

**Resolution #2010-3**

**SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL AND STATE LIVESTOCK INDIVIDUAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

**WHEREAS, the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) states are concerned about management of diseases shared between livestock and free-ranging wildlife, such as brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, and chronic wasting disease; and**

**WHEREAS, livestock is defined as domestic and non-traditional (e.g. captive wildlife) farmed animals; and**

**WHEREAS, the MAFWA states are concerned about the potential impacts of infected livestock on free-ranging wildlife populations and their habitats; and**

**WHEREAS, the MAFWA believes that individual livestock animal identification and premise registration are critical to identifying the origin of infected livestock and to epidemiologic investigations for risk assessment and control of diseases shared between livestock and free ranging wildlife; and**

**WHEREAS, USDA's current National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is a voluntary program and only applies to inter-state transport; and**

**WHEREAS, Federal and State efforts to implement livestock individual animal identification and premise registration systems are currently inadequate to address MAFWA's concerns on the origin of, and intra- and interstate movements of livestock.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies supports further development and implementation of Federal and State programs that mandate universal livestock individual animal identification, including mandatory premise registration. These programs should include requirements for individual animal identification for all livestock, and applying specified alternative animal identification systems additional to ear tags, such as implanted microchips/transponders.**