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Resolution 1996-05-06 Requesting Repeal of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regulations Imposing New Federal Import/Export License and Inspection Fee Requirements

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 1996-05-06

REQUESTING REPEAL OF U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REGULATIONS IMPOSING NEW FEDERAL IMPORT/EXPORT LICENSE AND INSPECTION FEE REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, trapping of furbearers is a necessary and beneficial conservation activity, licensed and regulated by the states; and

WHEREAS, private trapping of furbearers provides a valuable service to the states in management of wildlife, protection of agricultural and private property interests and alleviation of problems to utility and transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, the level of trapping activity is affected by the costs of trapping and fur marketing; and

WHEREAS, many trappers have chosen to market their catches through Canadian fur auctions and other international markets; and

WHEREAS, trapping provides modest yet seasonally important income to state residents in economically depressed regions; and

WHEREAS, trapping license revenue available to the states for conservation programs is determined by trapping participation; and

WHEREAS, trapping participation is expected to decline due to increased costs of marketing fur because of the July 22, 1996 U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulation changes to 50 CFR Parts 13 and 14 requiring a \$50 federal import/export license annually and a \$55 minimum inspection fee for every pelt shipment to a foreign country regardless of quality or value;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies requests that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service repeal under emergency provisions the import/export and inspection fee requirements for exporting pelts valued at less than \$25,000 per year.