

## NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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www.nafws.org

## Native American Fish & Wildlife Society RESOLUTION Title: Membership with the Alliance for America's Fish & Wildlife

Resolution No. 19-003

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, 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, that the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society hereby supports the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) and similar legislation for the recovery of fish and wildlife species and preventing them from becoming endangered by dedicating \$1.3 billion annually to assist states with wildlife conservation; and

WHEREAS, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society respectfully requests and supports an additional \$97.5 million each fiscal year be dedicated directly to Tribes to assist with wildlife conservation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in order for the RAWA and similar legislation to move forward for the benefit of Indian Tribe it's necessary for the Society to enter into productive partnerships with non-Governmental agencies such as the Alliance for America's

Fish and Wildlife ("Alliance") that is a part of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alliance is willing to work with the Society in a collaborative manner in advocating for increased funding for state and tribal wildlife conservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society wishes to become a member of the Alliance and requests that such membership application is completed in accordance with noted requirements for the betterment of conservation on 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 <u>53</u> voting in favor, <u>o</u> voting against and <u>o</u> 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