@dcnr.state.al.us	have info on the agency's website
Alaska	2	Alaska Board of Fisheries	Jim Marcotte Executive Director Alaska Board of Fisheries Jim.Marcotte@alaska.gov (907)465-6095	www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us
Alaska	2	Alaska Board of Game	Kristy Tibbles Executive Director Kristy.Tibbles@alaska.gov (907)465-6098	www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us
Arizona	1	Arizona Game and Fish Commission	Jennifer L. Martin, Chair Arizona Game and Fish Commission JMartin@azgfd.gov (602) 377-6343	www.azgfd.gov/Commission
Arkansas	1	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	Michael Armstrong Asst. Director marmstrong@agfc.state.ar.us 501-223-6371	www.agfc.com
California	1	California Fish and Game Commission	Jon K. Fischer Acting Executive Director Fish and Game Commission 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-4899	www.fgc.ca.gov
Colorado	1	Colorado Wildlife Commission	Jennifer Craft (303) 291 - 7480 jennifer.kraft@state.co.us	Same as DOW but Commission has own page
Connecticut	4	Conservation Advisory Council	Bill Hyatt 860-424-3487 william.hyatt@ct.gov	No
Connecticut	4	Marine Advisory Council	Dave Simpson 860-447-4306 david.simpson@ct.gov	No
Connecticut	4	Fisheries Advisory Council	Pete Aarrestad 860-424-4171 pete.aarrestad@ct.gov	No

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Connecticut	4	Forest Practice Advisory Board	Christopher Martin State Forester/Division Director 860-424-3631 christopher.martin@ct.gov	www.ct.gov/dep then type in search box "forest practice advisory board"
Delaware	4	Advisory Council on Shell Fisheries	Craig Shirey 302-739-9108	No
Delaware	4	Advisory Council on Wildlife and Freshwater Fish	Director De. Division of Fish and Wildlife 302-739-9910.	
Florida	1	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Greg Holder Assistant Executive Director Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 South Meridian Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600 email greg.holder@myfwc.com phone 850-487-3796	www.myfwc.com
Georgia	1	Board of Natural Resources	Mary Ann Evans Executive Asst. to the Board Dept. of Natural Resources 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E. Suite 1252 East Tower Atlanta, GA 30334 Phone: 404-656-3500 E-mail: maevans@gadnr.org	www.gadnr.org
Idaho	1	Idaho Fish and Game Commission	Mary Boyer 208-287-2764 mary.boyer@idfg.idaho.gov	No
Illinois	4	Endangered Species Protection Board	Anne Mankowski IL Department of Natural Resources #1 Natural Resources Way Springfield, IL 62702 217/785-8687	dnr.state.il.us/esp/index.htm
Illinois	4	Natural Resources Advisory Board	Deborah Stone IL Department of Natural Resources #1 Natural Resources Way Springfield, IL 62702	dnr.state.il.us/nrab/

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Indiana	1	Natural Resources Commission		www.in.gov/nrc/
Iowa	3	State Preserves Advisory Board	Lisa Nissen 515-281-5384 lisa.nissen@dnr.iowa.gov	www.iowadnr.gov/spab/index.html
Iowa	1	Environmental Protection Commission	Jerah Sheets 515-313-8909 Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov	www.iowadnr.gov/epc/index.html
Iowa	3	Natural Resource Commission	Melissa Speed IA DNR Melissa.Speed@dnr.iowa.gov 515-281-8650	www.iowadnr.gov/nrc/index.html
Kansas	1	Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission	Sheila Kemmis (Commission Admin Support) KS Dept of Wildlife and Parks (620) 672-0702 phone (620) 672-2972 fax sheila.kemmis@ksoutdoors.com	www.kdwp.state.ks.us/news/KDWP-Info/Commission
Kentucky	1	Kentucky Department Of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission	Nancy McIver Executive Assistant 502-564-3400 ext 4555 nancy.mciver@ky.gov	No
Louisiana	1	Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission	Tammy Calix Fiscal Officer (225) 765-2891, tcalix@wlf.louisiana.gov	www.wlf.louisiana.gov/aboutldwf/boards_commissionmembers
Maine	1	Commissioner's Advisory Council	Becky Orff, 287-5202 Becky.Orff@Maine.Gov	No
Maryland	3	Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission	Marty Gary 410-260-8289, mlgary@dnr.state.md.us	www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/management/coindex.html
Maryland	1	Wildlife SPP Advisory Commission	Paul Peditto 410-260-8540 ppeditto@dnr.state.md.us	No

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Massachusetts	3	Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission	Paul Diodati 617-626-1530 paul.diodati@state.ma.us	No
Massachusetts	3	Public Access Board	John Sheppard jack.sheppard@state.ma.us	No
Michigan	1	Natural Resources Commission	Teresa Gloden 517-373-2352 glodent@michigan.gov	www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-39002_11862---,00.html
Michigan		Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board of Trustees	Jim Wood Manager DNRE Grants Management 517-373-9125 woodj@michigan.gov	No
Minnesota	1	Game and Fish Fund Budget Oversight Committee	Beth Carlson beth.carlson@state.mn.us 651-259-5531	No
Mississippi	1	Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks	Sally Sutherland 601-432-2009 sallys@mdwfp.state.ms.us	No
Missouri	1	Conservation Commission	David H. Thorne Policy Supervisor Missouri Department of Conservation PO Box 180 Jefferson City MO 65102-0180 (573) 522-4115 Extension 3365 David.Thorne@mdc.mo.gov	mdc.mo.gov/about/commission/
Montana	1	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission	Betty Johnson (406) 444-3186 bjohnson@mt.gov	fwp.mt.gov/doingBusiness/insideFwp/commission/default.html
Nebraska	1	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	Lynn Hartog (402) 471-5539 lynn.hartog@nebraska.gov	No

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Nevada	1	Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners	Kenneth E. Mayer Secretary Board of Wildlife Commissioners 1100 Valley Rd. Reno, NV 89512 (775) 688-1599	www.ndow.org/learn/com/
New Hampshire	1	Fish and Game Commission	Glenn Normandeau Executive Director	No
New Jersey	3	Endangered and Nongame Advisory Committee	Daven Jenkins 609-292-9101 dave.jenkins@dep.state.nj.us	No
New Jersey	3	Marine Fisheries Council	Tom.Mccloy@dep.state.nj.us	No
New Jersey	3	Fish and Game Council	Paulette Nelson 609-202-9410 paulette.nelson@dep.state.nj.us	Just division site
New Mexico	1	State Game Commission	Bob Jenks, Deputy Director New Mexico Department of Game and Fish P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507 505-476-8008 robert.jenks@state.nm.us	wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/index.htm
New York		Regional (7) and Statewide (1) Fish and Wildlife Management Board	Jack Cooper Biologist 3 (Ecology) Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources 518-402-8907 jxcooper@gw.dec.state.ny.us	They have a page on the Department Public Website- www.dec.ny.gov/about/564.html
New York	3	Conservation Fund Advisory Board	Douglas Stang 518-402-8924 dxstang@gw.dec.state.ny.us	www.dec.ny.gov/about/566.html
North Carolina	1	NC Wildlife Resources Commission	Betsy Foard 919-707-0013 betsy.foard@ncwildlife.org	No

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
North Dakota	1	North Dakota Game and Fish Department Advisory Board	Craig Bihrlle Communications Supervisor ND Game and Fish Dept. 100 N. Bismarck Expressway Bismarck, ND 58501 701-328-6317 cbihrlle@nd.gov	No
Ohio	1	Ohio Wildlife Council	David Graham, Chief 614-265-6304	No
Oklahoma	1		Mikki Gutierrez 405-522-3324	No
Oregon	1	Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission	Teri Kucera Supervising Executive Assistant (503) 947-6044 Teri.Kucera@state.or.us	www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/
Pennsylvania	2	Board of Commissioners	Tim Schaeffer 717-705-7807 tischaeffer@state.pa.us	No
Pennsylvania	2	Boating Advisory Board	Laurel Anders PA Fish & Boat Commission 717-705-7849 Landers@state.pa.us	No
Pennsylvania	1	Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners	Carl G. Roe 717-705-6540 carlroe@state.pa.us	No Website. Commissioner information / profile is on the PGC site.
South Carolina	1	SC Department of Natural Resources Board	Sandy Rucker 803-734-9102 ruckers@dnr.sc.gov	www.dnr.sc.gov/admin/board.html
South Dakota	1	Game, Fish, and Parks Commission	Debra Ascher phone 605-773-3718 debra.ascher@state.sd.us	www.sdgfp.info/Commission/Index.htm
Tennessee	1	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission	Nat Johnson Assistant Executive Director 615-781-6556 Nat.Johnson@tn.gov	The commission does not have its own dedicated website, but has a page that can be accessed through the Agency website

