

Passed

June 27, 1969

RESOLUTION #1

*RETENTION OF FEDERAL LANDS FOR THE USE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

WHEREAS, one of the major charges of the Public Land Law Review Commission is to evaluate the various uses of the Federal lands so as to determine whether said lands, or portions thereof, should be disposed of or retained in public ownership and,

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of the fish and wildlife resources of the western states are sustained, partially or wholly, on Federal lands and,

WHEREAS, population pressures and increased leisure time will create a greater demand for the consumptive (hunting and fishing) and non-consumptive (viewing, photographing, boating, etc.) recreational use of fish and wildlife resources on Federal lands and,

WHEREAS, public access for recreational use of fish and wildlife resources is more readily available on Federal lands than on private lands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming, on June 27, 1969, supports the premise that the Federal lands should be retained in public ownership for the use and enjoyment of all the people of the nation; except after due consideration of all recreation uses, specific limited tracts of Federal lands are determined to have higher priority uses, and their transfer, sale, or exchange is given public approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Public Land Law Review Commission for its information and consideration.

*Presented by the Bonneville, Utah Chapter American Fisheries Society

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RESOLUTION #2

action^s taken by Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel in handling such a situation during the early weeks of his administration and urges that he continue his efforts to promulgate and enforce stringent regulations for oil exploration, production and transportation ~~_____~~ which will ensure ~~_____~~ pollution-free oil industry operations on offshore areas of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Western Division of American Fisheries Society requests the Governors of ^{*the Western*} ~~the~~ States which have or are apt to have offshore oil operations, to consider mutual cooperation in the promulgation and enforcement of stringent regulations, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, to ensure, insofar as possible, pollution-free oil developments in coastal areas of their respective states.

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #3

*"FUND BIOLOGICAL STUDIES AS PART OF WATER PROJECT PLANNING"

WHEREAS, Resolution III, "Fishery Resources" adopted by the Western Governors' Conference at its annual meeting on May 12-15, 1968, contains the following subparagraph:

"2. Where construction projects for dams, reservoirs and other facilities affecting fresh-water bodies are proposed, there be biological studies concurrent with or preceding engineering feasibility studies - and that these biological studies be conducted by appropriate state fish and wildlife agencies, financed by the agencies that propose to build and operate the projects," and

WHEREAS, the concern of the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, extends not only to the resident fishes of the rivers, streams and lakes of the Western United States and the runs of salmon and steelhead trout and other anadromous fish that many of those waters support, but the concern also extends to estuarial and marine fishery resources that can be adversely affected by poorly conceived or operated projects, such as: jetty construction, harbor dredging, desalinization, thermal electric generation, and other similar projects, and

WHEREAS, the prime requisites for biological studies in connection with construction projects that might adversely affect freshwater and marine fishery resources are time (early start of studies), adequate funding, and allocation of funds to the state and federal agencies who are requested to

*Submitted by Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

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furnish the basic data for the studies and who have a responsibility for protecting the fishery resources,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming, on June 27, 1969, urge Congress to ~~amend~~ revise ~~the~~ the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act whereby it will be made more effective in causing the start of biological studies before or concurrent with the start of feasibility studies, and in allocating sufficient funds commensurate with the biological problems involved and the funds being spent on feasibility and planning aspects of specific projects.

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Passed

RESOLUTION #4

*MARINE AND ESTUARINE MINING

WHEREAS, there are several studies in progress to provide information for greater exploitation of marine mineral resources and the technology ~~is~~ *has* increased at such a rapid rate that ~~mining activities~~ *have been* initiated in estuaries and on the bottom of the sea, and

WHEREAS, the wholesale disturbance of these off-shore marine and estuarine sites will cause extremely detrimental effects to the populations of fish and other marine fauna and to the habitat conditions on which they depend, to the production of extremely valuable sport and commercial fisheries, and to the maintenance of non-polluted ocean and estuarine waters, ~~and~~

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Western Division, American Fisheries Society meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming, on June 27, 1969, that the State and Federal fishery management agencies be provided funds for doing research which secures essential answers leading to the needs and methods for protecting marine and estuarine environments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act be so amended that proposed marine and estuarine mining activities are brought under the provisions of that Act for review, a report may be written concerning the fish and wildlife values involved and stipulations may be recommended to which off-shore lessees must agree to adhere before initiating their activities, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the authority of the FWPCA be expanded to cover the control of pollution resulting from marine and estuarine mining activities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of Interior and to the appropriate House and Senate Committees of the United States Congress urging their early action on the recommendations herein contained.

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #5

*"MANAGE FISHERIES
MANKIND"

WHEREAS, massive fishing efforts by foreign fishing fleets have been mounted on stocks of fish on the continental slopes of the Northeastern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea during the last several years, and

WHEREAS, it is apparent from the change in the numbers and character of the vessels in these foreign fleets and from scientific evidence that drastic depletion is occurring, and

WHEREAS, this depletion is contrary to best fishery management practices,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division American Fisheries Society, *meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969,* join Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission and others, in urging all appropriate governmental agencies and the Congress of the United States, to redouble their efforts to ensure that these resources are not over-fished and that they be managed in such a way as to provide a continuous and continuing supply of wholesome food ^{and recreation} for mankind.

