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Resolution 1964-09-20 Reducing Wildlife Losses in Federal Water Control Projects

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Whereas, the U. S. Forest Service is responsible for research on the maintenance and improvement of wildlife habitat on National Forests and National Grasslands and such research is conducted cooperatively with the various state wildlife agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior, other agencies, and private industry; and,

Whereas, research has resulted in the development of procedures for improvement and management of habitat which makes possible new advances in this field and these can be implemented with state game and fish management programs through the usual good cooperation; and,

Whereas, knowledge available to public land managers and private landowners for the most effective maintenance and improvement of wildlife habitat in harmony with other uses still is inadequate;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby expresses support of the wildlife habitat research program of the U. S. Forest Service, believing that continued and expanded research will provide many of the answers needed for proper habitat management and improvement of problem areas for fish and other wildlife, and urges Congress to fully support this program with adequate funds; and,

Be it further resolved that the results of this accelerated research program be closely integrated with state game and fish management programs prior to implementation.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

REDUCING WILDLIFE LOSSES IN FEDERAL WATER CONTROL PROJECTS

Whereas, active and proposed federal agency water control projects involve substantial portions of major drainages of the United States; and

Whereas, irrigation districts, drainage districts, small watershed districts, flood control districts, and comparable governmental units formed to utilize benefits and funds of federal agencies concerned with water control involve many states; and

Whereas, many projects eradicate considerable wildlife habitat without mitigating damages to any significant degree although funds are expended annually by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state fish and wildlife agencies in investigations and negotiations directed toward mitigation; and

Whereas, the intent to give equal consideration to fish and wildlife with other purposes of water resources development in the construction of water projects is spelled out in the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and in Public Works Appropriation Act; and

Whereas, there is a serious imbalance between the huge sums appropriated for water resource development and the small sums appropriated to provide for the preservation of fish and wildlife threatened by destruction of such development; and

Whereas, state game and fish departments do not have the funds to preserve all fish, wildlife, and recreation areas threatened with destruction by these federal water control projects; and

Whereas, fish, wildlife, and recreation resources are responsible for major contributions to the economy of every state in the Union,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges Congress and the Bureau of the Budget to include in federal agency appropriations for water control projects sufficient funds for the necessary studies to determine the fish facilities and lands necessary to fully mitigate fish and wildlife losses;

And further be it resolved that said appropriations insure sufficient funds to the respective states, in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to construct, operate and maintain such fish facilities, and acquire, develop, manage and maintain such lands;

And further be it resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and the Chairman of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

THIRD NATIONAL SURVEY OF FISHING AND HUNTING

Whereas, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service already has sponsored national surveys of fishing and hunting in 1955 and in 1960 which have proven to be vital aids in planning for the several state Conservation Departments as well as to federal and private conservation and recreation interests; and

Whereas, it is desirable to continue to assess trends in fishing and hunting participation and the contribution made by these activities to the general economy, and it continues to be important to determine to what extent tentative projections from the two base reference points in such trends need to be modified for strengthened program planning, by establishing a third point of reference for better evaluation of this data; and

Whereas, the record of sporting license sales has proven to be an unsatisfactory and inadequate source for calculating both the trends in rates of fishing and hunting participation and the total number of participants, as well as for developing much other necessary and useful information about hunters and fishermen;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service be requested to undertake a Third National Survey of Fishing and Hunting for the year 1965 which will have reasonable comparability with the two previous such surveys, both as to time interval between them and as to methodology and content involved, and hereby expresses its approval of the use of funds from the federal-aid-in-fish-and-wildlife restoration program for this purpose.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

EXCISE TAXES ON ADDITIONAL CLASSES OF FISHING TACKLE FOR USE IN D-J PROGRAM

Whereas, on August 9, 1950, the Congress approved the Dingell-Johnson Act (16 U.S.C. 777-777K), which provided that "the United States shall aid the states in fish restoration and management projects, and for other purposes," and authorized to be appropriated an amount equal to the revenue accruing in each fiscal year from the manufacturers' excise tax that is imposed on