

WESTERN DIVISION, AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY BUSINESS MEETING

BUTTE, MONTANA - JULY 12, 1966

Meeting called to order by President Fred Locke at 3:10 P.M.

Number of persons present - 43.

President Locke thanked all who worked on committees during the past year.

President Locke stated that the Western Division had a good bank balance on hand and suggested that no dues be collected this year.

Chuck Campbell moved that we dispense with the collection of dues. Motion seconded by Art Whitney. The Motion carried.

Art Whitney reported a communciation from President I. B. Byrd expressing his regrets that he could not be present at the meeting due to the airline strike. Accomplishments of the Society for the year were listed in President Byrd's report. The membership roles have now exceeded 4,000 in number.

President Locke proceeded with a call for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Motion by Art Whitney to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion seconded by Stacy Gebhards. Motion passed. President Locke called for a financial report and an auditing committee report. Balance on hand in savings account - \$221.31 - July 12, 1966. Dean Marriage, Chairman of Auditing Committee reported that the books are in order. Moved by Dean Marriage that the financial report be accepted. Motion seconded by Chuck Campbell. Motion passed.

President Fred Locke commented on the growth of local chapters.

Membership report was submitted by Howard Horton by letter.

A letter from Max Katz, Chairman of the Pollution Control Committee was read by the secretary. Activities of the committee during the past year were summarized.

President Locke called for a report from the Resolutions Committee.

Don Andriano, Chairman, Resolutions Committee presented resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

To protest the action of the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association asking for repeal of the Dingell-Johnson Law,

WHEREAS, the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association has recently passed a resolution asking for repeal of the Dingell-Johnson Law and the excise tax on sport fishing tackle and equipment, and

WHEREAS, the revenue derived from this tax on the sport fishing tackle has enabled the state fish and game departments of the several states to carry on fisheries research, develop fishing waters and improve fish habitat extensively, and in general, substantially promote fisheries resource throughout the country, and

WHEREAS, anglers generally are glad to pay this tax which returns to their benefit by increasing fishing water and improving fish habitat and information through investigation to provide for scientific management of the fisheries resources of the nation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society opposes the resolution of the American Fishing Tackle

Manufacturers Association for repeal of the Dingell-Johnson Law and vigorously protests the repeal of the excise tax of sport fishing tackle and equipment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed to the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association and to Congressional delegates of the western states.

Submitted by New Mexico Fish and
Game Department

DISCUSSION OF THE RESOLUTION

H.R. 158 would repeal Dingell-Johnson Law and in its place a twelve million dollar Federal appropriation would be made each year to aid states with fisheries programs.

Resolutions committee reported the resolution without recommendation.

Comments against the resolution and in favor of repeal of the Dingell-Johnson Act.

Congressional appropriation may provide more funds than present D. J. plan.

D. J. excise tax is a discriminatory tax on fishing tackle manufacturers.

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION

Presently each state receives their fair share of the D. J. monies. This may not be true with congressional appropriation as there is no guarantee that money would be appropriated.

The continuity of present research programs could be seriously disrupted if there was a failure to appropriate funds.

Chuck Campbell moved that Resolution No. 1 be adopted. Motion

seconded by Alex Calhoun. Unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

To support S.3107, A BILL to provide for a comprehensive review of national water resource problems and programs, and for other purposes and to support two companion bills, H.R. 15110 and H.R. 14151.

WHEREAS, all regions of the contiguous United States are confronted with present or potential interstate problems involving water resources vital to each and all of the states, and

WHEREAS, there are a number of states including Alaska, that are confronted with present or potential water problems of international magnitude, and

WHEREAS, there is need to provide for a comprehensive review of national water resource problems and programs, and for other purposes, and

WHEREAS, S. 3107 and companion bills H.R. 15110 and H.R. 14151 would provide for the creation of a National Water Commission to review the problems and programs mentioned above,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society go on record as supporting S. 3107, as amended, and support H.R. 15110 and H.R. 14151, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed to the President of the United States, the Governors and Congressional delegates of all member states.

Andriano moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2. Motion seconded by Art Whitney.

Whitney asked for an explanation of how National Water Commission would fit in with several other Federal agencies involved in water resource planning.

Meigs stated this commission would be made up of non-Federal employees. Would give an opportunity for a wider approach to the many facets of water problems which might involve several states. The commission would only exist for a five-year period and would have only the power of making recommendations and defining problems concerning water.

President Locke called for a voice vote, resolution passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

To request Congress to amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, Public Law 89-72 to eliminate the undue burden placed on the states by cost-sharing requirements for separable costs as they relate to fish and wildlife enhancement.

WHEREAS, the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, Public Law 89-72 contains different cost-sharing requirements, for separable costs than for joint costs allocated, and

WHEREAS, separable costs are considered as those incurred for a single purpose, such as additional height to a dam or a conservation pool to provide fishery benefits, and

WHEREAS, under Public Law 89-72 non-Federal interests are required to pay one-half the separable construction costs if fish and wildlife are to be enhanced, and must pay for operation, maintenance, and replacement of facilities associated with recreational use, and

WHEREAS, separable costs are those costs of a multiple-purpose project which would not be incurred if a particular purpose were omitted such as costs of additional height on a dam to provide a conservation pool for fish, and

WHEREAS, under Public Law 89-72 non-Federal interests must agree to pay one-half of the separable costs if fish and wildlife are to be enhanced and must pay for the operation, maintenance and replacement of facilities associated with this enhancement, and

WHEREAS, many projects which are scheduled for construction will place heavy additional financial burdens upon state fish and game agencies by added operation and maintenance costs required for fish and wildlife habitat developments, and

WHEREAS, budgetary limitations of these agencies would preclude participation in cost-sharing of 50 percent of the separable costs and full payment of operation, maintenance and replacement of enhancement facilities, and

WHEREAS, if the state fish and game agencies do not agree to participate in cost-sharing of separable costs, the fish and wildlife enhancement portion of the project will be deleted, often preventing future development of this resource as additional monies may become available to the agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society go on record as asking Congress to amend Public Law 89-72 so as to delete the cost-sharing requirements for separable costs, as they relate to fish and wildlife, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be directed to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, Governors and Congressional delegates of all member states.

