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Resolution 1989-06-09 Winter Elk Range Acquisition--Northern Yellowstone Herd

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution No. 6

**WINTER ELK RANGE ACQUISITION—NORTHERN
YELLOWSTONE HERD**

WHEREAS, the elk population of Yellowstone National Park is a natural resource of great value to the adjacent states and the nation, and

WHEREAS, the starvation of a substantial number of elk in the park during the winter of 1988-89 emphasizes once again that some resources must be managed in an ecological association that includes lands beyond the boundaries of the park, and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana has already acquired winter game ranges in the Madison and Gallatin drainage for segments of the park's northern elk herd, and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service have initiated a new program to acquire additional winter range for the park's northern elk herd in the upper Yellowstone valley where elk migrations could be encouraged and the animals sustained and managed, and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana has pledged \$2 million to this acquisition project and is requesting a commitment from the federal government to contribute funds to this conservation effort of national significance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges Congress and appropriate agencies of the federal government to join and cooperate with the State of Montana by making sufficient funding available for the purpose of acquiring winter range for the Northern Yellowstone elk herd.