Table 1: State Agency Commission and Board Contact Information (Continued)

State Agency Serves	Number of Boards	Name of the Board/Commission	Contact Person	Board or Commission Website
Texas	1	Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission	Ann Bright General Counsel ann.bright@tpwd.state.tx.us 512-389-8558 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744	www.tpwd.state.tx.us
Utah	1		Staci Coons 801-450-3093, stacicoons@utah.gov	No
Vermont	3	A) Endangered Species Advisory Committee B) Fish and Wildlife Board C) Waterfowl Advisory Board	Tom Decker Chief of Operations, Tom.decker@state.vt.us	No
Virginia	1	Board of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	Bob Duncan Executive Director	www.dgif.virginia.gov
Washington	1	Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission	Susan Galloway (360) 902-2267 Susan.Galloway@dfw.wa.gov	wdfw.wa.gov/commission/
West Virginia	1	DNR Commission	Emily Fleming WVDNR Director's Office 324 fourth Avenue South Charleston WV 25303 (304) 558-2771 Emily.J.Fleming@wv.gov	No
Wisconsin	1	Natural Resources Board	Laurie Ross Natural Resources Board Liason 608-267-7420	dnr.wi.gov/org/
Wyoming	1	Wyoming Game and Fish Commission	John Kennedy Deputy Director 301-777-4501, john.kennedy@wgf.state.wy.us	gf.state.wy.us

Overall Variations of Responses

Table 2: Overall Variations of Responses – Commission and Board Survey 2010

Q2		
How many separate boards/commissions serve your agency?	State Agencies	% of States
1	36	75.0%
2	2	4.2%
3	7	14.6%
4	3	6.3%
N=	48	

Q5		
How many seats are on the board/commission?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
1-5	8	12.5%
6-10	39	60.9%
11-15	12	18.8%
16 or more	5	7.8%
N=	64	

Q6		
What is the term length for each seat?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
1 year	1	1.6%
2 years	2	3.1%
3 years	12	18.8%
4 years	21	32.8%
More than 4 years	28	43.8%
N=	64	

Q7		
What is the number of terms?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
1 term	10	15.6%
2 terms	14	21.9%
3 terms	2	3.1%
No Term Limits	36	56.3%
No Response	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Q8		
Are the terms staggered?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	52	81.3%
No	12	18.8%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Table 2: Overall Variations of Responses (continued) – Commission and Board Survey 2010

Q9		
How are the seats appointed? Governor? Elected?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Governor and/or Legislative Body	43	67.2%
Agency or Commission Director	0	0.0%
Other	21	32.8%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Q10		
Do members receive payment for their services?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
No Pay	8	12.5%
Pay	2	3.1%
Travel/Per Diem ONLY	46	71.9%
Pay + Travel/Per Diem	8	12.5%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Q11		
Does the board/commission have hiring/firing authority over the Director?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Neither	42	65.6%
Both	22	34.4%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Q12		
Does the board/commission conduct a formal evaluation of the Director?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	16	25.0%
No	48	75.0%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Q13		
What statewide regulatory authority does the board/commission have?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
No Regulatory Authority	20	31.3%
Regulatory Authority	Varies Widely	
N=	64	

Table 2: Overall Variations of Responses (continued) – Commission and Board Survey 2010

Q14	
What statewide advisory authority does the board/commission have?	
	Widely varying

Q15		
Are there paid staff that work only for the board/commission?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	6	9.4%
No	58	90.6%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Q16		
Please describe briefly any regulations regarding public meetings (i.e. Sunshine law, etc.)	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Open meeting laws/regulations/acts	28	43.8%
Sunshine laws	16	25.0%
Roberts Rules of Orders	4	6.3%
Freedom of Information Act	5	7.8%
Other	11	17.2%
None	1	1.6%
No Response	8	12.5%
Percentages equal greater than 100% due to many boards having more than one set of regulations		

Q17		
How often does the board/commission meet?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
2 times/year	2	3.1%
3 times/year	3	4.7%
4 times/year	12	18.8%
5 times/year	4	6.3%
6 times/year	10	15.6%
7-9 times/year	2	3.1%
10 times/year	7	10.9%
Monthly	22	34.4%
No Response	0	0%
Call of Chairman	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Table 2: Overall Variations of Responses (continued) – Commission and Board Survey 2010

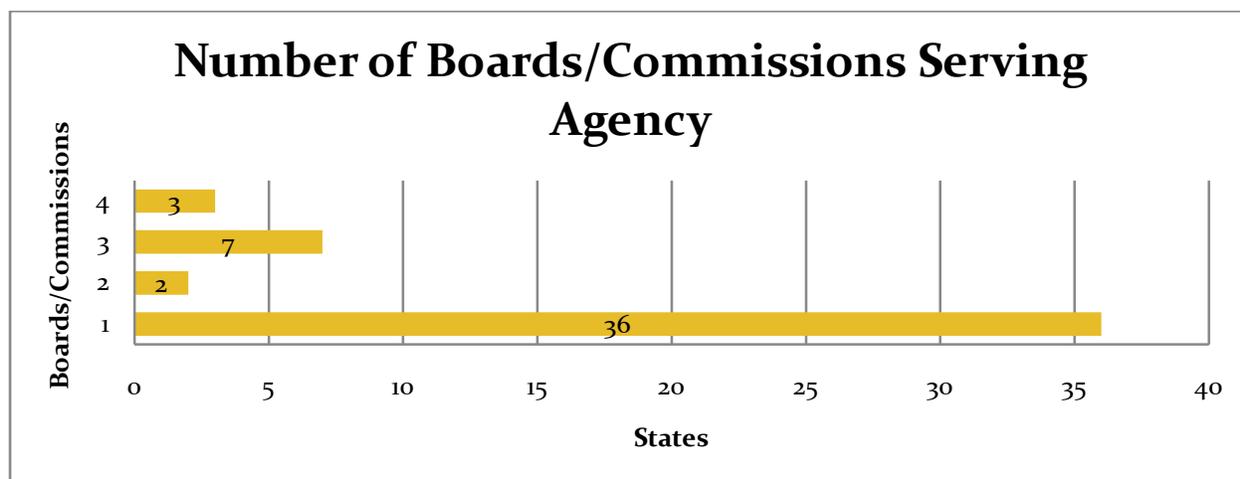
Q18		
Are new members provided with a formal orientation?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	38	59.4%
No	24	37.5%
No Response	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Q19		
How is the chair appointed/elected?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Governor Appointed or Approved	11	17.2%
Agency/Commission Director	2	3.1%
Elected by the board/commission	51	79.7%
Other	0	0%
N=	64	

Q20		
Does the board/commission have a website?	Number of States	% of States
Yes	36	56.3%
No	27	42.2%
No Response	1	1.6%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 2

Table 3: Variation of Responses to Question 2



Q2		
How many separate boards/commissions serve your agency?	State Agencies	% of States
1	36	75.0%
2	2	4.2%
3	7	14.6%
4	3	6.3%
N=	48	

