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Resolution 1965-16-26 Preservation of Sagebrush Habitat

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 15

OPPOSING A NATIONAL FISHING LICENSE

Whereas, the management of fisheries is vested in the state governments, and
Whereas, the fisheries resource is best managed on a state basis because of widely varying habitats, species, and fishing opportunities, and
Whereas, license fees and season setting are an intricate part of proper resource management,
Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners opposes any move for a national fishing license.

RESOLUTION NO. 16

PRESERVATION OF SAGEBRUSH HABITAT

Whereas, approximately 60 million acres of sagebrush are found in the Western United States, and

Whereas, sagebrush is an essential habitat requirement for many wildlife species including big game birds, and

Whereas, land treatment and management practices of Federal land management agencies and private landowners have not always given adequate consideration to the retention of sufficient amounts of sagebrush to meet the habitat requirements of wildlife,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends the following general guidelines to Federal land managing agencies and Federal agencies providing technical advice or financial assistance to private landowners:

1. In order to provide joint planning, coordination should be initiated with state game departments at least one year in advance of proposed sagebrush control projects on a site-by-site basis.
 2. Planning should consider but not be limited to plant density, limiting the size of blocked areas, leave strips along streams and around mountain meadows, season of wildlife use, safeguarding key areas such as key winter range areas, sage grouse strutting grounds, and alternative methods for meeting project requirements.
 3. A comprehensive long-range, multiple-use plan meeting project objectives and giving full consideration to wildlife should be formulated prior to treatment on Federal lands,
- And be it further resolved that the Association gives full support to an accelerated program of research designed to provide specific guidelines for sagebrush control programs that will protect and enhance wildlife values.

RESOLUTION NO. 17

CONTROL OF FISH DISEASES

Whereas, certain critical fish diseases such as infectious pancreatic necrosis, viral hemorrhagic septicemia, and whirling disease (*Myxoxoma cerebralis*) seriously threaten salmonid fishery resources of the United States, and

Whereas, modern methods of transportation facilitate the rapid dissemination of these diseases as a result of international and interstate movements of trout eggs and live trout, and

Whereas, these diseases, once established, cannot be effectively treated, and

Whereas, it is in the national interest to prevent their further spread;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that a nationwide voluntary program to control the critical diseases of trout and salmon be developed by interested states under the leadership of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

Be it further resolved that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service review the status of critical salmonid fish diseases periodically and recommend standard methods for the detection, identification, and control of such diseases; and

Be it further resolved that it should become a goal of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prevent the introduction of critical salmonid diseases into this country from other parts of the world and to prevent their movement from state to state; and

Be it further resolved that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service assist state and commercial fish interests with salmonid fish disease problems which exceed the latter's technical capabilities; and

Be it further resolved that a national reporting system be established under the guidance of the commission to define the geographical areas of infection of critical salmonid diseases, such information being essential to their control.

RESOLUTION NO. 18

COLORADO RIVER CHANNELIZATION AND PHREATOPHYTE CONTROL PROGRAM

Whereas, the Bureau of Reclamation has embarked upon a program of channelization, bank stabilization, and phreatophyte control to salvage water in the Lower Colorado river from Davis Dam to the International Boundary with Mexico, and;

Whereas, the channelization and phreatophyte program, as presently formulated will be detrimental to fish, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values, and;

Whereas, fisheries, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic values have not received adequate consideration by the Bureau of Reclamation in planning the channelization program as required by federal policy, and;

Whereas, additional studies and information are needed to reappraise and reformulate the channelization program with full consideration of fish, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic values, and;

Whereas, the States of Nevada, Arizona, and California have repeatedly attempted to review and make recommendations for fish and wildlife protection with a complete lack of success, and;

Whereas, there is widespread public concern over the channelization and phreatophyte control programs on the Lower Colorado river, and;

Whereas, once destroyed the fish, wildlife, aesthetic and recreational values cannot be fully replaced even with new water imports into the Colorado river basin,