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Resolution 1973-25-31 Administering Pittman- Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Funds

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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WHEREAS, the Act (P.L. 89-72) requires that full consideration be given to recreation enhancement as a purpose of federal water projects, and

WHEREAS, the Act further provides that a nonfederal public body must execute an agreement before construction to administer land and water areas for recreation enhancement and to repay all costs of operation, maintenance and replacement of facilities plus at least one-half of all construction costs and project modifications, including water for a recreation pool and evaporative loss, which are specifically allocated to recreational uses, and

WHEREAS, fiscal limitations would prevent adequate administration of the areas, and impose inequitable cost-sharing responsibilities on state and local political subdivisions who rarely have adequate funds to meet cost-sharing obligations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners reaffirms its recommendation that the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (P.L. 89-72) be repealed or amended to make costs of facilities nonreimbursable for anadromous fish, migratory waterfowl, endangered species and estuarine resources, and also for water control and storage and control facilities; eliminate the \$28 million limit on land purchased for waterfowl as part of water projects; and insure that, (a) separable costs of basic access, sanitary, and safety facilities would be Federal costs; (b) fish and wildlife losses will be satisfactorily compensated before enhancement features are cost-shared; (c) the expansion of fish populations naturally occurring in impounded waters is in no way considered to be enhancement; and (d) interest requirement would be waived on cost-share repayments.

Resolution 24

FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ACCESS ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense has issued directives to implement the Sikes Act (P.L. 86-797) to carry out fish and wildlife management and conservation measures on military reservations; and

WHEREAS, these directives call for public use and access to military installations when such use does not interfere with the military mission of such installation; and

WHEREAS, fish and wildlife management and public access programs are usually determined by the commanding officer; and

WHEREAS, some commanding officers have not given desired consideration to these programs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests that the Secretary of Defense establish a compliance committee composed of military and civilians with expertise in these programs and the military missions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this committee periodically inspect and review installation compliance with Department of Defense directives relating to fish and wildlife management and public access activities and report their findings to the Secretary of Defense.

Resolution 25

ADMINISTERING PITTMAN-ROBERTSON AND DINGELL-JOHNSON FUNDS

WHEREAS, it is proposed in the draft National Plan for Outdoor Recreation which will be submitted to the President of the United States for approval to shift Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson programs out of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has administered an efficient program resulting in substantial enhancement of fish and wildlife within the states; and

WHEREAS, funds currently administered by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation are not necessarily distributed to the states through the agency responsible for fish and wildlife, thereby creating a potential for diversion of P-R or D-J funds from fish and wildlife programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners unalterably opposes the transferring of the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson programs to any other agency or block grant program.

Resolution 26

USE OF COOLING TOWERS IN LIEU OF COOLING LAKES

WHEREAS, electrical energy producing companies and corporations are constructing or planning construction of lakes of up to 10,000 acres or more for the sole purpose of reducing the temperature of cooling water used in developing electrical energy; and

WHEREAS, such lakes in some areas destroy valuable fish and wildlife habitat which results in the loss of fish, wildlife, forest and agricultural products and other valuable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, cooling towers have proven effective in accomplishing the same objective as large cooling lakes without destroying large areas of land and/or water that support fish, wildlife, forest and agricultural products;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners opposes the construction of cooling lakes which degrade or otherwise significantly destroy natural resources and environment and supports the construction and use of cooling towers or other suitable alternatives in lieu of cooling lakes where circumstances dictate.

Resolution 27

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STANDARDS

WHEREAS, recent statements by the President of the United States and Mr. John A. Love, Director of the White House energy policy office, suggest a relaxation of environmental quality standards in the immediate future to enhance the development of oil and coal reserves and the utilization of these energy resources, and

WHEREAS, the application of stringent standards may be necessary to insure the maintenance of adequate wildlife habitats in the face of energy resources developments, and

WHEREAS, environmental impact statements and research efforts directed toward alleviating environmental degradation must precede energy development and associated environment and wildlife habitat modification rather than occurring simultaneously with such developments as now suggested, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners strongly opposes relaxation or lowering of any environmental quality rule or standard which results in serious and permanent harm to wildlife habitats, and requests that adequate appraisals and evaluation, including thorough environmental impact statements and intensified research, precede all energy reserve developments or relaxation of any environmental quality standards related to these developments which may have an adverse effect on the Nation's wildlife resources.