Qualitative Responses to Question 3 and 4

Table 4: Qualitative Responses to Questions 3 and 4

State Agency Serves	Name of the Board/Commission	Please indicate the area of authority of the board/commission. (i.e. Freshwater Fish, Natural Resources, etc)
Alabama	1 Commissioner & 1 advisory board	Commissioner has regs and rule authority
Alaska	Alaska Board of Fisheries	Fishery resources
Alaska	Alaska Board of Game	Hunting and Trapping Regulations
Arizona	Arizona Game and Fish Commission	All fish and wildlife in Arizona
Arkansas	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	Freshwater Fish and Wildlife, Conservation Education
California	California Fish and Game Commission	Freshwater Fish, Saltwater Fish, Wildlife, Plants
Colorado	Colorado Wildlife Commission	Fish and wildlife set regs for hunting/fishing nongame and T&E as well as land purchase and budget and long range plans
Connecticut	Conservation Advisory Council	fishing, hunting, and natural resources
Connecticut	Marine Advisory Council	Marine Fisheries Issues
Connecticut	Fisheries Advisory Council	FW and Marine Fisheries Issues
Connecticut	Forest Practice Advisory Board	Natural Resources/ CT forest practices act
Delaware	Advisory Council on Shellfisheries	advisory capacity only
Delaware	Advisory Council on Wildlife and Freshwater Fish	Wildlife and Freshwater Fish
Florida	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	All wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life
Georgia	Board of Natural Resources	Natural Resources, Environmental Protection
Idaho	Idaho Fish and Game Commission	Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife
Illinois	Endangered Species Protection Board	Endangered Species
Illinois	Natural Resources Advisory Board	Outdoor Recreation
Indiana	Natural Resources Commission	natural resources
Iowa	State Preserves Advisory Board	preservation of natural lands and waters, and historic sites
Iowa	Environmental Protection Commission	Business & Industry Environmental Regulation
Iowa	Natural Resource Commission	Natural resources related to the Conservation and Recreation Division
Kansas	Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission	all natural resources (fish, wildlife and parks related)
Kentucky	Kentucky Department Of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission	Fish and Wildlife Resources in Kentucky
Louisiana	Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission	Wildlife including wild game and non-game quadrupeds or animals, game, oysters, fish and other aquatic life.
Maine	Commissioner's Advisory Council	Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Maryland	Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission	statewide sport fishing (freshwater, estuarine and marine)
Maryland	Wildlife SPP Advisory Commission	Wildlife (inc. RTE spp)
Massachusetts	Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission	Proper management and development of marine fisheries in Massachusetts
Massachusetts	Public Access Board	Designate locations of public access to waters of the Commonwealth, trails and paths for recreation
Michigan	Natural Resources Commission	Wildlife Regulations as well as some jurisdiction on specific Fisheries Regulations

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

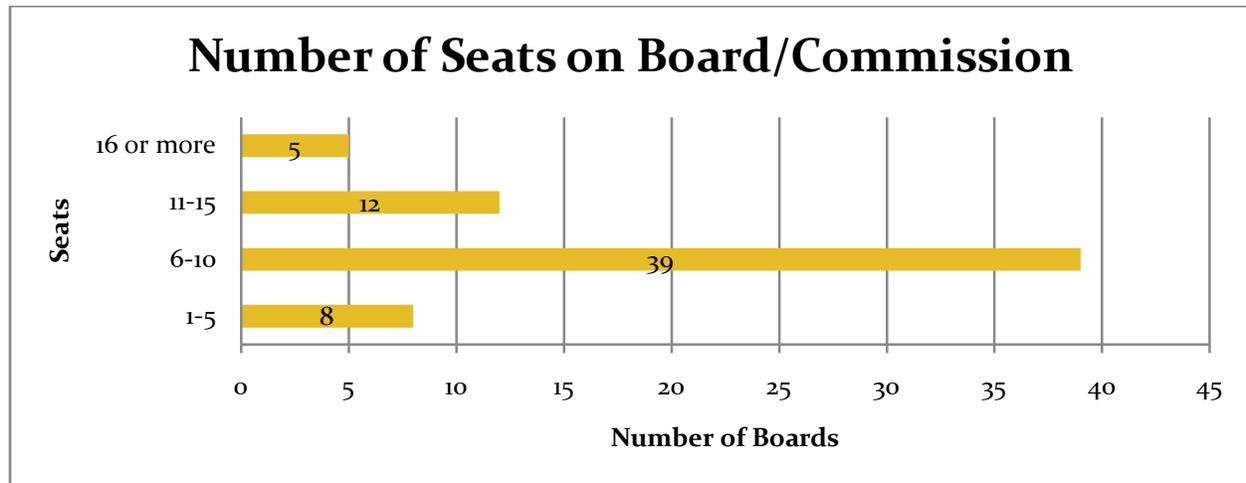
State Agency Serves	Name of the Board/Commission	Please indicate the area of authority of the board/commission. (i.e. Freshwater Fish, Natural Resources, etc)
Michigan	Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board of Trustees	Land acquisition and development for public outdoor recreation
Minnesota	Game and Fish Fund Budget Oversight Committee	game and fish funding and expenditures
Mississippi	Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks	All wildlife and freshwater fish; state parks
Missouri	Conservation Commission	Fish, Forests, and Wildlife. The control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and all wildlife resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes and the acquisition and establishment thereof, and the administration of all laws pertaining thereto.
Montana	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission	Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Nebraska	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	Fish, Wildlife, Parks, Boating
Nevada	Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners	Wildlife and its habitat
New Hampshire	Fish and Game Commission	Fish and Game Department
New Jersey	Endangered and nongame Spp advisory committee	Endangered Species and Nongame
New Jersey	Marine Fisheries Council	Marine Fisheries
New Jersey	Fish and Game Council	Manner and means of take for fish and game
New Mexico	State Game Commission	Protected species of fish and wildlife
New York	Regional (7) and Statewide (1) Fish and Wildlife Management Board	fish and wildlife management and access
New York	Conservation Fund Advisory Board	License revenues and expenditures for fish and wildlife program
North Carolina	NC Wildlife Resources Commission	wildlife, inland fishes, gamelands, hunting, trapping, boating, no wake zones and navigation aids, boating access
North Dakota	North Dakota Game and Fish Department Advisory Board	Wildlife and fisheries
Ohio	Ohio Wildlife Council	Fish and Wildlife
Oklahoma		All Areas of the Agency
Oregon	Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission	See 13 below.
Pennsylvania	Board of Commissioners	Fishing and Boating
Pennsylvania	Boating Advisory Board	Boating
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners	Setting Policy for Wildlife Issues and Seasons and Bag Limits
South Carolina	SC Department of Natural Resources Board	Agency wide
South Dakota	Game, Fish, and Parks Commission	Parks, Fish, and Wildlife
Tennessee	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission	Wildlife and Boating

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

State Agency Serves	Name of the Board/Commission	Please indicate the area of authority of the board/commission. (i.e. Freshwater Fish, Natural Resources, etc)
Texas	Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission	fish (freshwater and saltwater), wildlife, some natural resources
Utah		Wildlife Resources
Vermont	A) Endangered Species Advisory Committee, B) Fish and Wildlife Board, C) Waterfowl Advisory Board	A) advisory on endangered and threatened species, B) regulatory on fish and wildlife harvest, health and populations, C) advise on expenditures from Waterfowl Fund
Virginia	Board of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	Wildlife and Freshwater Fish and Boating
Washington	Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission	Saltwater and freshwater fish and shellfish, game management, habitat protection, supervision of the Director, fiscal management, acquiring property, classifying species as game animals, fish or birds, protection (listing) of endangered species
West Virginia	DNR Commission	DNR Commission
Wisconsin	Natural Resources Board	NR Board sets policy for the Department of Natural Resources and exercises authority and responsibility in accordance with governing statutory provisions
Wyoming	Wyoming Game and Fish Commission	Control, propagation, management, protection and regulation of all Wyoming wildlife. Management of fish and wildlife species in the state

Variation of Responses to Question 5

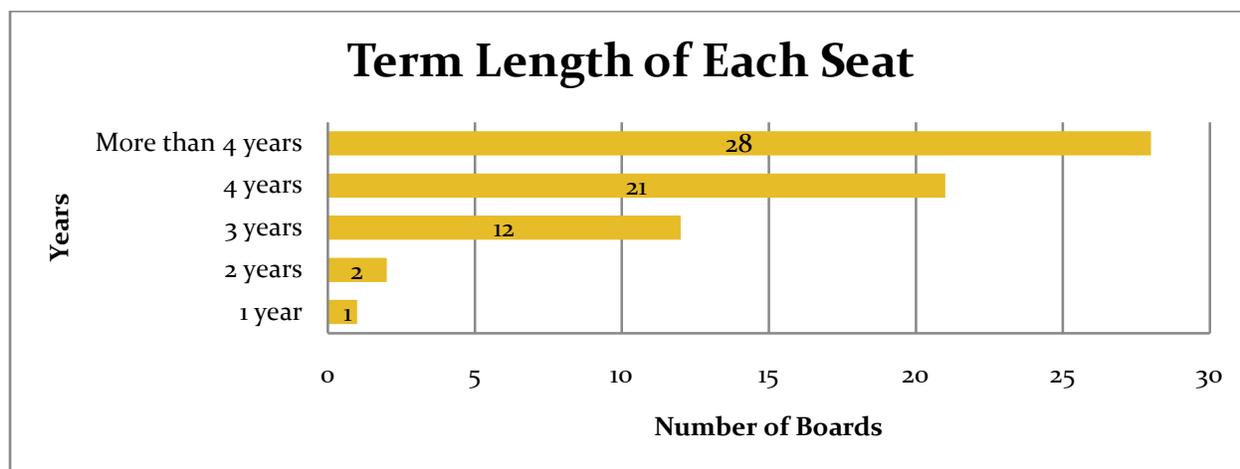
Table 5: Variation of Responses to Question 5



