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Resolution 2004-04-06 Supporting Development of a Multi-National Screening Process for Invasive Species Introductions Into North America

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 2004-04-06

**SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-NATIONAL SCREENING PROCESS
FOR INVASIVE SPECIES INTRODUCTIONS INTO NORTH AMERICA**

WHEREAS, introduction, both intentional and unintentional, of invasive aquatic species threatens the diversity and abundance of fisheries resources of North America; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has identified invasive species as a priority resource conservation issue in its current five-year strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, prevention of the introduction of invasive species is the best action to avoid the enormous risk to fisheries resources posed by additional invasive species; and

WHEREAS, existing U.S. and Canadian federal importation laws and procedures do not allow for adequate identification of, and prevention of introduction of, new invasive species;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges the federal governments of the United States and Canada to develop and implement a multi-national exotic species screening process that will both identify potential invasive species that are a threat to North American fisheries resources and identify exotic species that pose no threat to North American fisheries resources.