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Resolution 1964-07-20 Removal of Excise Taxes from Shooting Club Dues and Fees

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 5

CONTROL FOR USE OF ENDRIN AND OTHER CHLORINATED HYDROCARBONS

Whereas, the chlorinated hydrocarbon marketed under the common name Endrin, as well as other chlorinated hydrocarbons, has been determined to be extremely toxic to many forms of animal life, particularly to aquatic species, including fishes; and

Whereas, there are numerous other insecticides which are not nearly as dangerous to wildlife species; and

Whereas, these other pesticides should be adequate to control agricultural insect pests pending the development of safer, more specific pest control measures;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners respectfully requests the Secretary of Agriculture to revise and strengthen the regulations for sale and use of Endrin and other chlorinated hydrocarbons as agricultural insecticides and greatly increase research efforts to develop practical substitute chemicals or methods of control for insect pests.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

CONSERVATION LIBRARY CENTER WILDLIFE DATA REFERENCE SERVICE

Whereas, a special committee was appointed by the executive committee of this Association at its meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 10, 1964, and this group was directed to explore the creation of a reference service through the Conservation Library Center of the Denver Public Library which is firmly established as a primary depository of reference and research materials relating to all areas of conservation, but especially to wildlife management; and

Whereas, a tremendous volume of data exists, particularly that obtained from the Conservation Departments of the several states and wildlife research units through research projects implemented by the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts; and

Whereas, the Conservation Library Center is offering to undertake a project by which, through modern methods of retrieval, all related data emanating from projects throughout the country will be organized for rapid and comprehensive use; and

Whereas, the Association's special committee has recommended favorably on this proposal because there has been no adequate retrieval service or a comprehensive analysis of available data thereby causing duplication and inefficiency in research efforts as well as poorer results;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that it seriously consider this proposed contract with the Denver Public Library for a comprehensive pilot study to determine the best means to achieve the objectives of this program, and that cost for this study be paid from those funds set aside in both Federal Aid Acts, said funds being established to administer the federal aid program; and

Be it further resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, recommends that any results of such pilot study be submitted to the International Association's executive committee for further recommendation as soon as possible.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

REMOVAL OF EXCISE TAXES FROM SHOOTING CLUB DUES AND FEES

Whereas, under existing statutes, nonprofit hunting, fishing, conservation, shooting and similar clubs are liable for a 20% federal excise tax on membership dues, fees, and other assessments in excess of \$10 a year; and

Whereas, nonprofit swimming and skating clubs have been exempted administratively from this excise tax on the grounds that their facilities are available to youngsters and family groups on a local basis; and

Whereas, many nonprofit hunting, fishing, conservation, shooting and similar clubs provide recreational opportunities for the families of their members and still others open their facilities for youth instruction in nature study, hunting and fishing, as well as for picnicking, swimming and other recreational pursuits; and

Whereas, the properties of some clubs provide and maintain essential habitat for waterfowl and other forms of valuable wildlife; and

Whereas, the existing 20% federal excise tax appears to conflict with the purposes of new programs, particularly those of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to encourage civic, church, youth, sportsmen's and other groups to enter into agreements with landowners as a means of developing needed outdoor recreational opportunities on the nation's farms while at the same time taking land out of crop production and providing a means of reducing crop surpluses and stabilizing farm incomes, as well as with the urgency of wetlands preservation; and

Whereas, positive action by Congress to suggest the revision of the 20% excise tax on nonprofit hunting, fishing, conservation, shooting and similar sporting clubs, would be consistent with the findings and recommendations of the 1962 report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States, in connection with its current review of the federal excise tax structure, examine the applicability of the 20% federal excise tax on nonprofit hunting, fishing, shooting, conservation and similar clubs with a view to determining the advisability of rescinding such tax in recognition of demonstrable public benefit which can arise from the operation and maintenance of such clubs.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

WILDLIFE HABITAT RESEARCH PROGRAM OF U. S. FOREST SERVICE

Whereas, wildlife habitat management and improvement are vital components of game and fish management, especially where food and cover plants and stream conditions have been seriously depleted by misuse, natural ecological succession, or other causes; and,