

NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY



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Native American Fish & Wildlife Society RESOLUTION

Title: Support for the Protection of Wildlife Corridors

Resolution No. 19-002

WHEREAS, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society ("NAFWS") was established in recognition of the importance and respect accorded to fish and wildlife by Native American people; and

WHEREAS, the NAFWS is composed of Indian Tribes, organizations and people as well as federal and state agency representatives forming "a national Native American organization to aid in the development and protection of Native American fish and wildlife resources"; and

WHEREAS, wildlife species can move considerable distances to meet their daily, seasonal and ecological needs and their movement often crosses multiple jurisdictional boundaries, including tribal, public, and private lands; and

WHEREAS, tribal lands and waters provide vital habitat for hundreds of wildlife species and also serve as and include important corridors for wildlife across larger landscapes; and

WHEREAS, fragmentation such as roads, fences, development and other barriers are increasingly making it more difficult for wildlife to migrate and move safely across large landscapes; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase the capacity of tribal communities to coordinate wildlife management strategies across a larger intertribal landscape and establish a framework for advancing on-the-ground habitat connectivity projects; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to foster collaboration among tribal, state, and federal wildlife and land managers to promote and protect landscape connectivity; and

WHEREAS, Tribes are currently excluded from Interior Secretarial Order 3362 which aims to improve wildlife corridor and habitat connectivity; and

WHEREAS, tribes have limited access to sustainable funding streams to provide for their science planning, and other capacity needs to address wildlife and habitat connectivity.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society hereby supports the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act that aims to mitigate connectivity issues by establishing National Wildlife Corridors, a grants program and database to deliver habitat connectivity for native fish, wildlife, and plant species; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society supports the inclusion of Tribes in such legislation and that it provides resources to assist Tribes with their wildlife and habitat connectivity efforts on tribal lands; and

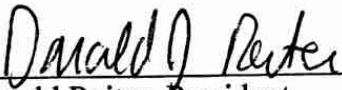
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society calls for the Interior Department to make Secretarial Order 3362 inclusive of the nation's federally-recognized Tribes; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society is supportive of collaborative efforts amongst tribal, state, federal, and private land managers to protect wildlife corridors and other habitat connectivity needs across large landscapes on and off tribal lands.

Certification

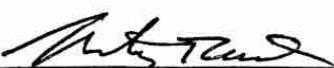
This resolution was enacted by the affirmative vote of the Society membership who attended the National Business Meeting held on May 23, 2019. The vote is 53 voting in favor, 0 voting against and 0 members abstaining.

Dated this 23rd Day of May, 2019.



Donald Reiter, President
Native American Fish & Wildlife Society

Attest:



Mitzi Reed, Secretary/Treasurer
Native American Fish and Wildlife Society