

RESOLUTION #2008-1

PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE VALUE OF OUR NATION'S
LAKES

WHEREAS, the Clean Lakes Program, Section 314 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), was developed to protect and enhance lakes; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation revealed lakes, including reservoirs and ponds are the most popular fishing spots for the nation's 30 million anglers, hosting over 304 million days of fishing per year and supporting an annual angler expenditure of over \$17.2 billion; and

WHEREAS, the CWA was designed to ensure that the water resources of the United States could fulfill a variety of beneficial, designated uses; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Lakes Program (section 314 of the CWA) has not been funded since 1994, and less than 5% of Non-Point Source Program (Section 319) funds have been used for lake restorations which is wholly inadequate for meeting the goals of the CWA; yet lack of stewardship has caused serious deterioration of a significant portion of these aquatic habitats, the result being reduced economic value and public use. Yet a major share of our nation's lakes are not meeting the "swimmable and fishable" goals set forth in the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) has advocated for comprehensive, watershed-based approach to lake management used in the Clean Lakes Program and advocates the use of this model in the pursuit of support and funding for lake and reservoir protection and improvement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies supports the use of the Clean Lakes Program model to restore the water quality and enhance recreational opportunities in the nation's lakes and calls on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to include funding support for the Clean Lakes Program in its next budget request.

RESOLUTION #2008-2

REGULATION OF INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF FOXES AND COYOTES FOR
HOUND COURSING PENS

WHEREAS, there are potentially serious disease risks to native wildlife, domestic livestock, and human health associated with the importation of wild canids used for stocking in hound coursing pens; and

WHEREAS, importation of coyotes has contributed to the establishment of coyote populations in many locations where the species is not indigenous; and

WHEREAS, coyotes often negatively impact red fox populations and in certain situations are associated with agricultural depredation problems; and

WHEREAS, the local procurement of animals for stocking coursing pens would greatly reduce the risk of disease introduction and also would serve to minimize the rate of range expansion by coyotes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges the adoption of state-by-state regulations prohibiting the importation or interstate movement of foxes and coyotes for the purpose of stocking coursing pens or for release and pursuit by hounds outside of coursing pens.

RESOLUTION #2008-3

RECOGNITION OF THE CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP, PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND LONG-TERM SUCCESS OF THE STATE AND PROVINCIAL AGENCY MEMBERS OF THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

WHEREAS, the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies was first organized in 1934 to address “the need for unified efforts in fish and game matters in the Midwest section of the country;” and

WHEREAS, the states and provinces of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies have met annually for the last 75 years to develop and advance shared conservation goals; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has relied on the commitment of agency leaders to find time to work on issues that cross geographic and organizational boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has also played a crucial role in fostering a closer relationship between state and provincial agencies and their federal and nongovernmental partners; and

WHEREAS, the strong relationships and collegiality fostered by the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies have provided a platform for effective collaboration on issues ranging from interstate law enforcement and wildlife recreation to habitat conservation and wildlife health; and

WHEREAS, the initiative of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has fostered the emergence of the Midwest region as a national leader on important issues like Farm Bill implementation, aquatic nuisance species control and public access to private lands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at its annual meeting in Estes Park, Colorado, on July 2, 2008, acknowledges and thanks the wildlife agency personnel and other conservation leaders whose dedication and sacrifice has supported the work of the Association for the last 75 years.

RESOLUTION #2008-4

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 30 - JULY 2, 2008
ESTES PARK, COLORADO

WHEREAS, the Colorado Division of Wildlife has so efficiently and enthusiastically organized and conducted the 2008 annual meeting of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies;

WHEREAS, Director Jeff Ver Steeg and support staff have worked together with local and national conservation organization partners making all the participants welcome;

WHEREAS, the members of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies wish to express their gratitude for all the collaborative efforts of the Colorado Division of Wildlife;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies at its annual meeting in Estes Park, Colorado, on July 2, 2008, acknowledges the hard work and hospitality of Director Ver Steeg and his staff from the great state of Colorado, and hereby passes this resolution in a showing of great appreciation.