

RESOLUTION NO. 1 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

July 14, 1970

COMMUNICABLE FISH DISEASES

WHEREAS, several new serious communicable diseases (IPN, IHN, egtved, whirling) have recently been diagnosed in the fisheries field; and  
WHEREAS, these diseases are spreading rapidly throughout the entire country; and

WHEREAS, the reaction of these diseases vary by strains of pathogens and their effects on different species and varieties of fish; and

WHEREAS, knowledge of the impact which these diseases have on fish populations, both wild and domestic, is limited or grossly lacking; and

WHEREAS, the lack of data is placing a severe burden on fish and game management agencies in making proper decisions regarding the culture and disposition of infected fish, and further, the lack of knowledge and resulting confusion have curtailed the commercial sales and distribution of fish and fish eggs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society petition the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and Canada Department of Fisheries and Forestry to intensify their research program to:

1. Define the epizootiology and etiology of the diseases (primarily viral) including the methods of transmission and the determination of when an infected fish becomes an effective transmitter.
2. Determine the impact of the disease on domestic and particularly wild fish populations by variety and species.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

July 14, 1970

ANALYSIS OF THE FISH AND WILDLIFE ROLE IN WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, passage of the Act of March 10, 1934, subsequently amended and cited as the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, gave the promise of protection for fish and wildlife resources at Federal water developments, and at projects under Federal permit or license; and

WHEREAS, Senate Document 97 and Public Law 89-72 provide for full and equal consideration of fish and wildlife in the formulation of Federal water development projects; and

WHEREAS, after many years of practical experience it is apparent that the resources are not being protected adequately and the fish and wildlife conservation agencies have been unsuccessful in attaining the degree of interrelated cooperation necessary to attain the objectives of said legislation; and

WHEREAS, much of the problem is attributable to divergent and inadequately coordinated programs, policies, organizational structures, and funding arrangements which preclude timely biological studies and decisions among and between Federal and State conservation and water development agencies; and

WHEREAS, water development clearly affects the quality of the environment, and it is incumbent on us to insure that the results of future water development are consistent with the goals of a quality environment in this country;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society does hereby request the Secretary of the Interior to direct the

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with the several states and all water development and regulatory agencies of the Federal Government, to initiate a comprehensive review and evaluation of those programs, policies, and procedures affecting the inclusion and funding of fish, wildlife, and environmental aspects in federally financed or regulated water development projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society requests the Secretary of the Interior to develop, in cooperation with the several states and all water development and regulatory agencies of the Federal Government, recommendations based on this review and evaluation to assure maximum effectiveness in preserving and enhancing fish and wildlife resources at federally financed or regulated water developments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society requests all water development and regulatory agencies of the Federal Government and the fish and wildlife agencies of the several states to cooperate fully toward the attainment of these objectives.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

JULY 14, 1970

\*"RETENTION OF U. S. BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR"

WHEREAS, the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries has a long and proud history of research and management of both marine and freshwater stocks of fin and shellfish under the Department of Interior; and

WHEREAS, it has become a fact that nearly all stocks of both marine and anadromous fish that were once considered for food alone are now becoming equally important as sport fish; and

WHEREAS, there is need for closer coordination in research and management of all stocks of fish between United States Federal and State agencies and Foreign Nations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed publicly announced transfer of the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries from the Department of Interior, which has long past experience with management of natural resources, to the Department of Commerce with little experience with living resources, appears to be a backward step in natural resource husbandry; and

WHEREAS, the move of the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries to the Department of Commerce will widen the friction between Sport and Commercial fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the fisheries resources now need the combined management efforts of all agencies to provide adequate stocks of fish to all interests;

\* Submitted by Oregon Chapter, American Fisheries Society

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Division American Fisheries Society urges the Congress of the United States to oppose the transfer of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries to the Department of Commerce.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

