Native American Fish & Wildlife Society
RESOLUTION
Title: Recognizing Mother Earth as a Human Being

Resolution No. 2021-001

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 recognizes the importance and respect given to Mother Earth ("Mother") by Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the NAFWS is dedicated to our Mother, who gave birth to our beginnings and allows and provided for all life, including our future generations; and

WHEREAS, our Mother provides us with oxygen through photosynthesis every day, she spins the water cycle to give us rain and snow, her soils provide plants for us and the animals to eat, and she provides all the raw materials we use for shelter and protection from extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS, the Indigenous people of the earth are concerned about the health and welfare of our Mother, she is suffering and out of balance because of human abuse and pollution; and

WHEREAS, our Mother needs our protection from further harm and she is entitled to receive our recognition and help as a living being, it is our duty to help heal, restore and protect her ability to continue her live-giving purpose; and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NAFWS supports and defends the designation of Mother Earth as human, with all rights to a healthy and balanced life, free from abuse and destruction; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution will support the NAFWS and Native Americans when we speak on behalf of Mother Earth when she is threatened or harmed.

Certification

This resolution was enacted by the affirmative vote of the Society membership who attended the National Business Meeting held on October 5th, 2021. The vote is 26 voting in favor, 0 voting against and 0 members abstaining.

Dated this 5th day of October, 2021

Elveda Martinez, SW Regional Board Member and NAFWS President

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

Attest:

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