

9-13-1968

Resolution 1968-09-23 Motor Vehicles on Public Lands

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, *Resolution 1968-09-23 Motor Vehicles on Public Lands* (1968),
Available at: http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa_reso/485

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RESOLUTION NO. 9

MOTOR VEHICLES ON PUBLIC LANDS

Whereas, public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service have become increasingly important hunting and fishing areas; and

Whereas, the Bureau of Land Management and U. S. Forest Service have made noteworthy strides in recent years to preserve, develop, and manage fish and wildlife habitat and maintain access to these lands; and

Whereas, with the greater demand by all recreationists to use these lands, the great increase in four-wheel drive and other rough terrain vehicles, including snowmobiles, is beginning to result in excessive motor vehicle travel throughout valuable wildlife range, causing excessive harassment of wildlife species, habitat damage, and increased fire danger; and

Whereas, it is in the wildlife interest to maintain important habitat areas free of motorized travel:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the U. S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to control motor vehicle use on all lands under their administration; and

Be it further resolved, that these federal agencies be encouraged to work closely with the state wildlife agencies in planning and construction of all road building programs which may affect fish and wildlife resources.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

FEDERAL AID - ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Whereas, the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife revised the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Manual in 1967 with the intention of relieving the states of time consuming administrative procedures; and

Whereas, the newly issued manual does not simplify such procedures and is causing extra effort and administrative time; and

Whereas, the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is demanding detailed program budgets from the states in addition to other procedural requirements; and

Whereas, the additional manpower and time involved in the preparation of required documents is causing states with limited manpower and budgets to forego other important programs:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to review and revise the present Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration administrative procedures in consultation with the various states so as to in fact simplify such procedures.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

PROTECTION OF BAYS, ESTUARIES AND TIDAL MARSH ZONES

Whereas, there is nationwide interest and concern about the rapid disappearance and pollution of the nation's bays, estuaries and tidal marshes; and

Whereas, this concern has been expressed by Congress in recent action on H.R. 25; and

Whereas, filling, dredging and pollution problems in the nation's remaining bays, estuaries and tidal marsh zones are increasing at an accelerated rate; and

Whereas, certain marine and wildlife resources are wholly dependent upon bays, estuaries and tidal marsh zones for their existence; and

Whereas, the Department of Defense has many installations that include important bays, estuaries and tidal marsh zones; and

Whereas, there are continuing requests to dredge, dump, fill and develop in these areas on military installations; and

Whereas, there is a need for each military installation to focus attention in protecting these remaining valuable resources:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests the Secretary of Defense to strengthen existing directives or provide new directives that would require each branch of the service with installations containing bays, estuaries, or tidal marsh zones to give the natural resource values of these areas special consideration before any action is taken to alter or use these areas; and

Be it further resolved, that the directives issued by the Secretary of Defense require that the installation commander consult with the state wildlife agency before any decision is reached in filling, dredging, or discharging wastes in bay, estuary, or tidal marsh zones.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

U.S.D.A. ADVISORY BOARD ON WILDLIFE

Whereas, the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-321) authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to appoint an Advisory Board on Wildlife to advise and consult with the USDA on matters relating to the Cropland Adjustment Program carried out under Title VI of the Act; and

Whereas, the present work of the Advisory Board has shown it to be useful in promoting wildlife values in the Cropland Program; and

Whereas, there are many other USDA programs which affect wildlife and which would be benefited by work of the Advisory Board, including such activities as the Feed Grain Program and the Small Watershed Program; and

Whereas, there is widespread opportunity for assistance in these programs through enlisting the resources and advice of various state and private agencies concerned with wildlife:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the Secretary of Agriculture to make the Advisory board on Wildlife a permanent Board with substantial representation from state wildlife agencies and expand its authority to include an advisory role to the Secretary on wildlife aspects of all his responsibilities in the field of natural resources.