

**RESOLUTION - APPRECIATION TO HOST 124TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY**

WHEREAS, the 124th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society convened in Halifax, Nova Scotia, August 24, 1994 and was hosted by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans; and

WHEREAS, the city of Halifax has provided irrefutable proof of its well deserved reputation as an excellent meeting place at the "great long harbor - Chebucto"; and

WHEREAS, conference attendees have greatly appreciated the hospitalities and facilities graciously provided by the peoples and Province of Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS, the scenic beauty of your land has reinvigorated the expectations of our visiting fisheries professionals in the pursuit of fishery excellence; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the membership of the American Fisheries Society, fleeted in harbor of Halifax on the 24th day of August 1994, commends and thanks the staff of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Atlantic International Chapter, the City of Halifax, the Province of Nova Scotia, and especially the Arrangements Committee, chaired by Peter Amiro, for making the 1994 Annual Meeting a great success.

RESOLUTION - MANAGEMENT OF LARGE RIVER-FLOODPLAIN
ECOSYSTEMS

Plan

WHEREAS, the natural hydrology and landscape of large river-floodplain ecosystems throughout the Mississippi River Basin have been altered by navigation dams, levee districts and watershed modifications; and

WHEREAS, riverine flora and fauna are dependent on natural hydrologic variation and seasonal flooding; and

WHEREAS, the effects of navigation and flood protection structures have been documented to adversely impact natural ecological processes; and

WHEREAS, current floodplain management, navigation activities and land use practices are heavily influenced by federal subsidies; and

WHEREAS, floodplain restoration is congruent with federal objectives of reducing flood damages by nonstructural means (e.g. flood easements or buyouts), reducing disaster assistance payments, reducing agricultural overproduction and the need for price supports, preserving biodiversity and providing outdoor recreational opportunities, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 124th Annual Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Aug. 24, 1994, supports federal and state initiatives to restore to the maximum extent possible, the natural hydrologic regime and floodplain landscape of large river-floodplain ecosystems in the Mississippi River Basin.

RESOLUTION - FISHERY IMPACTS FROM LOW DISSOLVED OXYGEN DISCHARGES AT HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS

WHEREAS, adverse fishery impacts from low dissolved oxygen discharges at hydroelectric projects are well documented in the southeastern states and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (COE) has maintained that reservoir stratification is a natural process and that resultant low dissolved oxygen discharges from dams are not point source pollution, thus not subject to state water quality standards for dissolved oxygen as are Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensed projects; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority has demonstrated that low dissolved oxygen problems are amenable to system-wide solution through cooperative federal-state-private effort; and

WHEREAS, changing public values associated with fishery resources and recreation may warrant benefit reallocations at federal hydroelectric reservoirs, some of which have operated for 30-40 years without reevaluation such as occurs at private projects licensed by the FERC, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society, assembled on August 24, 1994, at the 124th Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, urged Congress to require, through a Clean Water Act amendment or other appropriate legislation, that all federal hydroelectric projects comply with state water quality and flow requirements, a compulsory condition at FERC-licensed projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the responsible federal agencies (i.e. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation) implement solutions to documented dissolved oxygen problems with appropriate congressional support for funding and priorities.

RESOLUTION ON ROTENONE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

WHEREAS, rotenone has been a valuable tool in fisheries management for the past 45 years and the need for rotenone will continue in the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, rotenone is an essential tool for use in restoring threatened and endangered species of fish, controlling fish diseases, eradicating unwanted and harmful exotic fishes, manipulating fish populations to maintain productive sport fisheries, reclaiming aquatic habitats, and quantifying fish populations and communities; and

WHEREAS, the use of rotenone in fisheries management is increasingly a concern to environmental and animal-rights organizations, the regulatory requirements and registering and using rotenone are becoming more complex, and these trends are expected to continue and represent challenges to the continued use of rotenone; and