Q5		
How many seats are on the board/commission?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
1-5	8	12.5%
6-10	39	60.9%
11-15	12	18.8%
16 or more	5	7.8%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 6

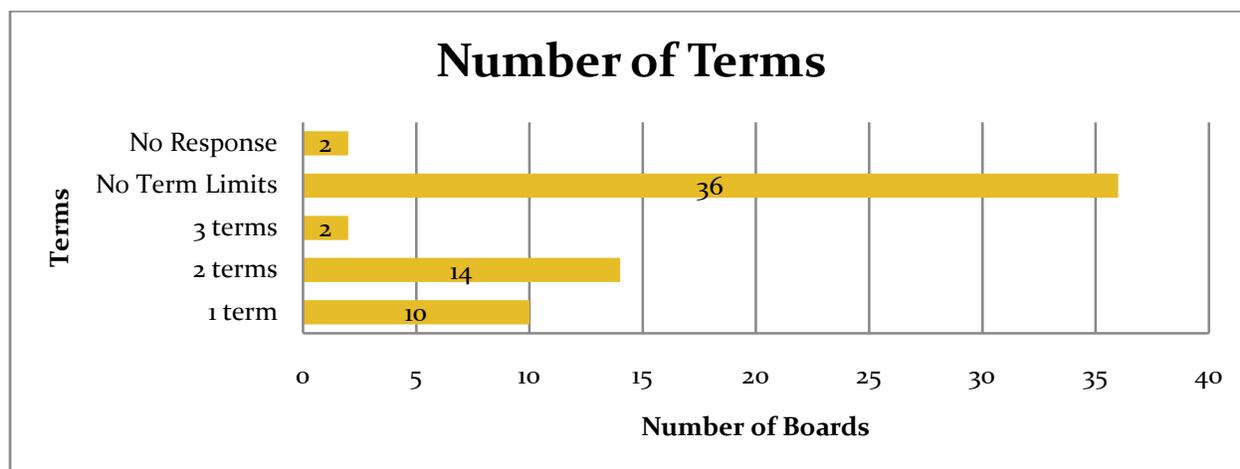
Table 6: Variation of Responses to Question 6



Q6			
What is the term length for each seat?		Number of Boards	% of Boards
	1 year	1	1.6%
	2 years	2	3.1%
	3 years	12	18.8%
	4 years	21	32.8%
	More than 4 years	28	43.8%
	N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 7

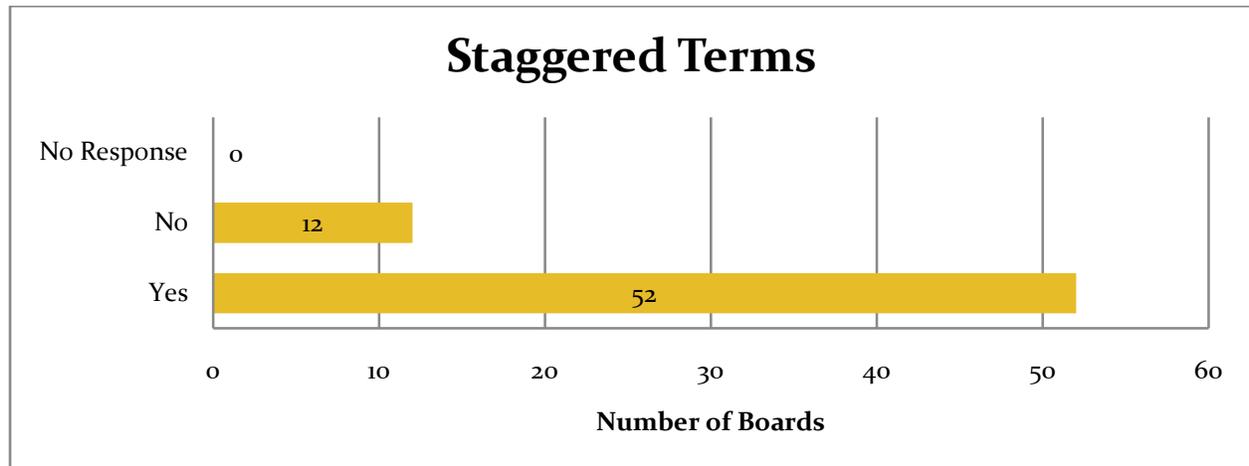
Table 7: Variation of Responses to Question 7



Q7		
What is the number of terms?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
1 term	10	15.6%
2 terms	14	21.9%
3 terms	2	3.1%
No Term Limits	36	56.3%
No Response	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 8

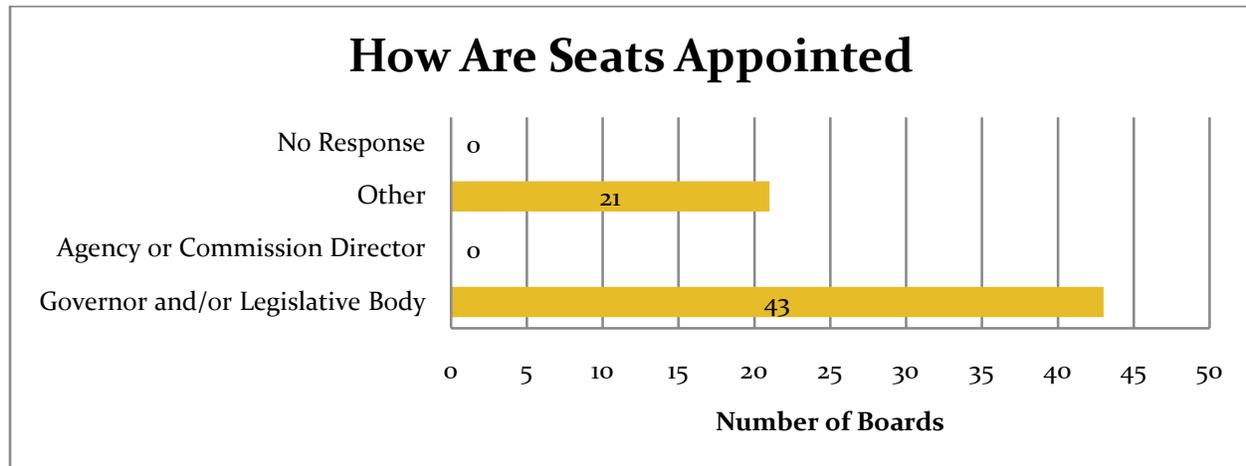
Table 8: Variation of Responses to Question 8



Q8		
Are the terms staggered?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	52	81.3%
No	12	18.8%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 9

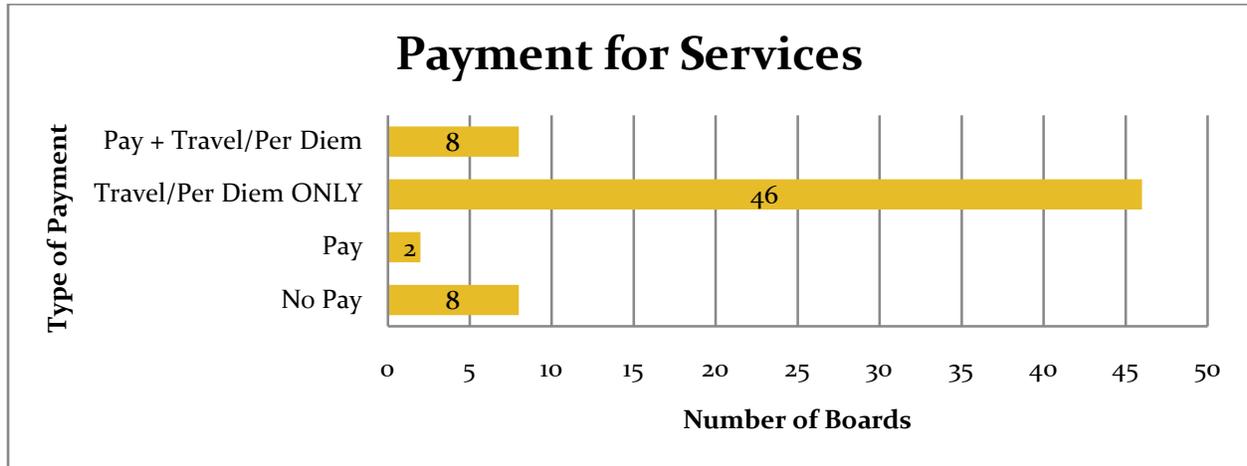
Table 9: Variation of Responses to Question 9



