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Resolution 1972-13-27 Lead Poisoning

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 11

FOREIGN AND INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF LIVE FISH AND EGGS

WHEREAS, the importation of live fish and eggs into North America from foreign countries possesses the grave danger of introducing serious fish diseases, and

WHEREAS, the uncontrolled shipment of live fish and eggs in interprovincial and interstate commerce increases the opportunity for dissemination of dangerous fish diseases throughout the continent, and

WHEREAS, the problem of controlling fish diseases exceeds regional boundaries and is of international significance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners support and urge the adoption of national legislation aimed at controlling importation and interstate or interprovince shipments of live fish and eggs to prevent spread of fish diseases. Such legislation should provide adequate penalties to discourage violation of the law, and should provide for funding for efficient and uniform inspection procedures, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urge the member states to adopt legislation or regulations aimed at controlling shipments of live fish and eggs to prevent the spread of fish diseases.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

WILDERNESS ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the administration of land and water resources in accordance with the Wilderness Act (P. L. 88-577, September 3, 1964) limits the production and utilization of wildlife, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for more outdoor recreation to meet the ever increasing demands of the rapidly expanding population of the United States, and

WHEREAS, changes in land and water use, deemed necessary for human needs, severely reduce outdoor recreation potential,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior to join with representatives of the several state conservation agencies and game and fish departments in an analysis of conflicts and benefits of wilderness management to assist resource administrators and the public in making decisions relative to wilderness classification proposals and "back country" management proposals.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

LEAD POISONING

WHEREAS, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners is aware that lead shot ingestion impose an adverse impace on waterfowl resources, and,

WHEREAS, the Association is further cognizant of the need for relief from this problem, and

WHEREAS the Association is advised of the substantial disadvantages of the iron shotshell currently being researched,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners strongly endorses development of a lead shot substitute for the purpose of waterfowl hunting in the United States and Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association urges the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to begin research to identify the extent and distribution of lead shot poisoning on a flyway by flyway basis and to identify techniques of management which can reduce or eliminate ingestion of lead shot by waterfowl, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that conversion from lead to an acceptable substitute be made as soon as possible within the limitations of technology: As a means of accomplishing this the following is recommended:

A. Results from field tests of hunters using iron shot at designated experimental areas during the 1972-73 waterfowl hunting season should be analyzed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife by March 1, 1973.

B. Conduct controlled studies to evaluate relative effectiveness of iron and lead shot in harvesting of waterfowl at specific ranges and to determine the extent of gun barrel damage, such as choke deformation, barrel scoring and possible forcing cone fatigue of guns by use of iron shot.

C. A decision should be made, based on the results of these experiments, whether or not the candidate lead shot substitute is acceptable and problems which need further study should be identified.

D. The Bureau must establish criteria for the term "acceptable lead shot substitute" to include:

1. Standards for ballistics capabilities of lead substitute shells to insure reasonable harvest capability without excessive crippling loss.

2. Safety limits.

3. Equipment damage, including permissible barrel wear to protect hunters' equipment.

4. Shot sizes needed for all legal gun gauges.

5. The effect of the lead shot substitute impacted in or digested by waterfowl.

E. As a result of tests and research, the Bureau should establish a reasonable timetable for conversion to a lead shot substitute if the current substitute candidate meets the criteria established by the Bureau, and approved by the Flyway Councils.

F. Present plans for the development of alternative solutions to the problems.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1971, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTIONS NO. 14 ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL

WHEREAS, proposed legislation contained in H.R. 13152, entitled "Federal Animal Damage Control Act of 1972", outlines procedures for conduct of an animal damage control program through cooperative state and federal efforts, reaffirms authority for management of resident wildlife by the states, provides for continuous federal funding assistance, stipulates that state cost-sharing funds contain a maximum of 10 percent of hunting, fishing, trapping license revenues and provides that federal funding assistance be contingent upon designation of the State Wildlife Agency as the organization responsible for program administration, and,

WHEREAS, the restraints within the legislation will increase the cost of needed animal damage control programs,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby endorses H.R. 13152, as passed by the House of Representatives and recommends the following amendment:

1. Section 4(D) substitute the following wording, "The head of a federal department, agency, or establishment shall cooperate with the state in the conduct of a mutually acceptable program for the control of predatory and depredating animals in lands subject to his jurisdiction."

2. Section 4 (E) amend to authorize \$5,000,000.00 in 1974 and 1975 and \$4,000,000.00 in subsequent fiscal years.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972 Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 15 FARM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATE LANDS

WHEREAS, wildlife populations on farm lands are declining due to loss of quantity and quality of habitat; and

WHEREAS, habitat loss is primarily due to changing land use and modern farming practices; and

WHEREAS, private farm lands must support farm wildlife species if they are to exist in appreciable numbers because suitable public lands are not available and wildlife species will not exceed certain densities; and

WHEREAS, private landowners cannot be expected to provide wildlife habitat on their lands without proper compensation; and

WHEREAS, state wildlife agencies, alone, cannot provide solutions to these problems because of lack of funds and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is obligated by Title 7, Chapter VII, Part 701, National Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP) to include provisions for wildlife and outdoor recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, REAP practices designated for wildlife are having to compete for REAP appropriations and with practices which will eventually improve landowners income and are not being utilized to any appreciable degree:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends to the U.S. Department of Agriculture that immediate steps be taken to create a realistic program which will improve wildlife habitat on private lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following action be taken immediately;

1. REAP wildlife practices provide 100 percent payment for cost of plant materials, fertilizer, lime and preparing the seed bed;

2. REAP wildlife practices be removed from direct competition for funds with REAP practices designed to improve landowner incomes:

3. REAP wildlife practices be placed on lists of available practices in all county A.S.C.S. offices;

4. Wildlife practices developed by the Farm Game Committee of the S.E. Section of the Wildlife Society entitle "G4-A, Field Border Development and Management" and "G4-B, Management of Wildlife Habitat" be included in REAP.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.