Submitted by Washington Department
of Game

Andriano moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3. Motion seconded by Wayne Seaman.

Discussion pointed out the serious financial burden that cost-sharing places upon the state with a result the needed and desirable projects are left undone.

President Locke called for vote. Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

To oppose the charging of fees for the use of boat launching ramps on national forests.

WHEREAS, boat launching ramps are essential on many waters on national forest lands for anglers to take advantage of fishing opportunity, and

WHEREAS, the fishery in such waters is the responsibility of, and is managed by, the states, and

WHEREAS, the national forests are considering charging the public for the use of boat launching ramps on national forest, and

WHEREAS, this would constitute a Federal charge for fishing on state-managed fisheries,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society in convention assembled in Butte, Montana, on July 12, 1966, opposes the charging of fees by the United States Forest Service for the use of boat launching ramps, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed to the Secretary of Agriculture and Congressional delegates of the western states.

Submitted by the Oregon Game Commission

DISCUSSION:

Chuck Campbell feels that a charge for boat launching on national forest lands constitutes a charge for fishing. He did not intend that the resolution would interfere with "Golden Eagle" entrance fees, and was especially concerned with the possibility of fees being charged for boat launching facilities that had been paid for by state and D. J. funds.

It was pointed out that as the resolution was stated, it could be construed to infringe upon "Golden Eagle" programs.

President Locke suggested the resolution be rewritten and considered later in the meeting.

Resolution No. 4 was amended to exclude areas involved in "Golden Eagle" funds. Chuck Campbell moved for adoption. Motion seconded by Wayne Seaman. Second was subsequently withdrawn by Seaman. Original Resolution No. 4 was read by Andriano and he moved its adoption. Motion seconded by Meigs.

Discussion:

D. J. probably prohibits charging for facilities developed under their programs. Jack Hemphill stated that midwestern states have a real problem of other recreationists using facilities which were specifically developed for fishing. Alex. Calhoun commented that it was a complex problem which should be probed more deeply, perhaps as part of next year's formal program. President Locke called for a vote.

Seven in favor of Resolution - Seven against Resolution.
Tie vote broken by President Locke who voted against the resolution and it was defeated.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

WHEREAS, Public Law 85-624, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, states in Section 2 ..."whenever the waters of any stream or other body of water are proposed or authorized to be impounded, diverted, the channel deepened, or the stream or other body of water otherwise controlled or modified for any purpose whatever,* including navigation and drainage, by any department or agency of the United States, or by any public or private agency under Federal permit or license, such department or agency shall first consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, and with the head of the agency exercising administration over the

*underscoring added

wildlife resources of the particular state wherein the impoundment, diversion, or other control facility is to be constructed, with a view to the conservation of wildlife resources by preventing loss of and damage to such resources as well as providing for the development and impoundment thereof in connection with such water resource development," and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, has denied the applicability of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act to their Emergency Flood Control Projects in correspondence to the Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the Utah State Department of Fish and Game, and

WHEREAS, the clear intent of Congress, as set forth in Public Law 85-624 is that any Federal agency which controls or modifies a stream or body of water for any purpose shall first consult with the appropriate state and federal conservation agency prior to instituting any work, and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that some bona fide emergency flood control projects for immediate protection of human life and property do not logically permit time for consultation and submission of project plans to the resource agencies,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society does hereby urge that the United States Army Corps of Engineers, in order to carry out the intent of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and in the interest of fish and wildlife conservation, notify the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the head of the agency exercising administration over the wildlife resources of the particular state, whenever it intends to carry out emergency flood control works and to arrange for consultation.

and provision of adequate project plans, so that appropriate provision can be made to protect and conserve the fish and wildlife resources affected, except that emergency flood control works of immediate urgency would require only a notification by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Secretary of Agriculture, and to Congressional delegates of the western states.

Submitted by the Utah State Department of Fish
and Game

Resolution read by Don Andriano without recommendation. Art Whitney moved for adoption of the resolution. Motion seconded by Cliff Millenbach.

DISCUSSION:

Present relations with agency involved are not satisfactory. Resolution would aid in formulating a binding plan that they would have to follow.

President Locke called for vote. Resolution passed unanimously.

Art Whitney explained three field trips available for those in attendance:

Field trips.

1. Big Hole River
2. Anaconda Pollution Treatment
3. Fish Hatcheries - Arlee and Anaconda

President Locke asked for a report by the Nominating Committee.

Wayne Seaman, Nominating Committee Chairman, reported nominations

as follows:

Officers nominated 1966-1967:

President - Alex McRea

Vice President - Tom Trelease

Secretary-Treasurer - Paul Cuplin

National Nominating Committee Member - Chuck Campbell

Earl Goss moved for acceptance of the committee report. Motion seconded by Wendell Smith. Unanimously adopted.

Outgoing President, Fred Locke, asked Alex Calhoun to escort the new President, Alex McRea, to the podium.

President McRea gave a short acceptance speech, vowing that one of his primary objectives would be to get as many members as possible to the Hawaii meeting next year.

Paul Cuplin
Secretary-Treasurer
Western Division
American Fisheries Society