WHEREAS, state and federal fisheries management agencies use rotenone and consequently share in the responsibility of guaranteeing its availability in the future; and

WHEREAS, this shared responsibility requires that a stewardship program be developed through gaining consensus among, and promoting the best practices of, fish and wildlife management agencies, and failure to develop and implement a stewardship program will result in the eventual loss of rotenone as a viable tool in fisheries management.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 124th Annual Meeting on August 24, 1994, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, supports the need for a stewardship program for rotenone use in fisheries management, and that the program include developing and implementing guidelines for appropriate and effective uses, proactive long-term strategies for continued use, innovative funding mechanisms for financing activities necessary to maintain use, mechanisms for working in partnership with regulatory agencies, and mechanisms for information transfer on related issues.

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this recommendation extends to the utilization of funds from the United States Department of the Interior Federal Aid Administrative Funds for the critical components of developing and implementing the stewardship program for rotenone.

RESOLUTION - PROTECTING NATIVE MOLLUSCAN BIODIVERSITY:
ELIMINATION OF THE NONINDIGENOUS BLACK CARP,
Mylopharyngodon piceus (Richardson, 1846).

WHEREAS, the black carp *Mylopharyngodon piceus* (Richardson 1846) a large mollusk-eating fish from Asia, has been intentionally brought into the U.S. and the Midwest as a possible control for zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*); and

WHEREAS, many nonindigenous aquatic species eventually escape or are intentionally introduced into our streams and lakes; and

WHEREAS, the introduction and proliferation of the black carp has the potential for severely altering aquatic ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, North American streams and lakes are the home to the most diverse freshwater molluscan fauna in the world, many of which are threatened with extinction; and

WHEREAS, to prevent said extinction, it is imperative that propagation of the exotic black carp be prohibited to prevent intentional release or escape into North American waters;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 124th annual meeting, 24 August 1994, in Halifax, Nova Scotia urges all state, provincial, and federal governments and the natural resources agencies under their charge to take immediate steps to eliminate all existing populations of the black carp now in North American and prohibit any additional importation; and further to develop scientifically-based policies, procedures, protocols, and regulations to prevent the importation, introduction, and international transfer of other such exotics.

RESOLUTION: REGULATION OF MERCURY IN DISPOSAL OF FLUORESCENT LAMPS

WHEREAS, mercury is a serious contaminant that adversely impacts fisheries and is the most frequent fish contaminant responsible for human health fish consumption advisories in the United States and Canada, and

WHEREAS, mercury is a highly toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative element which is transported throughout the global atmosphere and deposited in "remote" waters, and

WHEREAS, mercury is contained in fluorescent lamps and typical solid waste management practices involve compaction in landfills or incineration, both practices result in breakage and release of gaseous mercury, these releases pose long-term risk due to regional and global atmospheric transport with ultimate bioaccumulation in fish, and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has proposed a regulation for public comment to exempt fluorescent lamps from the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C for hazardous waste management; and

WHEREAS, USEPA is simultaneously establishing maximum available control technologies for mercury sources pursuant to the Clean Air Act, proposing tightening water quality criteria for mercury under the Clean Water Act, placing priority on mercury contaminated Superfund sites, but is proposing to exempt mercury-containing lamps from RCRA requirements for hazardous waste, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society, assembled on August 24, 1994, at the 124th Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, urges:

USEPA RCRA and state Solid Waste Management Agencies support all efforts to eliminate atmospheric transport of mercury by adopting the "Universal Waste Rule" option for the estimated 500 million used fluorescent lamps disposed of annually for the following reasons:

- Inclusion in the Universal Waste Rule will result in an economic incentive to recycle mercury-containing lamps consistent with the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990;

- Facilitating the recycling of lamps closes the loop between manufacturing and disposal, promoting the recycling industry;

- The universal waste rule addresses the effects of this difficult-to-control, persistent, bioaccumulative toxic element in a cross-media approach rather than allowing the potential shifting of mercury from waste to air, and ultimately, water and fish.