Q9		
How are the seats appointed? Governor? Elected?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Governor and/or Legislative Body	43	67.2%
Agency or Commission Director	0	0.0%
Other	21	32.8%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 10

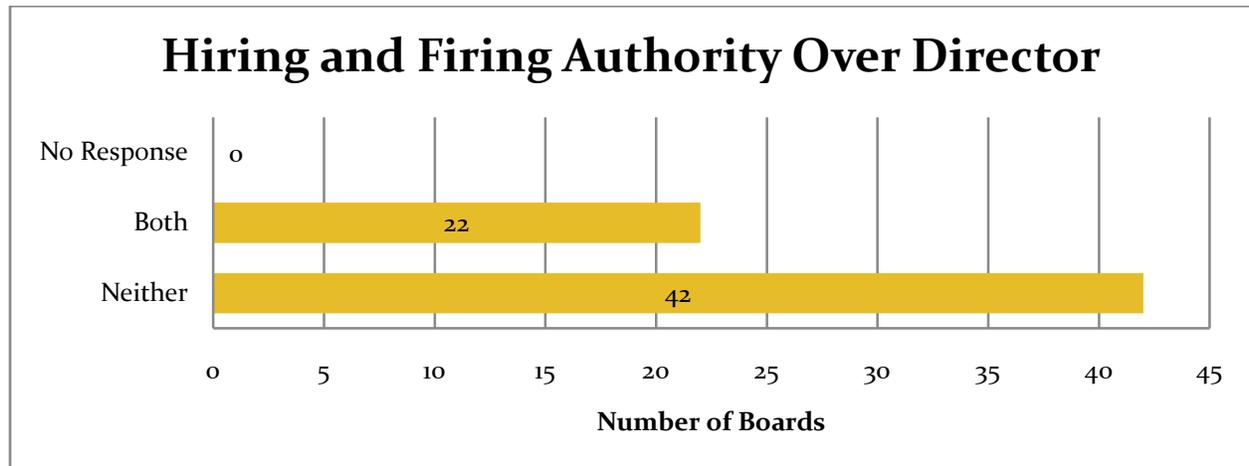
Table 10: Variation of Responses to Question 10



Q10		
Do members receive payment for their services?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
No Pay	8	12.5%
Pay	2	3.1%
Travel/Per Diem ONLY	46	71.9%
Pay + Travel/Per Diem	8	12.5%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 11

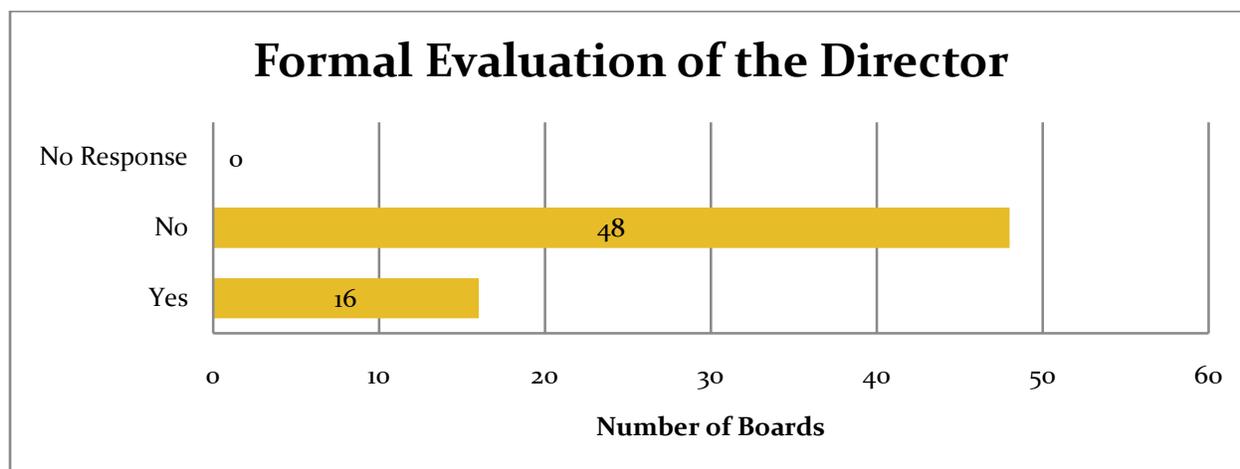
Table 11: Variation of Responses to Question 11



Q11		
Does the board/commission have hiring/firing authority over the Director?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Neither	42	65.6%
Both	22	34.4%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 12

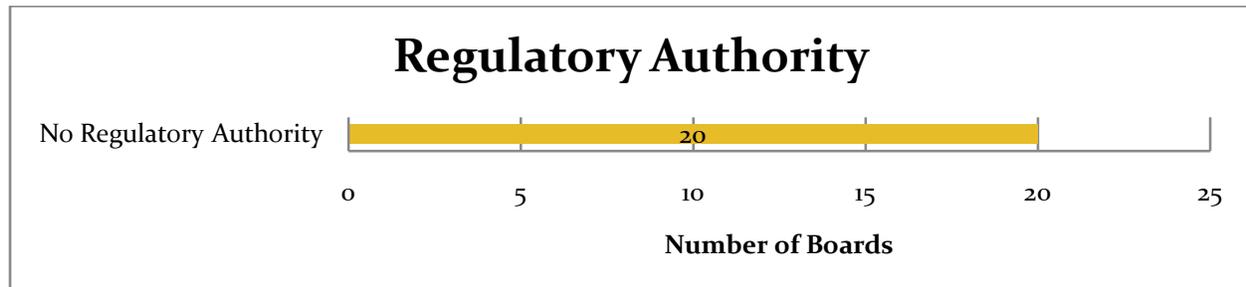
Table 12: Variation of Responses to Question 12



Q12		
Does the board/commission conduct a formal evaluation of the Director?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	16	25.0%
No	48	75.0%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 13

Table 13: Variation of Responses to Question 13



Q13		
What statewide regulatory authority does the board/commission have?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
No Regulatory Authority	20	31.3%
Regulatory Authority	Varies Widely*	
N=	64	

*see Raw Data for qualitative responses.

Qualitative Responses to Question 14

Table 14: Qualitative Responses to Question 14

Question 14 Responses: Statewide Advisory Authority		
State Agency Serves	Name of the Board/Commission	What statewide advisory authority does the board/commission have?
Alabama	1 Commissioner and 1 advisory board	Advisory board of ten has advisory capabilities to the commissioner for rules and regs related to F&W
Alaska	Alaska Board of Fisheries	The board only has regulatory authority.
Alaska	Alaska Board of Game	
Arizona	Arizona Game and Fish Commission	None formally, though the Commission frequently takes positions on State and Federal bills, proposed land use plans, etc. related to wildlife impacts.
Arkansas	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	Constitutional, as described above.
California	California Fish and Game Commission	To formulate and establish policies for conduct and guidance of the Department of Fish and Game, and to review the Department's budget.
Colorado	Colorado Wildlife Commission	none
Connecticut	Conservation Advisory Council	broad natural resource management and associated recreation
Connecticut	Marine Advisory Council	general advisory authority on marine fisheries issues
Connecticut	Fisheries Advisory Council	general advisory authority on fisheries issues
Connecticut	Forest Practice Advisory Board	general advisory authority over forest practices act
Delaware	Advisory Council on Shellfisheries	Advisory capacity relative shellfish harvest
Delaware	Advisory Council on Wildlife and Freshwater Fish	Advises the Division on the management of Wildlife and Freshwater Fish.
Florida	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	In addition to it's constitutional authority, the Commission also exercises Legislatively granted authority. (e.g. authority over various public access activates on lands managed by the FWC, hunter safety requirements, administrative requirements associated with licensing, certain marine life management and protection requirements (e.g. manatee), and boating safety).
Georgia	Board of Natural Resources	
Idaho	Idaho Fish and Game Commission	Title 36 Rule making and season setting
Illinois	Endangered Species Protection Board	None - Advisory There is created the Endangered Species Protection Board whose duties include listing, delisting, or change of listing status of species for the Illinois List, in consultation with and written approval by the Department, in accordance with the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, on rules for listing species of animals or plants as endangered or threatened and delisting species of animals or plants as endangered or threatened, or changing their status. The Board shall also advise the Department on methods of assistance, protection, conservation and management of endangered and threatened species and their habitats, and on related matters

