

RESOLUTION - MAINTENANCE OF WETLANDS BY THE CLEAN WATER ACT

WHEREAS, Inland and coastal wetlands provide highly productive habitat for commercial and recreational fisheries resources, reduce flooding, recharge groundwater, trap pollutants, control erosion, and provide other benefits to natural resources and man; and

WHEREAS, Many states have become dependent on Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) for protection and maintenance of wetlands and adjacent open waters; and

WHEREAS, Many aquatic resources are directly dependent upon the quantity and quality of wetlands; and

WHEREAS, Section 404 is systematically being stripped of its effectiveness by regulatory and policy changes enacted by the U.S. Department of the Army and being threatened by proposed legislation in the U.S. Congress; and

WHEREAS, Among the most threatening of administrative changes is expansion of nationwide and statewide general permits far beyond the constricted intent of the CWA allowing such procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, urges the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch to restore the full effectiveness of the Section 404 legislation to protect wetlands and adjacent open waters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That nationwide permits of significant potential effect on aquatic resources be revoked and that all nationwide permits be constructed under the restricted CWA criteria for such permits.

## RESOLUTION - SMALL HYDROELECTRIC FACILITIES

WHEREAS, Federal land management and water resource agencies have recently been deluged by small hydropower project development applications in watersheds critically important to fisheries throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Those agencies have, in many cases, in concert with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, recommended issuance of preliminary feasibility study permits without considering cumulative environmental impacts or agency management plans; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest Power Planning Council recently determined there is a firm electric power energy surplus in certain areas of the United States which will continue for at least five years, and has in its draft Energy Plan called for a study of available hydropower development sites, their ranking as to suitability, subsequent site-banking, and optioning until power demands should require their development; and

WHEREAS, The fisheries of many states are in jeopardy because of the possible cumulative impacts from small hydro development:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, strongly supports the concepts of hydropower site-ranking, banking, and optioning, and planned future development that minimizes harm to fisheries resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Society calls upon the federal and state land management and water resource agencies to develop standardized initial site-selection criteria, scope of work and methods to guide feasibility studies and permit the proper evaluation of cumulative effects and site-specific environmental effects, and the proper conditioning of construction and operation permits in cases where projects are developed.



RESOLUTION - NATIONAL FISHING WEEK

WHEREAS, fishing provides employment for one million Americans and \$23 billion annually to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, fishing is an established tradition in North America; and

WHEREAS, the American Fisheries Society supports the wise use of fishery resources and the conveyance of the Society's goals for fishery resources through education; and

WHEREAS, the American Fisheries Society commends the U.S. Congress for its efforts in supporting fishing and conservation of America's fishery resources:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, urges the U.S. Congress to designate through a concurrent resolution an appropriate week in 1984, and in each succeeding year, as National Fishing Week.

RESOLUTION - MAINTENANCE OF THE NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY SYSTEM

WHEREAS, The National Fish Hatchery System of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperative effort between federal and state agencies that provides fishery products and technical expertise unavailable from other sources; and

WHEREAS, Federal hatcheries have made valuable contributions to the understanding and management of fisheries resources in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Fiscal Year 1983 and 1984 budgets of the U.S. Department of the Interior proposed eliminating funding for half of all federal hatcheries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, recognizes, appreciates, and supports the contributions of the National Fish Hatchery System to the enhancement of fisheries resources and their associated recreational opportunities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Society urges the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch to (1) halt unilateral closing of federal hatcheries except where hatcheries are clearly obsolete, have sustained major damage, or have incurred significant and irreversible production problems; (2) allow transfer or closing of federal hatcheries (except as outlined above) only in full cooperation with all affected states and fisheries management agencies; and (3) ensure that when a change of administration results in altered objectives for the National Fish Hatchery System, that hatchery production or products be redirected to reflect that change as opposed to elimination of units of the system that do not fully conform to the new objectives.



RESOLUTION - MAINTENANCE OF THE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH  
UNIT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Research Unit Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has provided the highest possible standard of scientific research, student training, public service, and state-federal-university cooperative work; and

WHEREAS, Nearly one-half of all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ph.D. level researchers are within the Unit Program; and

WHEREAS, The Unit Program is highly cost effective, providing a match of three non-federal dollars for every federal dollar invested; and

WHEREAS, The Fisheries Units have investigated important fisheries problems such as environmental contaminants, land and water resource development planning, anadromous fish restoration, endangered species, etc.; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of the Interior has requested zero funding for the Units in Fiscal Years 1982, 1983, and 1984, but the U.S. Congress has repeatedly reaffirmed their intent to continue the important mission of the Units by maintaining funding; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has stated its intention to terminate employment of all federal workers in the Units by September 1983, regardless of whether Congress maintains Unit funding:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, deplores the actions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to terminate the Unit Program and dispose of the Program's federal employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Society urges the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch to restore funding of \$4.6 million, to restore the Units' 92 personnel ceilings, and fill all current vacancies necessary for continued operation of the Units; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That future federal budget and personnel proposals recognize the value of the Units and be structured not only to maintain, but to enhance operation of the Cooperative Research Unit Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



RESOLUTION - APPRECIATION TO THE HOSTS OF THE 113TH ANNUAL  
MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

WHEREAS, The 113th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, convened in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 16-20, 1983, has been hosted by the University of Wisconsin System, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society; and

WHEREAS, The American Fisheries Society and its members have enjoyed the hospitality of the State of Wisconsin, the University System, and the Wisconsin Chapter; and

WHEREAS, The hosts have provided excellent arrangements and facilities for its 113th Annual Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 113th Annual Meeting, August 17, 1983, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, hereby expresses its appreciation to the University of Wisconsin System, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society for their hospitality and planning in making this meeting an outstanding success.