

RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE NORTH AMERICAN NON-LEAD PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, the North American Non-Lead Partnership ('Partnership') was established to conserve wildlife and hunting heritage; and

WHEREAS, part of the stated mission of the Partnership is to provide a '*mechanism to minimize unintentional impacts on wildlife health while protecting the public image of hunting and the associated benefits to the conservation of wildlife and habitat*'; and

WHEREAS, the stated mission of the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) includes initiating '*action to benefit the management and conservation of fish and wildlife resources*'; and

WHEREAS, sound research has unequivocally determined lead from hunting ammunition and fishing tackle poses a health hazard to wildlife and has shown the increased use of non-lead ammunition reduces inadvertent impacts of lead on wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership seeks to expand the coalition of hunters, anglers and other conservationists dedicated to improving ecosystem and wildlife health by voluntarily choosing non-lead options; and

WHEREAS, efforts to improve the health of our native fish and wildlife species are most successful when employed across multiple landscapes and jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Directors of several state wildlife agencies, namely Arizona, Oregon and Utah have already joined the Partnership; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies recently joined the Partnership and encourages its members to consider joining the Partnership at a level they deem appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the support of the North American Non-Lead Partnership is an appropriate and justifiable action to increase the use of non-lead ammunition to improve ecosystem health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Committee encourages the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies directors to join the North American Non-Lead Partnership at the "Supporting Partner" level, thereby endorsing the efforts of the Partnership and providing either direct funding or in-kind support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Committee encourages individual member states/provinces to consider joining the North American Non-Lead Partnership at a level appropriate to their program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Committee encourages the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies directors to adopt this resolution at their annual meeting in 2020.