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Resolution 1959-04-25 Water Pollution Control

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 1

ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL AREAS FROM FEDERAL HIGHWAYS

Whereas, the limited access highway system in the United States does not now provide nor at present contemplate consideration of adequate access to various recreational areas, and

Whereas such lack of consideration hinders the enjoyment of those areas by citizens of the United States, and

Whereas, much undue hardship could be eliminated by sympathetic consideration of the program of access to recreational areas by the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads and state highway departments,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners does hereby urge and request the respective highway departments and U. S. Bureau of Public Roads to make every effort to obtain reasonable access to all recreational areas to assist in meeting the ever increasing demands.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

U. S. FOREST SERVICE "OPERATION OUTDOORS"

PART II

Whereas, the U. S. Forest Service "Operation Outdoors" Part I program for development of recreational facilities as submitted to congress set up certain necessary annual appropriations, and

Whereas the appropriation for the fiscal year 1957 was reduced substantially from the amount considered necessary under the proposed program with the assumption that the first year operations would not permit full program activities, and

Whereas, the Bureau of the Budget for fiscal years 1959 and 1960 has not recommended to congress, and congress has not appropriated, funds equal to the 1957 appropriation, and

Whereas, there is an unprecedented increase in the use of the national forests for recreation, thereby aiding the economy of the nation, resulting in a great national need for appropriations under the "Operation Outdoors" program in excess of those originally contemplated,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that the Bureau of the Budget recommend to congress increased appropriations for the fiscal year 1961 at least equivalent to those originally contemplated.

Be it further resolved that the President of the U. S. include in the budget and congress approve substantial funds for the Forest Service to initiate Part II, the wildlife phase of "Operation Outdoors," for wildlife habitat development in cooperation with the state fish and game departments.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

PROTESTING THE BOTTLENECK OF LAND WITHDRAWAL FOR RECREATION USE

Whereas, the need exists to speed up the processing of land withdrawals for fish and wildlife conservation purposes, and

Whereas, there is a definite obligation on the part of certain state and federal agencies to meet the public's growing need for recreation, and

Whereas, such needed withdrawals of public domain lands will not exclude grazing, but emphasize the multiple use concept, and

Whereas, since there is a backlog of withdrawal applications that has piled up during the past five years.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners does hereby strongly urge the Department of the Interior to see that the Bureau of Land Management is given the needed adjuncts necessary to speed up the processing of all applications for withdrawals of public domain lands submitted for recreational use under the Coordination Act or other applicable federal statute in accordance with the desires of the individual states concerned.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Whereas, Public Law 660 of the 84th congress included the sewage treatment construction grants program authorized thereby, has resulted in substantial progress in the abatement of stream pollution in the United States, and

Whereas, studies carried out by state and federal agencies indicate that a doubling of the construction grants program could result in the substantial elimination of sewage pollution in this nation within a decade;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners commends the house and senate of the federal congress for passing H. R. 3610, a bill to accomplish such an increase in the construction grants program, and request the president to sign this bill into law.

Be it further resolved this Association commends the Honorable Arthur S. Fleming, secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, upon his efficient administration of Public Law 660 and especially upon his vigorous enforcement of the provisions of the law relating to the abatement of interstate water pollution.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT AND ACCESS PROBLEMS

Whereas, the public domain of the United States, including some 470 million acres in the Western states and Alaska, encompasses and produces natural resources of vast economic and social value to all Americans, and

Whereas overgrazing, range trespass, soil erosion, inadequate fire protection and other land abuses are known to persist on the public domain in many areas to the detriment of the local economy and the public welfare, and

Whereas, overgrazing, range trespass, soil erosion, inadequate fire protection and other land abuses are known to persist on the public domain in many areas to the detriment of the local economy and the public welfare, and

Whereas, access for hunting, fishing and other legitimate uses is denied the public in many places by the owners or operators of adjacent private lands, and preliminary estimates indicate as much as 14 million acres of federal lands are so closed to the public in the western states, and

Whereas, the Bureau of Land Management is underfinanced and understaffed for its highly important task of managing and protecting the public land resources under its jurisdiction, and the Taylor Grazing Act and other laws under which the bureau operates are believed to be outdated and deficient in other respects;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners commends and endorses the proposal by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, that the Department of Interior prepare a comprehensive and long-range program for the conservation, rehabilitation and development of the lands under the Bureau of Land Management and further endorses the proposal calling for a senate committee staff study of problems of public access to the public lands.

Be it further resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends that appropriate committees of congress initiate studies leading to the revision and strengthening of the Taylor Grazing Act and other laws relating to the conservation and multiple-use management of the public domain lands.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Whereas, it is believed enactment of S. 812, a bill to establish a Youth Conservation Corps, will assist materially in the conservation of American youth, as well as in the conservation of natural resources.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the international Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends enactment of S. 812 and its implementation by the necessary appropriations.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

ELIMINATION OF ACP SUBSIDIES FOR MARSH DRAINAGE

Be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners re-affirms its opposition to federal subsidies which encourage the drainage and destruction of valuable and irreplaceable waterfowl habitat and requests the congress to enact corrective legislation, incorporating the principles of the Ruess-McGovern bill, H. R. 3909, as introduced in the 86th congress, and

Be it further resolved that pending the passage of such corrective legislation, this association urges the Secretary of Agriculture to revise the guidelines and eligibility regulations governing the administration of the