JULY 14, 1970

ASSESSMENT AND COMPENSATION FOR FISH LOSSES RESULTING  
FROM SUPER-SATURATION OF NITROGEN - COLUMBIA RIVER

WHEREAS, for the past four years waters of the Columbia River during the spring runoff have been found to contain saturations of nitrogen gas that are lethal to fish populations; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined super-saturation of nitrogen is being induced by spills at the various dams operated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, observations have shown that mortalities and moribund fish are resulting from these conditions; and

WHEREAS, the extent and damage to the fisheries resources of the Columbia River is unknown;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers be urged to finance investigations to determine the loss of fish from nitrogen saturation and when these damages are assessed, fund and take necessary steps for restitution.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

JULY 14, 1970

REIMBURSEMENT FOR FISHWAY INSPECTION

WHEREAS, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has constructed many hydro-  
electric projects on streams and rivers supporting anadromous fish; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers operates and maintains fish  
passage and fish protective devices at most of these facilities; and

WHEREAS, the fish facilities at these dams have been continually found  
to be operated under conditions that have caused fish mortalities,  
fish delays and fish blockage; and

WHEREAS, to insure proper operating procedures are followed the State and  
Federal fishery agencies have found it necessary to continually  
inspect these facilities at considerable expense in manpower and  
funds;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers be urged  
to reimburse the State and Federal fishery agencies expenses necessary  
for inspection and correction of fish facility operations at Corps  
of Engineers dams.

RESOLUTION NO. 6 ADOPTED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

JULY 14, 1970

INTRACONTINENTAL MOVEMENT OF UNDESIRABLE FISHES

WHEREAS, a number of fishes now occurring only in restricted parts of North America could seriously damage fisheries in other parts of the continent where they do not now occur; and

WHEREAS, the intracontinental shipment of live fish in all stages of its life cycle by truck and air is increasing rapidly and will probably continue to accelerate; and

WHEREAS, The Lacey Act, The Black Bass Act and the laws of the various states designed to control this situation no longer suffice because of the ease with which fish in all stages of its life cycle can now be transported great distances within a few hours, and the resulting great increase in such shipments; and

WHEREAS, small noncommercial air shipments pose unusually serious problems because they are so difficult to monitor and to regulate; and

WHEREAS, the results of extending the distribution of undesirable fishes could be extremely grave; for example, if the walking catfish were to invade the sections of Arkansas and adjacent states where bait minnows and goldfish are raised in great quantities they could virtually destroy the industry, and gizzard shad, freshwater drum, gar, and a number of other undesirable species could seriously damage the sport fisheries west of the Continental Divide if they were to invade waters there; and



WHEREAS, state fish and game departments which are grappling with this problem cannot solve it effectively under present circumstances because it involves interstate shipments and is therefore national in scope;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Exotic Fish Committee of the American Fisheries Society be urged to study this problem in depth and to recommend appropriate solutions.

RESOLUTION TABLED BY WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

July 14, 1970

AFS MEETING PLACES

WHEREAS, the American Fisheries Society asserts itself to be organized and dedicated to the exchange of fisheries information among professional fisheries workers; and

WHEREAS, fisheries biologists and managers, many of whom are workers at the lower echelons, find the Society's annual meeting costs excessively high to the individual members, if not prohibitive; and

WHEREAS, many more working members could and would attend the annual meetings if the most expensive hotels could be avoided and registration costs could be kept to a minimum; and

WHEREAS, attending members' costs for the conference hotel could be considerably less if held at smaller and more competitive convention centers; and

WHEREAS, the need for having the annual conference at large expensive hotels has been necessitated by the gross or unwieldy size of the Joint Conference of the American Fisheries Society and the International Association of Game and Fish Commissioners;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society divorce itself of all entanglements from the International Association of Game and Fish Commissioners, and hold meetings separate in time and place; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the future all annual meetings of the American Fisheries Society be held at hotels or convention centers where costs to the membership will be considerably lower than the past couple of years and are such that Society members with nonadministrative type jobs can afford to partake in this exchange of professional fisheries information.