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

Illinois	Natural Resources Advisory Board	The Natural Resources Advisory Board is statutorily created to advise the agency on long range policies to assist in guiding the protection and conservation of renewable resources of the state and recommend changes in hunting and trapping seasons and bag or possession limits. They also recommend to the Director which projects receive funding in bike, boat, and OSLAD grant programs. Members serve six year terms and are appointed by the Governor.
Indiana	Natural Resources Commission	see above
Iowa	State Preserves Advisory Board	<p>The board shall have the following powers and duties:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve an area as a preserve. 2. To make and publish all rules necessary to carrying out the purposes of this chapter. 3. To recommend dedication as preserves, of areas owned by the state under the jurisdiction of the department. 4. To recommend acquisition of areas for dedication as preserves subject to approval by the natural resource commission. 5. To recommend dedication as preserves, areas owned by other public agencies, private groups, and individuals. 6. To make surveys and maintain registries and records of preserves and other areas of educational or scientific value and of habitats for rare and endangered species of plants and animals in the state. 7. To promote research and investigations, carry on interpretive programs and publish and disseminate information pertaining to preserves and related areas of educational or scientific value. 8. To promote the establishment and protection of, and advise in the management of, wild parks and other areas of educational or scientific value and otherwise foster and aid in the preservation of natural conditions elsewhere than in preserves. 9. To authorize payment of travel and other necessary expenses of the members of the board and advisors to the board, and salaries, wages, compensations, travel, supplies, and equipment necessary to carry out the duties of the board, and to authorize any other expenditures as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this chapter. 10. To design and control the use of official state preserve signs and recommend to the state department of transportation locations for state preserve signs. 11. To submit to the governor and the legislature a report before January 15, 1967, and every two years thereafter which shall account for each preserve in the system and make such other reports and recommendations as it may deem necessary. 12. To prepare and recommend a budget, for inclusion as a line item money request in the departmental budget, for appropriation from the state general fund.
Iowa	Environmental Protection Commission	
Iowa	Natural Resource Commission	They can provide advice on any issue.
Kansas	Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission	Serves as advisory capacity to the Governor and the Secretary in the formulation of policies and plans relating to the Department.
Kentucky	Kentucky Department Of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission	The Commission Shall at all times keep a watchful eye upon the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and advise the Commissioner to take such actions as may be beneficial to the Department and in the interest of wildlife and conservation of natural resources.

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

Louisiana	Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission	The Commission's role is policy making and rule making/regulatory, rather than advisory. However, the Commission does on occasion express its opinion on legislation to the state legislature and to Congress. It also expresses its preferences regarding policy to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, which is a separate agency - cabinet level and the enforcement and administrative arm of the Commission.
Maine	Commissioner's Advisory Council	Advise the Commissioner on the administration of the Department.
Maryland	Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission	Provide advice to MD DNR on sport fishing related matters
Maryland	Wildlife Advisory Commission	Advise Sec and Director on policy and regulatory issues re: wildlife species.
Massachusetts	Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission	Make recommendations to the Director for management of marine fisheries.
Massachusetts	Public Access Board	Advise the Department of Fish and Game regarding public access
Michigan	Natural Resources Commission	Fisheries Regulations: Review and Advise authority only-DNRE Director has approval authority. Parks and Recreation: Advise on matters related to State Parks, Recreation Areas, Forest Campgrounds and Trails Marketing and Education: Advise Financials: Review and Advise on DNRE Financial Management
Michigan	Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board of Trustees	The Board of Trustees annually prepares a ranked list of projects to receive assistance from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.
Minnesota	Game and Fish Fund Budget Oversight Committee	Review and make recommendations to the DNR and legislature related to the DNR's use of dedicated Game and Fish Funds.
Mississippi	Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks	informal advisory authority to the state Legislature
Missouri	Conservation Commission	<p>The commission shall appoint a director of conservation who, with its approval, shall appoint the assistants and other employees deemed necessary by the commission. The commission shall fix the qualifications and salaries of the director and all appointees and employees, and none of its members shall be an appointee or employee.</p> <p>For the purpose of providing additional moneys to be expended and used by the conservation commission, department of conservation, for the control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and wildlife resources of the state, including the purchase or other acquisition of property for said purposes, and for the administration of the laws pertaining thereto, an additional sales tax of one-eighth of one percent is hereby levied and imposed upon all sellers for the privilege of selling tangible personal property or rendering taxable services at retail in this state upon the sales and services which now are or hereafter are listed and set forth in, and, except as to the amount of tax, subject to the provisions of and to be collected as provided in the "Sales Tax Law" and subject to the rules and regulations promulgated in connection therewith...</p> <p>The moneys arising from the additional sales and use taxes provided for in section 43(a) hereof and all fees, moneys or funds arising from the operation and transactions of the conservation commission, department of conservation, and from the application and the administration of the laws and regulations pertaining to the bird, fish, game, forestry and wildlife resources of the state and from the sale of property used for said purposes, shall be</p>

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

		expended and used by the conservation commission, department of conservation, for the control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and wildlife resources of the state, including the purchase or other acquisition of property for said purposes, and for the administration of the laws pertaining thereto, and for no other purpose. The moneys and funds of the conservation commission arising from the additional sales and use taxes provided for in 43(a) hereof shall also be used by the conservation commission, department of conservation, to make payments to counties for the unimproved value of land for distribution to the appropriate political subdivisions as payment in lieu of real property taxes for privately owned land acquired by the commission after July 1, 1977 and for land classified as forest cropland in the forest cropland program administered by the department of conservation in such amounts as may be determined by the conservation commission, but in no event shall the amount determined be less than the property tax being paid at the time of purchase of acquired lands.
Montana	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission	None
Nebraska	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	None
Nevada	Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners	The Commission establishes policies necessary for the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat.
New Hampshire	Fish and Game Commission	We can send you the detailed listing if it is helpful. It is not easily summarized in to this space. In general if the rulemaking authority belongs to the executive director, then they give their consent (which is different from approval) and/or are consulted before the rule becomes final.
New Jersey	Endangered and nongame Spp advisory committee	Endangered spp. and nongame
New Jersey	Marine Fisheries Council	Advisory body to Dept. Env. Protection Commissioner in state but has veto power over Commissioner in Marine Fish issues.
New Jersey	Fish and Game Council	No legal advisory authority
New Mexico	State Game Commission	N/A
New York	Regional (7) and Statewide (1) Fish and Wildlife Management Board	Advises the Department on issues related to fish and wildlife management and access, recommend fish and wildlife management "practices" that can be implemented at the local level.

