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Resolution 1970-03-21 Population Control and Quality Environment

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

By International Association of Game, Fish and
Conservation Commissioners at 60th Annual Meeting
on Sept. 18, 1970 at Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in
New York City:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

PUBLIC LAND LAW REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT

WHEREAS, the Public Land Law Review Commission has recently published its recommendations for developing a new public land ethic for America; and

WHEREAS, Congress will soon consider the implementation of these recommendations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners takes the following position on these major national resource management and public land issues contained in the Public Land Law Review Commission Report:

1. The total acreage of public land currently held in trust for the benefit and use of the people shall not be diminished;
2. Public domain and national forest lands should not be dedicated for any "dominant" commodity use;
3. The management of public lands should not be unduly weighted toward "maximum economic efficiency";
4. A basic organic act for the management of public domain (B.L.M.) lands should be enacted immediately based upon the multiple use doctrine;
5. All exploration and extraction of mineral resources must be accomplished under a mineral leasing system replacing the mining law of 1872;
6. National forest and public domain lands must be managed under the multiple use-sustained yield concept of forest and range management. There should be no special funding from timber sales and separate corporation procedures to finance timber production on public lands;
7. No public lands should be sold for grazing purposes. Public lands must not be classified for dominant use by domestic livestock and the single purpose Taylor Grazing Act should be repealed. Grazing permittees on public land should pay a fair market value for grazing privileges and federal authorities should return immediately to the increased fee schedule designed to obtain this goal;
8. Reasonable fees for the use of special facilities developed at federal expense on public lands are acceptable, but there should be no federal fee for recreational use of undeveloped areas;
9. The Wilderness Act of 1964 and the terms of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act should be amended to apply to the public domain (B.L.M.) lands;
10. The intense development of the resources of Alaska should begin only after the state and federal governments have produced a well coordinated land management and zoning plan which gives full consideration to environmental protection and the preservation of public aesthetic and recreational values.

Adopted by the International Association
of Game, Fish and Conservation Com-
missioners on September 18, 1970, at
New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

PREVENTION OF POLLUTION IN THE ARCTIC

WHEREAS, there is increasing emphasis on the search for and development of arctic resources; and

WHEREAS, the very nature of this exploration and development poses a threat to the delicate ecology of the Arctic from long lasting and possible permanent damage by pollution; and

WHEREAS, international maritime law has not kept pace with technological advances associated with exploration, transportation and development of natural resources, and does not provide for the prevention of pollution of the seas or shorelines of the coastal states or the world, the Arctic areas are in extreme danger from Alaskan oil field development and shipping;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby urges strong action to prevent the pollution of the Arctic environment, and commends the Government of Canada for its initiative in this field; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and the Congress of the United States be urged to adopt legislation for the immediate protection of Arctic and Sub-Arctic environment of the United States from pollution and to lend their influence to the early achievement of international agreement and modification of laws to provide for protection from the dangers of pollution of all oceanic and coastline zones of the world.

Adopted by the International Association
of Game, Fish and Conservation Com-
missioners on September 18, 1970, at
New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

POPULATION CONTROL AND QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, at present population densities, much of the world is beset with international strife and malnutrition and starvation; and

WHEREAS, such populations inevitably will exert destructive pressures on the finite store of natural resources with which our world is endowed, with disastrous consequences on our total environment; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate has passed a bill, S. 2108, to expand, improve and coordinate the family planning services and population research activities of the Federal Government and to establish a National Center for Population and Family Planning in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and this bill is now before the United States House of Representatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners commends the sponsors of S.2108, to establish a National Center for Population and Family Planning, and urges passage of this bill by the House of Representatives without delay; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governors of the states and provinces represented by this Association establish within their jurisdiction population advisory councils with ecological and demographic competence to treat adequately relationships of population to quality of our environment and to recommend solutions which will preserve an adequate quality of life.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 4
LEGISLATION MODERNIZING THE P-R AND D-J ACTS

WHEREAS, the state fish and game agencies recognize the value of clarifying and modernizing the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act and the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of S.3860 and similar bills will delete the engineering, maintenance and management limitations and effect other housekeeping changes which are desirable; and

WHEREAS, the bill's provisions would add the revenue of the federal excise tax of pistols and revolvers to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program; and

WHEREAS, one-half of these revenues would be apportioned among the states to, in part, support the cost of hunter safety programs; and

WHEREAS, the bill provides the option of documenting state-federal aid programs on the basis of comprehensive fish and wildlife resources plans which will encourage long-range, worthwhile planning and reduce the red tape in annual documentation:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game Fish and Conservation Commissioners endorses the principle of S.3860 (and similar bills such as H.R. 12475, S.3927, and S.3962) and urges its early enactment by the Congress.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 5
FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AND CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

WHEREAS, existing funding authority needed to continue vital programs of Federal-State-Local cooperation in improving the quality of water, one of our basic natural resources, will expire on June 30, 1971:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges that the provisions of Section 7, "Grants to States for Water Pollution Control Programs," and Section 8, "Grants for Construction," of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Public Law 84-660, as amended, be extended to June 30, 1975, by appropriate and prompt action by the Congress of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the President, Secretary of Interior, and House and Senate Committees on Public Works.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 6
INCREASE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP FEE

WHEREAS, there is a current and critical need to accelerate the acquisition of critical wetlands for waterfowl; and

WHEREAS, the present fee of \$3.00 for a migratory bird hunting stamp has been in effect for many years; and

WHEREAS, due to increased acquisition costs additional funds are necessary to complete the wetlands acquisition program:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners favors legislation to increase the migratory bird hunting stamp fee from \$3.00 to \$4.00 with the understanding that Congress will annually appropriate an additional amount from the General Fund equal to the revenue generated by this increase and to be used for continuation of the federal wetlands acquisition program, and none of these funds be rebated to the states.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 7
HEAVY METAL CONTAMINATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, there recently have been recognized incidents of environmental contamination by mercury and other heavy metals which have had disastrous effects on fish, wildlife, public health and recreation, and food stocks; and

WHEREAS, incidents of such environmental contamination have been recognized in Japan and Sweden for many years, yet the significance of this information was not generally known to or recognized by environmental protection officials of the North American nations; and

WHEREAS, there is a great need to gather information on pollution problems throughout the world and to disseminate such information as may be pertinent, to alert federal, state, and provincial pollution control agencies to similar problems on this continent; and