

9-12-1967

Resolution 1967-19-21 Amendment to Federal Water Project Recreation Act

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, *Resolution 1967-19-21 Amendment to Federal Water Project Recreation Act* (1967),
Available at: http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa_reso/518

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creational purposes is rapidly becoming more acute due to prohibitions, restrictions and fees imposed by adjacent or inter-mingled private landowners; and

Whereas, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act requires that fees be collected for the use of recreation facilities administered by the Bureau of Land Management and deposited into the Fund, but fails to provide for reallocations from the Fund to permit the Bureau of Land Management to provide for very important public recreation, public access and fish and wildlife programs:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Fish, Game and Conservation Commissioners urges that the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act be amended to (1) authorize the deposit into the Fund of all continental shelf mineral receipts received by the Federal Government and all un-earmarked mineral receipts from federal lands, and (2) add the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and classified for retention in federal ownership to the purposes for which monies from the Fund may be allocated under Section 6 of the Act without changing the formula of federal-state participation in the fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 19

AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL WATER PROJECT RECREATION ACT

Whereas, the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, Public Law 89-72, contains different cost-sharing requirements for separable costs than it does for joint costs allocated to fish and wildlife enhancement; and

Whereas, separable costs are those costs of a multiple purpose project which would not be incurred if a particular purpose were omitted such as costs of additional height on a dam to provide a conservation pool for fish; and

Whereas, under Public Law 89-72, non-Federal interests must agree to pay one-half of the separable costs if fish and wildlife are to be enhanced and must pay for the operation, maintenance and replacement of facilities associated with this enhancement; and

Whereas, many projects which are scheduled for construction will place heavy additional financial burdens upon State Fish and Game Agencies by added operation and maintenance costs required for fish hatcheries and wildlife habitat developments; and

Whereas, budgetary limitations of these agencies would preclude participation in cost-sharing of 50 percent of the separable costs and full payment of operation, maintenance and replacement of enhancement facilities; and

Whereas, if the State Fish and Game Agencies do not agree to participate in cost sharing of separable costs, the fish and wildlife enhancement portion of the project will be deleted preventing future development of this resource as additional monies may become available to the agencies:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners reaffirms its resolution of 1966 requesting the Congress of the United States to clarify or amend Public Law 89-72 so as to delete the cost sharing requirements for separable costs, except as they relate to major additions and expansions which go beyond the acreages and facilities normally needed for wildlife and recreational purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 20

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Whereas, the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, U. S. Department of the Interior, in its official Guidelines for Establishing Water Quality Standards For Interstate Waters (Under the Water Quality Act of 1965, Public Law 89-234), has stated emphatically, "Water quality standards should be designed to enhance the quality of water. If it is impossible to provide for prompt improvement in water quality at the time initial standards are set, the standards should be designated to prevent any increase in pollution. In no case will standards providing for less than existing water quality be acceptable." The Federal Water Pollution Control Administration in these Guidelines also provided that, "No standards of water quality will be approved which provide for the use of any stream or portion thereof for the sole or principal purpose of transporting wastes," (emphasis supplied) and

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration has indicated that it will controvert its own guidelines by accepting State set standards which provide for less than the existing water quality, and allow the use of streams or portions thereof for the principal purpose of transporting waste, and

Whereas, there are many streams in the United States which have a dissolved oxygen content that that never falls below six parts per million upon which the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration has indicated it is prepared to accept a water quality standard allowing the dissolved oxygen content to fall to four parts per million, and

Whereas, there are many streams in the United States upon which standards have been set, which allow such streams or portions thereof to be used solely or principally for the transporting of wastes, and

Whereas, the members of the International Association for Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners have specific facts, data and proof to establish these allegations.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, that the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration of the U. S. Department of the Interior is hereby called upon to adhere to and abide by its own duly promulgated and published guidelines for the establishment of water quality standards and that it specifically abide by its rules or guidelines which provide: "In no case will standards providing for less than existing water quality be acceptable" and that "No standards of water quality will be approved which provide for the use of any stream or portion thereof for the sole or principal purpose of transporting waste".