RESOLUTION - MANAGEMENT OF LARGE RIVER-FLOODPLAIN ECOSYSTEMS

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RESOLUTION BY THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY IN SUPPORT OF PROGRAM
REQUIREMENT FUNDING FOR THE GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission was established in 1955 to coordinate efforts jointly between Canada and the United States to sustain productivity of fish stocks of common concern, and to eradicate or minimize populations of sea lamprey in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Commission suppressed sea lamprey populations through lampricide and sea lamprey barrier control methods, and together with federal, provincial, state, and tribal agencies, restored the devastated fisheries in the Great Lakes that have annually provided over 4 million anglers with 55 million angler-days of recreation, stimulated total economic activity of \$2-4 billion, and supported some 75,000 person-years of employment; and

WHEREAS, the fisheries and the biological integrity of the Great Lakes ecosystem depend upon a sustained, adequately-supported sea lamprey control program; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission kept program expenditures level for many years at the request of both governments, although the Commission rejected this condition in 1992 when it became clear that sea lamprey predation seriously affected the fisheries of Lake Huron and other areas because of inadequate sea lamprey control; and

—WHEREAS, increased sea lamprey control costs in recent years (caused by sea lamprey population expansion, U.S. EPA requirements to reregister lampricides, lampricide costs that have tripled since 1986, and the continued need to develop and implement sea lamprey control alternatives) have created a deficiency of some \$8 million between appropriations and mandated program requirements; and

WHEREAS, governments, industries, and citizens have invested billions of dollars in Great Lakes clean-up and rehabilitation, thus compelling continued investment to protect and maintain the social, economic, recreational, and environmental benefits resulting from the Great Lakes fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the recent one-time appropriation increase for lampricide reregistration by the government of the United States, and the base-budget appropriation increase by the government of Canada (that we anticipate will be matched by the United States), shows the concern and good will of both parties; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 124th Annual Meeting on August 24, 1994 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada urges the Governments of Canada and the United States to protect these benefits and provide the opportunity for progress by meeting the Great Lakes Fishery Commission full cost estimated for fiscal year 1996 program requirements, which is \$21.3 million in U.S. dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Fisheries Society Executive Committee will work with the Society Executive Director to communicate to Congressional and Parliamentary representatives, executives of the Canadian Department Fisheries and Oceans and the U.S. State Department, the Canadian Prime Minister, and the President of the United States that failure to provide such funding will place the social, economic, and environmental benefits accruing from the Great Lakes fisheries at further serious risk.

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RESOLUTION ON CREDENTIALS RELATED TO THE HIRING OF BIOLOGISTS AND ECOLOGISTS

WHEREAS, the governments of Canada and the United States presently recognize the role of formal education as standard means of acquiring training and experience for biologists and ecologists; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Public Service has adopted a policy on credentialism that eliminates all reference to the role of formal education when describing a job, advertising or hiring for biology positions; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Public Service recognizes that training and experience are justifiable means by which the Province should hire biologists and ecologists; and

WHEREAS, formal education recognized by the awarding of degrees and diplomas by accredited degree granting educational institutions is the widely accepted standardized process for acquiring training and experience in specialized scientific and technical disciplines; and

WHEREAS, biology and ecology are scientific, technical and highly quantitative disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the sustainability of natural resources depends on credible analysis and advice from qualified experts in these disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the issues germane to the sustainability of natural resources are continuing to grow in complexity; and

WHEREAS, specialized programs are widely offered by accredited educational institutions in the fields of biology and ecology, let it be

RESOLVED that the American Fisheries Society, assembled at its 124th Annual Meeting on 24 August 1994 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, urges the government of Ontario to formally recognize in its hiring processes and job specifications for biologists and ecologists, that formal education at accredited institutions is the normally accepted standard for acquiring the necessary training and experience.