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Resolution 1971-04-27 Hunter Safety Reciprocity

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. 1 FEDERAL WATER PROJECT RECREATION ACT

WHEREAS, the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (P.L. 89-72) requires that full consideration be given to recreation enhancement as a purpose of federal water projects and that project construction agencies shall encourage nonfederal public bodies to assume responsibility for management of project areas and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the act further provides that the nonfederal public body administering a project 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, and share in the cost of at least one-half of all facilities and project modifications which are specifically allocated to recreational uses; and

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

WHEREAS, such recreational benefits are widespread and in the general public interest:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the Congress to amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act to provide for total funding by the federal construction agency of the recreational capital development features and the annual cost of operation, maintenance, and replacement of these features.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 STREAM ALTERATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, publicly constructed and subsidized stream alteration programs for flood control, irrigation, power generation, drainage, municipal and industrial use, and other purposes, often result in the destruction of fish and wildlife habitat and frequently cause irreparable damage to waterways and related land resources; and

WHEREAS, compensatory measures for fish and wildlife preservation usually are either wholly lacking or grossly inadequate:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners vigorously opposes further funding of stream alteration programs unless fish and wildlife resource and recreational values are comprehensively evaluated, the proposed projects are so modified as to create only negligible damage to these resources, and replacement for damage incurred is included as an integral part of the project costs.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL SHARE OF LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS

WHEREAS, the public lands managed by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife meet a significant portion of the recreational needs of the nation; and

WHEREAS, there remain certain holdings which should be acquired by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife if they are to adequately serve recreational demands and protect the surrounding resources; and

WHEREAS, these agencies heretofore have not shared in the proceeds of the Land and Water Conservation Fund commensurate with their responsibilities for meeting recreational needs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the President and the Congress to substantially increase allocations from the federal share of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Forest Service, commensurate with their responsibilities for meeting outdoor recreation demands.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 HUNTER SAFETY RECIPROCITY

WHEREAS, in some states and provinces an applicant for a hunting license is required to complete a hunter training course before a license is issued; and

WHEREAS, many hunters travel to other states and provinces to engage in hunting:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners encourages reciprocity of hunter training certification between states and provinces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association recommends to states requiring hunter

training as a prerequisite to the purchase of a hunting license the inclusion of a clause in their laws reading essentially as follows: "Holders of hunter training certificates issued by another state or province and meeting such standards as those of the National Rifle Association shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of this state."

RESOLUTION NO. 5
WATER BANK APPROPRIATION

WHEREAS, the Water Bank Act (P.L. 91-559) authorized payments of \$10,000,000 annually for the Water Bank Program; and

WHEREAS, \$10,000,000 has been appropriated for this purpose and it has been proposed that this money be made available to the states through the revenue sharing program:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners respectfully requests the Congress continue to make available \$10,000,000 annually for the Water Bank Program and that these appropriations be used only for the purposes authorized in P.L. 91-559; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association urges the Department of Agriculture to appoint immediately a Water Bank Advisory Committee to help formulate regulations for administration of the Water Bank Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 6
REMOTE SENSING FOR WILDLIFE AND FISH HABITAT

WHEREAS, nearly 1.7 billion acres of land and 0.5 billion acres of water in the United States as well as vast areas of other nations provide vital habitat for wildlife and fish including rare and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, these land and water areas provide other resource values including areas for urban development, forage for domestic livestock, timber products, domestic and commercial water supplies, and associated human amenity values; and

WHEREAS, management of these areas is receiving increased public attention and scrutiny in relation to potential harmful effects on wildlife values and fisheries; and

WHEREAS, based on limited Forest Service research, remote sensing techniques, including sophisticated aerial photography, multispectral imagery, and thermal imagery, have significant potential value for the analyses and surveillance of wildlife and fisheries ecosystems and provide instant data for land use planning and management:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends expansion of Forest Service research to identify specific capabilities of aerial photography, multispectral imagery, and thermal imagery for analyzing and monitoring wildlife and fish ecosystems, including the hydrology of these systems.

RESOLUTION NO. 7
HELLS CANYON-SNAKE NATIONAL RIVER

WHEREAS, three dams have been constructed in the mid-Snake River; which have effectively blocked and destroyed valuable runs of salmon and steelhead above the lowermost dam and destroyed much of the remaining habitat of the white sturgeon; and

WHEREAS, the stretch of the river between Hells Canyon Dam and Lewiston is the last remaining area for white sturgeon and anadromous fish, and further dams in this section of the river would alter the remaining habitat to the detriment of resident fisheries populations; and

WHEREAS, further dams in the mid-Snake section would eliminate the movement of salmon and steelhead up the Salmon River:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners does hereby support Senate Bill 717 and its companion measure House Resolution 4249 to establish a Hells Canyon-Snake National River.

RESOLUTION NO. 8
PROTECTION OF U. S. MARINE FISHERIES RESOURCES

WHEREAS, foreign nations are heavily exploiting the living marine resources in the water adjacent to and associated with the continental shelf and slope; and

WHEREAS, these living resources are particularly vulnerable to damage from unrestrained fishing and in some areas have been severely overfished; and

WHEREAS, the United States is handicapped in providing proper protection and management for these living resources by lack of adequate jurisdiction over all fishing in the areas in which these resources are found; and