



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 the Protection of Wildlife Corridors

Resolution No. 2021-003

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, 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 Tribal Wildlife Corridors 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 calls for and supports \$50 million be included into the legislation for the implementation of this act; 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 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, Southwest Regional Board Member and Society President

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

Attest:

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

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