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Resolution 1997-04-08 National Program for Reciprocal License Suspension for Serious Fish and Wildlife Law Convictions

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 1997-04-08

**NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR
RECIPROCAL LICENSE SUSPENSION FOR SERIOUS
FISH AND WILDLIFE LAW CONVICTIONS**

WHEREAS, there is an increasing threat to our fish and wildlife resources by individuals who violate state, federal and international fish and wildlife laws; and

WHEREAS, the lucrative trade in illegal wildlife has continued to increase; and

WHEREAS, there are limited numbers of wildlife officers to address the increasing public demand for protection of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, when violators are convicted in one state and lose their license privileges, they frequently travel to other states to continue taking wildlife; and

WHEREAS, in the United States an individual can have license privileges suspended by the various states for convictions of fish and wildlife law violations; and

WHEREAS, such suspensions have been upheld by the courts; and

WHEREAS, ten western states have in place a fish and wildlife violator compact that has facilitated the reciprocal suspension of license privileges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges its members to pursue state legislation allowing the reciprocal suspension or revocation of fish and wildlife licenses and privileges upon conviction for major fish and wildlife law violations such as habitual violators, commercial use of fish and wildlife, or taking of endangered species.