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Resolution 2005-01-08 Promoting a National Initiative for Fish and Wildlife Health

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 2005-01-08

PROMOTING A NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE HEALTH

WHEREAS, the Vision of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is: Healthy fish and wildlife resources throughout North America managed by effective, well-funded fish and wildlife agencies supported by informed and involved citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Association is to: Protect state authority and support provincial and territorial authority for wildlife conservation; promote sound resource management; and strengthen federal, state, provincial, territorial and private cooperation in conserving fish and wildlife and their habitats in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Association formally endorsed the North American Model at its 100-year anniversary meeting September 2002 in Big Sky, Montana, and adopted recommendations endorsing the North American Model; and

WHEREAS, several significant diseases, such as bovine tuberculosis, bovine brucellosis, chronic wasting disease, West Nile virus, whirling disease, and others have been known to infect both wild and farmed fish and wildlife populations and occur throughout North America; and

WHEREAS, disease issues continue to gain increasing importance and attention from fish and wildlife management agencies; and

WHEREAS, successfully addressing disease issues requires collaboration among fish and wildlife management jurisdictions;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a state/federal task force group be formed under the leadership of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to develop a national fish and wildlife health initiative;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the task force interact with fish and wildlife agencies of Canada and Mexico to develop a North American Initiative for fish and wildlife health.