*Submitted by Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #6

*"REQUESTING CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO REVISE POLICIES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO ECONOMIC ANALYSES FOR ~~LOSS~~ MITIGATION OF FISHERIES LOSSES

WHEREAS, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has developed policies and regulations (EC-1120-2-22 and ER-1165-2-104) which require that a monetary value be established for fish resources that would be lost as a result of proposed water-use projects, and

WHEREAS, such values are to be compared with the cost of providing protection or mitigation, from which benefit-cost ratios are to be secured, and

WHEREAS, such benefit-cost analyses can lead to situations where either no protection or mitigation or only partial protection or mitigation is provided,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, *meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969,* opposes the use of such economic analyses as the basis for determining the measures required to protect fish resources or means of mitigating damage to them, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Corps of Engineers is hereby requested to rescind its existing policies and regulations and replace them with a directive requiring an evaluation of fish resources affected by the project and an estimate of the costs of alternative measures necessary to protect or mitigate unavoidable losses to these resources, deleting any reference to a comparison of "benefits" and costs, and

*Submitted by Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

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RESOLUTION #6

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Chief of Engineers, the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, Pacific Southwest Division Engineer, the Secretary of the Interior, Commissioner of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to the Chairmen of the U. S. House and Senate Committees on *Public Works.* ~~_____~~

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #7

*"COLUMBIA RIVER HATCHERIES -- OPERATE AT DESIGN CAPACITY
AND MAINTAIN IN PROPER CONDITION"

WHEREAS, many of the naturally propagated runs of salmon and steelhead trout in the Columbia River Drainage have declined greatly and are continuing to decline as the result of the construction of an ever increasing number of dams and water-use projects, and

WHEREAS, the Federally financed Columbia River Fishery Development Program was instituted as mitigation for the anticipated adverse effects of dams and water use projects, and

WHEREAS, funds from the Development Program have built and are operating 21 state and federal fish hatcheries along the lower Columbia River in Oregon and Washington for the purpose of offsetting, by artificially propagated runs, the declines in natural runs, and

WHEREAS, the funds from the Development Program have been insufficient to permit full utilization of the design capacity of the hatcheries and to maintain them in proper structural and operating condition, and

WHEREAS, at the request of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, the Federal Bureau of Commercial Fisheries has furnished a report on the efficiency and economics of artificial propagation at the 21 Columbia River Development Program hatcheries, the estimated benefits and costs of operating the hatcheries at design capacity and maintaining them in proper condition, and the possibilities of increasing the design capacity of the hatcheries by the conversion and operation of certain natural ponds to rearing ponds for juvenile salmon and steelhead, and

*Submitted by Oregon Fish Commission and Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

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RESOLUTION #7

WHEREAS, the member fishery agencies of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission have studied the report carefully and have concluded that adequate funding of the operation and maintenance of the Development Program hatcheries is required to fulfill the initial promises of mitigation and to offset the declining runs of naturally propagated salmon and steelhead, and in addition is in the national interest as a profitable investment and proper management of a valuable renewable resource,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, *meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969,* join the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission in urging adequate funding of the Columbia River Fishery Development Program to permit full maintenance and operation of the 21 lower Columbia River hatcheries and the development of certain natural ponds for rearing, thereby supplementing the capacity of the hatcheries.

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #8

*SUPPORTING CONTINUED FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT STUDIES
AT COLUMBIA RIVER DAMS

WHEREAS, the anadromous fish runs of the Columbia River and its upper tributaries have great recreation and commercial value, and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of up-river salmon and steelhead runs is threatened by existing dams and the problems created by the construction of new dams and associated changes in flows, and

WHEREAS, fish passage research studies now underway and completed have answered many questions and pointed out problem areas, and

WHEREAS, the program of estimating survival and migration rates of smolts is of great value in assessing the impact of dams and production upstream, and

WHEREAS, several promising passage techniques have been proposed, and

WHEREAS, the funds expended on ladders and other fish passage facilities at existing dams; fish hatcheries upstream; and habitat improvement programs for natural salmonid production will be lost if improved passage facilities are not designed, and

WHEREAS, fisheries scientists feel that greater fish survival can be had by regulating spill releases and turbine operations at all dams but that more knowledge of the problem and solutions is needed, and

WHEREAS, the results obtained by a maximum effort fish passage research program on Columbia River dams will be useful at other proposed dams,

*Submitted by Idaho Fish & Game Department, Oregon Fish Commission and Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

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RESOLUTION #8

NOW THEREFORE, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, express its concern to Congress and to the involved agencies and ask that fish passage studies and the determination of required temperature regulation and dissolved oxygen levels of downstream releases be given high priority in agency research programs.

