



NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY
10465 Melody Drive, Ste. 307, Northglenn, CO 80234
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www.nafws.org

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society
RESOLUTION

Title: Support for Dedicated Federal Funding to Recover Fish & Wildlife

Resolution No. 2021-002

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, 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, this nation is blessed with a diverse array of fish and wildlife, and while some of these species are thriving, many more are facing increasing challenges and are in steep decline – increasing their possibility of becoming endangered. Nationwide, 12,000 species have been identified that are in need of proactive conservation action, and we must rise to the challenge that confronts us; and

WHEREAS, tribal lands and waters are essential for wildlife conservation and conservation opportunities on tribal lands overshadow any other non-public land conservation opportunity; and

WHEREAS, tribes own and influence the management of a natural resource base of nearly 140 million acres, including more than 730,000 acres of lakes and reservoirs, over 10,000 miles of streams and rivers, and over 18 million acres of forested lands; and

WHEREAS, tribal lands provide vital habitat for more than 525 federally-listed threatened and endangered plants and animals, many of which are both biologically and culturally significant to Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Tribes are proven leaders in the protection of these landscapes and their wildlife that provides a model and lessons for other natural resource managers; and

WHEREAS, current funding for both Tribes and states only provides a mere fraction of what is needed to conserve wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, despite a history of underfunding and exclusion from federal funding, Tribes have some of the most accomplished natural resource programs in the nation and protect hundreds upon hundreds of wildlife species and their habitat.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society hereby supports the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA), similar legislation or any other fiscal avenue that will be used for the recovery of fish and wildlife species and preventing them from becoming endangered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society respectfully requests that a minimum of \$97.5 million each fiscal year be dedicated directly to Tribes to assist with wildlife conservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society supports that such legislation meant to recover wildlife species must be inclusive of Tribes and that resources must be dedicated to assist Tribes with their wildlife conservation efforts on tribal lands as it's important for all tribes to develop capacity for ongoing programs.

Certification

This resolution was enacted by the affirmative vote of the Society membership who attended the National Business Meeting held on October 5, 2021. The vote is 28 voting in favor, 0 voting against and 0 members abstaining.

Dated this 5th day of October, 2021.



Elveda Martinez, SW Regional Board Member and Society President



Mike LaVoie, SE Regional Board Member and Society Vice-President

Attest:



Mitzi Reed, SE Regional Board Member and Secretary/Treasurer
Native American Fish and Wildlife Society