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Resolution 1977-11-12 Endangered Species Cooperation

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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an emergency plan to purchase whatever acreage is necessary to insure the proper quality and quantity of bottomland hardwoods for the perpetuation of our present waterfowl resource.

Resolution #10

RIPARIAN AND WETLANDS HABITAT MANAGEMENT ON THE FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS

WHEREAS, the President of the United States in his 1977 environmental message to Congress identified the importance of wetlands to flood prevention, soil and watershed protection and other public service values, and to wildlife, and affirmed a positive role of the Federal Government in stopping the losses and degradation of wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the President issued *Executive Orders* for Floodplain Management and *Protection of Wetlands* on May 24, 1977, instructing each Federal Agency to take action to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands as well as preserving and enhancing the beneficial values of wetlands in managing Federal lands; and

WHEREAS, riparian habitats are included within the Wetlands Executive Order by definition; and

WHEREAS, riparian wetland habitats are identified as vital in providing for a diversified production of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, riparian wetlands are identified as a unique and often scarce habitat on the Federal public lands; and

WHEREAS, many of the riparian wetland habitats on the Federal public lands within the semi-arid intermountain West have been identified as being in degraded conditions, producing wildlife far below their potential and often in danger of further degradation beyond the point of recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFWA strongly urges that the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service expedite the implementation of the full intent of these recent *Executive Orders on Wetlands and Floodplains* to provide protection, enhancement, and positive management for these resources on lands under their jurisdiction.

Resolution #11

ENDANGERED SPECIES COOPERATION

WHEREAS, it is impossible to achieve a positive program to conserve endangered or threatened species unless the Fish and Wildlife Service and State Wildlife Agencies become full partners dedicated to the basic goals spelled out in the *Act and Convention*; and

WHEREAS, the State Wildlife Agencies having to react to proposed actions published in the *Federal Register*, answer letters for State Governors, or furnish data to be analyzed without State input does not adequately address the "full partner" philosophy; and

WHEREAS, the State Wildlife Agencies collectively have the best existing wildlife data base and possess the ability to coordinate the collection of desired wildlife knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the wildlife resource is the only "loser" when needed energy is wastefully spent on jurisdictional feuding;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFWA urges the USFWS and ESSA to pursue the following as evidence of their sincerity that

States become full partners early in the decision making process in these programs:

1. Utilize the several states as the authority for wildlife unless there is conflicting data sufficient to question State reports.
2. Find a way to legally utilize states as evaluators of listing petitions.
3. Seek an amendment of the Presidential Order establishing the Scientific Authority that would give the States, through the IAFWA, representative on this body.
4. The IAFWA be represented on all delegations to meetings of the Convention.
5. Through budgetary process seek funds that would allow States to collect and furnish data needed by the USFWS and ESSA to make determinations on resident wildlife.

Resolution #12

APPRECIATION TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

WHEREAS, the success of any meeting depends on the efforts and services of the host organization; and

WHEREAS, the British Columbia Fish and Wildlife Branch, through acting Director Don Robinson, staff and spouses, has provided excellent hospitality to make the sixty-seventh convention of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies a success;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies expresses gratitude and commends the individuals involved for their very personal concern in making this conference a success.