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

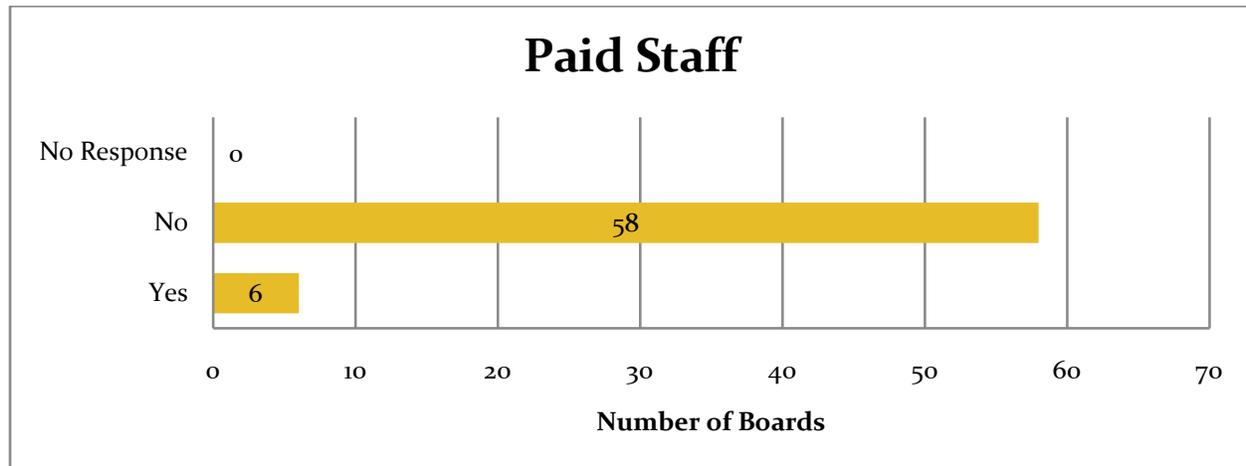
New York	Conservation Fund Advisory Board	<p>3. Duties of the advisory board. The advisory board shall have the following powers and duties:</p> <p>(a) To review the allocations and expenditures of the department for fish and wildlife purposes as provided in section 11-0303 of this title and report to the commissioner by November fifteenth of each year. Such report shall include the findings of the advisory board regarding such allocations and expenditures, including expenditures and appropriations from the conservation fund and the extent to which such expenditures and appropriations are consistent with the requirements of state law. The report shall also include recommended maximum annual fees for the licenses and stamps identified in subdivision 3 of section 11-0715 of this article. In recommending such fees the board shall consider economic indicators, the status of the conservation fund, and such program indicators as it may deem appropriate. The commissioner shall submit such report, in its entirety, to the governor and the legislature.</p> <p>(b) To make reports and release information from time to time, as it deems necessary, to sportsmen and the general public regarding the conservation fund and the fish and wildlife program.</p> <p>(c) To consult with fish and wildlife interests and render annual reports to the commissioner on fiscal needs and make recommendations on how such needs shall be met.</p> <p>(d) To assist the department's efforts to expand the available sources of income for the conservation fund and advise the department with respect to the needs of various fish and wildlife programs.</p> <p>(e) To adopt, promulgate, amend or rescind suitable procedural rules with respect to the composition, internal organization and functioning of the board; and such other rules, regulations and procedures as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate the purposes of this section.</p> <p>(f) To work to encourage both residents and non-residents to hunt, fish and trap in New York, and to promote conservation and management of New York's natural resources.</p>
North Carolina	NC Wildlife Resources Commission	It is an executive branch Commission and advises the Governor as well as the General Assembly
North Dakota	North Dakota Game and Fish Department Advisory Board	Act as advisory liaisons between constituents and agency.
Ohio	Ohio Wildlife Council	Approve hunting, fishing, trapping seasons and limits
Oklahoma		Hunting and fishing regulations and laws and administration of the agency
Oregon	Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission	Biennial report to Governor and Legislative Assembly (ORS 496.128); Submit budget requests to Governor (ORS496.138(4)); Fish Screening program report (ORS
Pennsylvania	Board of Commissioners	n/a
Pennsylvania	Boating Advisory Board	The Board shall advise the Commission on all matters relating to boating and make recommendations to the Commission with regard to any proposed rules or regulation
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners	
South Carolina	SC Department of Natural Resources Board	
South Dakota	Game, Fish, and Parks Commission	see # 13

A Comparison of the Organizational Structure of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Commissions and Boards

Tennessee	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission	None
Texas	Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission	The agency has advisory authority (e.g., impacts of governmental actions on natural resources). However, such comments are handled at the staff level, not the commission level. The Commission Chairman may also appoint advisory committees to advise the Commission.
Utah		none
Vermont	A) Endangered Species Advisory Committee, B) Fish and Wildlife Board, C) Waterfowl Advisory Board	A and C very narrow
Virginia	BOARD OF VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES	OUR BOARD DOES NOT HAVE AN ADVISORY AUTHORITY EXCEPT THROUGH DEPARTMENT STAFF WHICH PROVIDES COMMENTS TO OTHER AGENCIES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY.
Washington	Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission	Commission meets with the Governor every year to advise on issues under Commission's authority. RCW 77.04.055 Commission — Duties. (1) In establishing policies to preserve, protect, and perpetuate wildlife, fish, and wildlife and fish habitat, the commission shall meet annually with the governor to: (a) Review and prescribe basic goals and objectives related to those policies; and (b) Review the performance of the department in implementing fish and wildlife policies.
West Virginia	DNR Commission	
Wisconsin	Natural Resources Board	See #13. Board also has advisory authority.
Wyoming	Wyoming Game and Fish Commission	Advisory authority (regulatory/statutory) is limited. Regulatory role on the Industrial Siting Council. Advisory role on the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board. 'Advisory role' in terms of land management implications to fish and wildlife populations (e.g., management of federal public lands).

Variation of Responses to Question 15

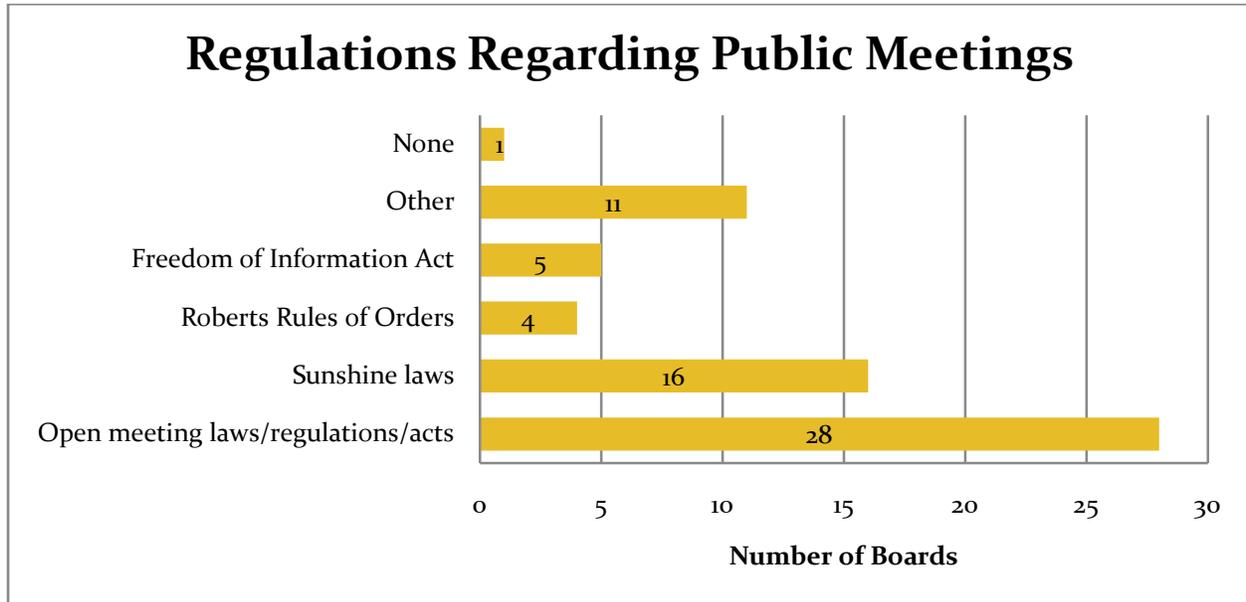
Table 15: Variation of Responses to Question 15



Q15		
Are there paid staff that work only for the board/commission?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	6	9.4%
No	58	90.6%
No Response	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 16

