



NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY
10465 Melody Drive, Ste. 307, Northglenn, CO 80234
303-466-1725
www.nafws.org

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society RESOLUTION

Title: Support for Dedicated Federal Funding to Recover Wildlife

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, 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, the current funding for Tribes only provides a mere fraction of what is needed to conserve wildlife species due to the inequity in funding received by them; the current practice of Tribes competing for grants for Tribal fish and wildlife funding does not build capacity or support self-governance; 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; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Region is experiencing severe drought and Climate Change issues that are negatively affecting fish, wildlife, plants and all living species; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society's Southwest Region 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

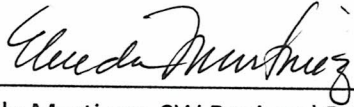
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's Southwest Region respectfully requests that a minimum of \$97.5 million each fiscal year be dedicated directly to Tribes to assist with wildlife conservation through the Recovering of America's Wildlife Act or other funding; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's Southwest Region supports that such legislation meant to recover wildlife species, build capacity to maintain fish and wildlife programs, provide for conservation of habitat and provide funding for enforcement must be inclusive of Tribes and that financial resources must be dedicated to assist Tribes with all of their wildlife conservation needs and efforts on tribal and traditional lands, as it's important for all tribes to protect, preserve and maintain their natural resources for generations to come.

Certification

This resolution was enacted by the affirmative vote of the Society membership who attended the Southwest Regional Business Meeting held on August 12, 2021. The vote is __27__ voting in favor, __0__ voting against and __0__ members abstaining.

Dated this 12th day of August, 2021.



Elveda Martinez, SW Regional Board Member and Society President



Darren Talayumptewa, SW Regional Board Member

Attest:



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