



Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc.

RESOLUTION

Support for Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program Funding and the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife Campaign

WHEREAS, the states play an essential role in the conservation and management of fish and wildlife and their habitats thereby enhancing our quality of life and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Pittman-Robertson, Dingell-Johnson, and Wallop-Breaux Acts established funds to support conservation and science-based management of wild birds, mammals and sport fish species financed by hunters, owners of firearms, anglers, and boaters; and

WHEREAS, a similar dedicated and sustainable funding mechanism is lacking for the many species of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles and invertebrates that are not currently eligible for funding through existing laws; and

WHEREAS, the states, territories, and District of Columbia developed and recently updated historic, comprehensive and scientifically-based State Wildlife Action Plans that identify over 12,000 species of greatest conservation need; and

WHEREAS, there is a recognized need to expand the funding base for wildlife conservation throughout the United States to effectively implement State Wildlife Action Plans, and that such implementation is estimated to cost over \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources was tasked with recommending a new funding mechanism to support state fish and wildlife conservation to ensure the sustainability of all fish and wildlife for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Panel recommends that Congress dedicate up to \$1.3 billion annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and water to the existing unfunded Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program; and

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WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Panel also recommended that the impact of societal changes on the relevancy of fish and wildlife conservation be examined and recommendations made on how programs and agencies can advance to engage and serve broader constituencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc. notify the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies that it stands ready to support and participate in national efforts and events of the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife campaign and the Blue Ribbon Panel to engage the United States Congress and the Administration to support and pass legislation to create a 21st century conservation funding model that provides states, territories, and the District of Columbia with sustained and dedicated funding to conserve all fish and wildlife and their habitats; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc. supports the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc. stands ready to support and implement continuing efforts by the Blue Ribbon Panel to develop recommendations that will ensure state fish and wildlife agencies remain relevant and supported by all citizens into the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and Executive Committee of the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc. ensure that all members of the Association be fully informed about progress and opportunities relative to the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel and the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife, thereby ensuring the effective participation of the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc. in the nationwide effort to secure stable financial support for the conservation and management of all fish and wildlife species, and their habitats.

Adopted: November 1, 2017

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