Table 16: Variation of Responses to Question 16

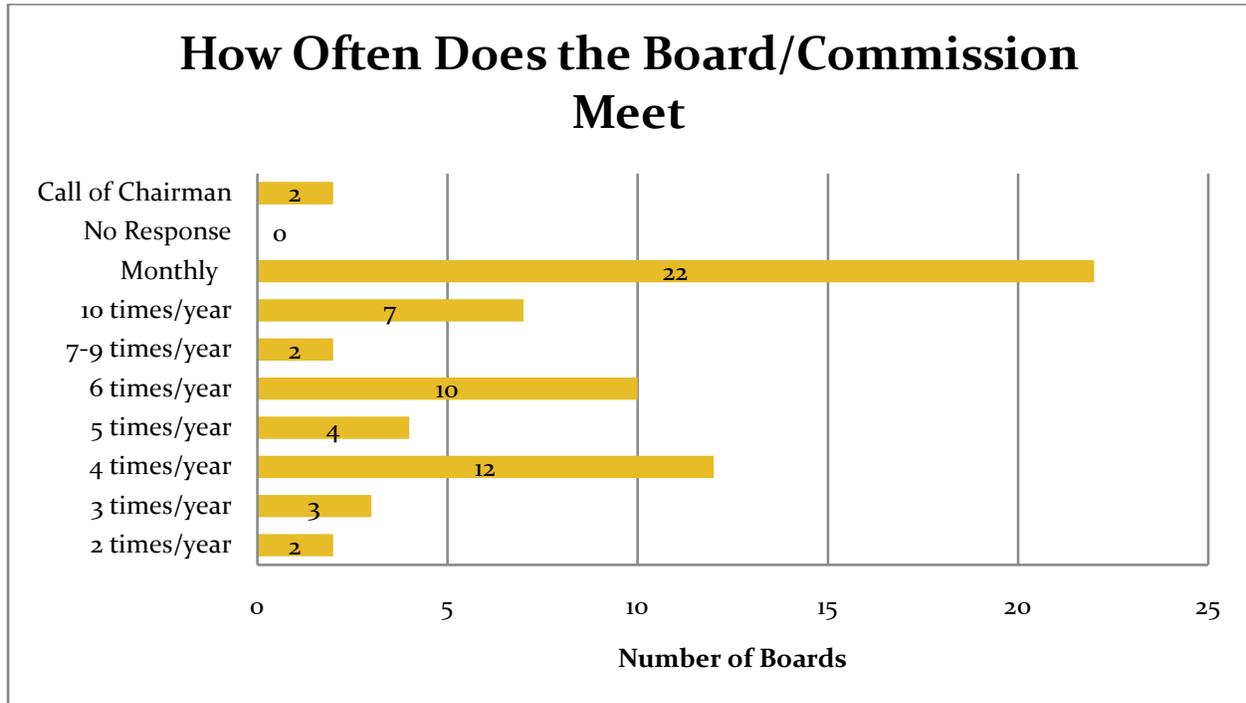


Q16		
Please describe briefly any regulations regarding public meetings (i.e. Sunshine law, etc.)	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Open meeting laws/regulations/acts	28	43.8%
Sunshine laws	16	25.0%
Roberts Rules of Orders	4	6.3%
Freedom of Information Act	5	7.8%
Other	11	17.2%
None	1	1.6%
No Response	8	12.5%

Percentages equal greater than 100% due to many boards having more than one set of regulations

Variation of Responses to Question 17

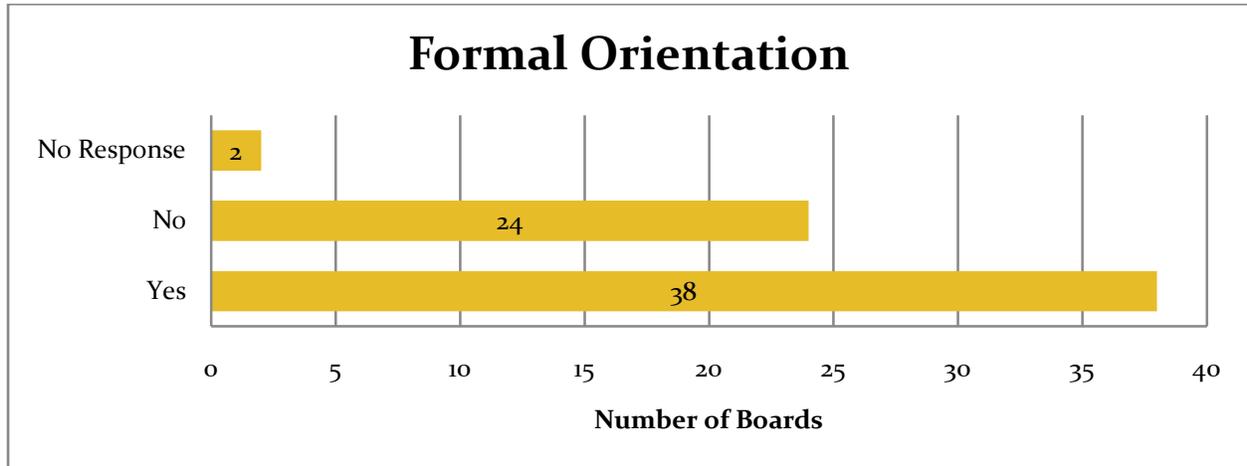
Table 17: Variation of Responses to Question 17



Q17		
How often does the board/commission meet?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
2 times/year	2	3.1%
3 times/year	3	4.7%
4 times/year	12	18.8%
5 times/year	4	6.3%
6 times/year	10	15.6%
7-9 times/year	2	3.1%
10 times/year	7	10.9%
Monthly	22	34.4%
No Response	0	0%
Call of Chairman	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 18

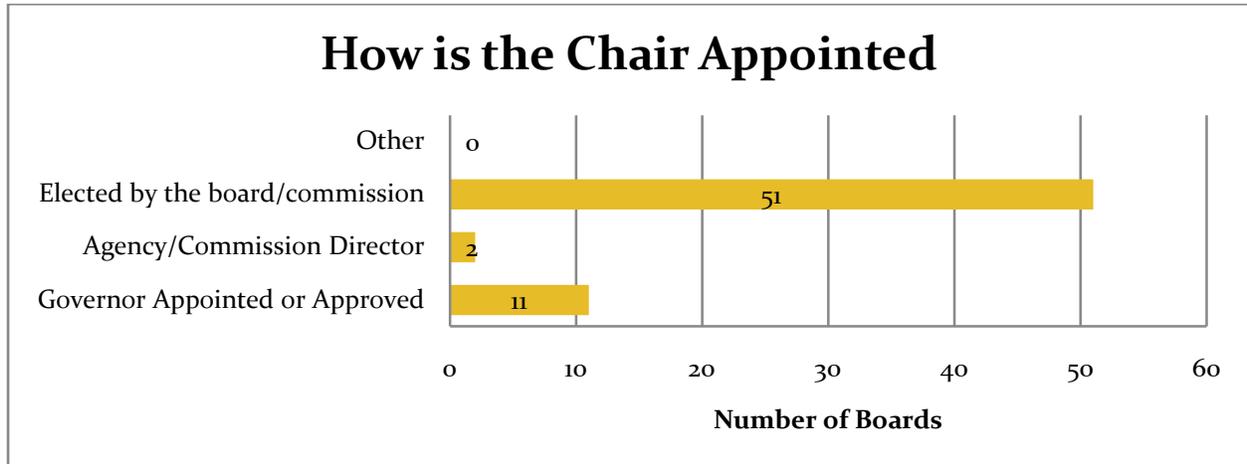
Table 18: Variation of Responses to Question 18



Q18		
Are new members provided with a formal orientation?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Yes	38	59.4%
No	24	37.5%
No Response	2	3.1%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 19

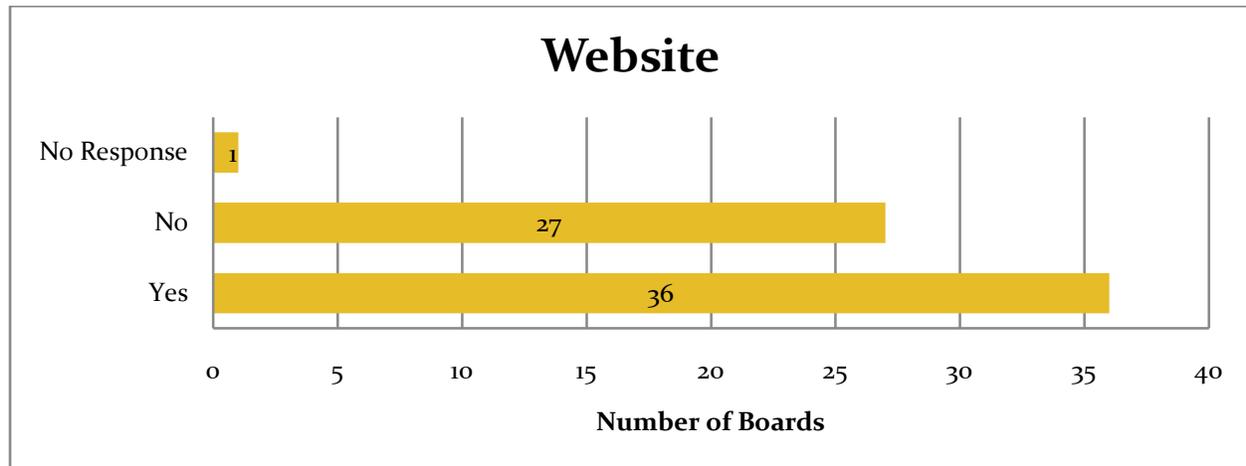
Table 19: Variation of Responses to Question 19



Q19		
How is the chair appointed/elected?	Number of Boards	% of Boards
Governor Appointed or Approved	11	17.2%
Agency/Commission Director	2	3.1%
Elected by the board/commission	51	79.7%
Other	0	0%
N=	64	

Variation of Responses to Question 20

Table 20: Variation of Responses to Question 20



Q20		
Does the board/commission have a website?	Number of States	% of States
Yes	36	56.3%
No	27	42.2%
No Response	1	1.6%
N=	64	