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## Resolution 1998-03-09 Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Hunter Education

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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**Resolution 1998-03-09**

**RECOGNIZING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HUNTER EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Americans have been blessed with magnificent natural resources supporting abundant wildlife populations; and

**WHEREAS**, those natural resources and the freedom to experience and enjoy them are important parts of our existence which should be nurtured and preserved; and

**WHEREAS**, passing the knowledge, skills, lore, and appreciation of wildlife and hunting from generation to generation has fostered stewardship and conservation of natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, during the 1940s state fish and wildlife agencies began conducting courses to pass on the heritage of hunting and the appreciation and conservation of wildlife to future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York in 1949 instituted North Americas first requirement for new hunters to complete a course in safety, responsibility and conservation before being licensed to hunt; and

**WHEREAS**, those courses generated a partnership between New York State Government and citizens who volunteered to teach hunter education in their communities, and

**WHEREAS**, that partnership between government and volunteers became a model for hunter education programs throughout Canada, Mexico and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of students have successfully completed courses which have increased the values of safety, responsibility and conservation, and enhanced appreciation for and stewardship of North Americas great natural heritage,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies commends and recognizes the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of the hunter education community and congratulates all those involved in hunter education on the fiftieth Anniversary for instilling in hunters the principles of responsibility, safety and conservation, thus playing a vital role in the continuation of North Americas traditions of hunting and stewardship of our great natural resources.