Passed

June 27, 1969
RESOLUTION #9

*"CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FISHING PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATION
OF
FEDERAL AND STATE WATERFOWL REFUGES"

WHEREAS, many federal and state waterfowl refuges provide much sport fishing, both in terms of quality and quantity, and

WHEREAS, in many of the arid areas of the West, such refuges include much of the area available for potential fishery development, even though acquired for the primary purpose of production and perpetuation of waterfowl species, and

WHEREAS, increasing multi-purpose demands being made upon our available water resources will continue to tax the potential of the water resources and the ingenuity of the management agencies, and

WHEREAS, considerable management and research work is being expended which represents a significant budgetary item in the operational costs of many conservation agencies toward the optimum production of sport fisheries, and

WHEREAS, more restrictive fishing seasons, regulations and trespassing enforcements are being made on these refuge areas on the assumption that fisherman activity and fishing in general during certain periods and in certain areas is detrimental to the production of waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, some interference between the fishing public and waterfowl production may occur, nevertheless, very little data has been collected or published relative to the actual conflicts involved in this dual use of refuge and management areas,

*Submitted by Nevada Fish & Game Commission

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RESOLUTION #9

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division, American Fisheries Society, meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, ^{Wyoming on} June 27, 1969, recommends to the respective federal and state agencies involved with the management and administration of waterfowl refuges, where this condition is suspect, to initiate cooperative and comprehensive investigations of the total effect and end result of this multi-purpose use aspect of waterfowl production refuges, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these findings be incorporated into the management and long-range development planning for refuges and refuge systems commensurate with their primary objectives and the opportunity for multi-purpose public recreation.

Passed

June 27, 1969
Resolution #10

*Moratorium on Dam Building - Snake River

WHEREAS, the Snake River bordering Idaho, Washington and Oregon above Lewiston, Idaho, will soon be the last free flowing remnant of the middle and lower Snake River, and

WHEREAS, the aquatic and riparian flora and fauna are unique and highly valued as recreational resources, and

WHEREAS, the white sturgeon is an endangered species because of dam construction downstream on the Columbia and Snake Rivers, and

WHEREAS, free flowing high quality river fisheries are becoming very limited, and

WHEREAS, thermo and nuclear power plants are now competitive with hydro-power plants and the sacrifice of additional rivers to dams is unnecessary,

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969, does hereby oppose the construction of any dam on the Snake River between Lewiston, Idaho, and the recently constructed Hells Canyon Dam, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that letters opposing dam construction on the Snake River be submitted to all members of the Federal Senate and House and appropriate members of the President's Cabinet.

*Submitted by Idaho Fish & Game Department

June 27, 1969
Resolution #11

Passed

* "OPPOSITION TO BEN FRANKLIN DAM"

WHEREAS, the construction of Ben Franklin Dam on the Columbia River is under consideration for planning by the Corps of Engineers and is at present under consideration for authorization by the United States Congress, and

WHEREAS, the Ben Franklin Project will inundate and destroy the last major spawning area for chinook salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River, and

WHEREAS, fall chinook salmon escapements to this area have been steadily increasing in present years with over 23,000 fall chinook salmon spawning in this section of the Columbia River in 1967, and

WHEREAS, the production from this 1967 escapement number will produce to the various fisheries over 2,300,000 pounds of salmon for harvest per annum with a first wholesale value of over \$1 million, and

WHEREAS, the various federal and state fisheries agencies of the Northwest as well as interested sport and commercial groups have gone on public record as opposing the construction of this project because of its harmful effects upon this resource, and

WHEREAS, the construction of this reservoir in itself will not be conducive to either downstream migration for juvenile or upstream passage for adult salmonids because it will intensify undesirable heating effects already present in the Columbia system and further environmental degradation of the system would impose an overwhelming burden upon maintenance of this resource,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969 oppose the authorization or construction of the Ben Franklin Project since it would result in nonrecoverable fishery losses.

*Submitted by Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission

Official Action

The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society, meeting at Jackson Lake Lodge, Wyoming on June 27, 1969, endorsed two resolutions (attached) which had previously been adopted by the North Central Division on 12/9/68 and asks that the parent Society be advised of this support.

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Resolutions Adopted by American Fisheries Society
North Central Division
Columbus, Ohio - 12/9/68

Resolution #1

CONCERNING HUMAN POPULATION DENSITY IN THE
UNITED STATES AND CANADA

WHEREAS, the quality of living and the ability to furnish quality and quantity of fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreational activities is related with human population density; and

WHEREAS, the welfare of the citizens of the United States and Canada are substantially benefited by the availability of the common outdoor recreation pursuits; and

WHEREAS, the resources upon which outdoor recreation depends are becoming increasingly scarce or abused largely because of extremely dense and scattered populations of people with associated industrial activity; and

WHEREAS, there is prospect of further gains in population density with proportionate losses in outdoor recreational opportunities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society that the Federal Governments of the United States and Canada develop an action program that would determine acceptable population densities which would assure continued quality living, and that the parent society consider adoption of this resolution.

Resolution #2
(of the North Central Division)
RECOGNITION ~~TO~~ ^{OF} THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION
OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

WHEREAS, American Fisheries Society members of the North Central Division have been recipients of distinctive professional certificates, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Professional Certification and in particular Dr. Frances Allen, members of the committee, officers of the Society and the Executive Secretary have put forth tremendous effort in providing these certifications;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Central Division herewith commends the Board and Officers of the Society for their unselfish and exemplary service to the profession.