

9-16-1996

Resolution 1996-04-06 Opposition to Legislatively Mandated Extended Navigation on the Lower Missouri River

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa_reso



Part of the [Environmental Law Commons](#), and the [Natural Resources Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, *Resolution 1996-04-06 Opposition to Legislatively Mandated Extended Navigation on the Lower Missouri River* (1996),

Available at: http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa_reso/83

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the The (International) Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Conservation Collection at Digital Commons at Michigan State University College of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Resolutions by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Michigan State University College of Law. For more information, please contact domannbr@law.msu.edu.



Resolution 1996-04-06

**OPPOSITION TO LEGISLATIVELY MANDATED EXTENDED NAVIGATION
ON THE LOWER MISSOURI RIVER**

WHEREAS, the uses of Missouri River water for fish, wildlife, recreation, and other related beneficial purposes have been well documented; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of these fish, wildlife, and water-based activities have been shown to generate millions of dollars to the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers is nearing completion of a long-term, \$20+ million review of its operating criteria and procedures (Master Manual review process) of six Missouri River impoundments; and

WHEREAS, all eight Missouri River basin states and all basin tribes have supported the Corps Master Manual review process; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress is poised to legislatively require a one-month extension of navigation flow which will lower water levels in Missouri River mainstream reservoirs and severely limit the Corps operational flexibility, and this would be in contradiction to the Corps Master Manual review; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of lowering the water level in these reservoirs have been shown to be detrimental to fish species including native and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of retaining water in mainstream reservoirs have been shown to far exceed the benefits of moving water downstream for navigation purposes on the lower Missouri;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies supports deletion of Section 541 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (H.R. 3592) or similar legislative proposals which would require a one-month extension of the navigation season on the lower Missouri River thereby circumventing the Corps' own review of its operating procedures and accelerating the dewatering of the reservoirs which would be detrimental to fish and wildlife resources.