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Resolution 1996-01-06 Recognition of Support of State Fish and Wildlife Agency Jurisdiction to Manage Black Bear and Cougar

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 1996-01-06

**RECOGNITION OF SUPPORT OF STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCY
JURISDICTION TO MANAGE BLACK BEAR AND COUGAR**

WHEREAS, the populations of black bear and cougar are healthy and increasing in many regions of the United States; and

WHEREAS, these populations have expanded the species' distribution and have begun to overlap to a significant extent with centers of human population such as areas of suburban and urban development; and

WHEREAS, increased contact between humans, cougar, and black bear will result in increased danger to humans and property; and

WHEREAS, the use of hounds to hunt black bear and cougar and use of bait for black bear have been prohibited or severely limited in several states for reasons unrelated to sound principles of biological management of wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the states have enacted effective regulations to ensure the biologically sound management techniques of black bear and cougar;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies stresses the recognition of the state fish and wildlife agency jurisdiction in determining harvest and other methods for managing black bear and cougar.