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## Resolution 1986-08-11 Resolution to Promote and Facilitate Conservation Reserve Program Goals

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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WHEREAS, the following reform measures are needed:

- (1) A fishing vessel meeting certain safety standards and providing adequate compensation for an injured seaman would be given a limit to the owner's liability for temporary disabilities (those of less than one year's duration);
- (2) The U.S. Coast Guard would be authorized to compile risk assessments to help insurers differentiate between and set premium rates for the various segments of the industry;
- (3) The Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (P.L. 94-265), which established the United States' 200-mile Fisheries Conservation Zone (FCZ), would be amended with safety as one of the required national standards that must be considered when developing and implementing a fishery management plan for fishing in the FCZ;
- (4) In order to reduce the risks in what is an inherently dangerous occupation, the U.S. Coast Guard would be authorized to set minimum safety standards on newly-constructed vessels (those with keels laid after January 1, 1987) and for existing vessels if the owner so desires; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is concerned about the problems caused by such high premium rates for insurance and supports the effort of the National Council of Fishing Vessel Safety and Insurance, and the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges the Congress of the United States to pass legislation to obtain relief for these pressing problems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives for distribution to the appropriate committees of both bodies of Congress of the United States.

## **Resolution No. 8**

### **Resolution to Promote and Facilitate the Conservation Reserve Program Goals**

WHEREAS, a maximum of 3.8 million acres out of the 5 million acre 1986 goal was enrolled in the long-term (10 year) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) authorized by the Food and Security Act of 1985;

WHEREAS, we believe this shortfall indicates that achieving the goal of enrolling 10 million acres annually in 1987, 1988 and 1989 will be very difficult; if not impossible, unless options available to farmers change;

WHEREAS, we believe that the CRP provides farm program continuity and multiple public benefits by protecting soils, waters and wild living resources while progressively reducing crop surplus as acreage enrollment builds; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the multi-billion dollar annual commodity programs have no continuing effect on reducing overproduction, provide no significant conservation benefits and serve primarily as a form of income subsidy to participating producers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urge the Secretary of Agriculture to use available discretionary and persuasive measures to encourage and facilitate enrollment of at least 10 million acres of highly erodible lands annually in the CRP consistent with the program goals and the intent of the Food Security Act of 1985; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Agriculture develop and implement an improved communication plan to promote the Conservation Reserve Program.

## **Resolution No. 9**

### **Public Land Grazing Fee Issue**

WHEREAS, the cost of administering grazing management programs on the public lands is considerably higher than revenues collected from the primary beneficiaries of the program (livestock permittees);

WHEREAS, the fees for grazing livestock on similarly situated private lands are more reflective of fair market value and are substantially higher than current public rangeland grazing fees;

WHEREAS, significant portions of the public rangelands are in less than good ecological condition, primarily as the result of overutilization by domestic livestock;

WHEREAS, the productivity of rangelands in unsatisfactory condition is often far below ecological potential and therefore limits the ability to these lands to support wildlife at or near full potential in both density and diversity;

WHEREAS, revenues collected in the form of public land grazing fees should be used in part to remedy deteriorated range conditions and enhance the wildlife diversity and carrying capacity of these rangelands; and

WHEREAS, fees should be adjusted periodically to reflect fair market value;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies encourages Congress to adopt provisions of law which will correct the inequities associated with the current grazing fee formula by establishing grazing fees at fair market value, and that all revenues so collected should be used for the administration and improvement of the public rangelands including wildlife habitat; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the appropriate committee chairmen of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Chief of the United States Forest Service, Director of Office of Management and Budget, and all interested conservation agencies and organizations.