

RESOLUTION #2011-__

CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
FOR REGULATED TRAPPING IN THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, a principle objective of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is to encourage rational management of fish and wildlife resources using the best available scientific information; and

WHEREAS, modern regulated trapping in North America is consistent with the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation; and

WHEREAS, modern regulated trapping of furbearers is a necessary and beneficial conservation activity, licensed and regulated by the states and provinces; and

WHEREAS, the trapping and utilization of furbearers in a sustainable manner is a sound basis for conserving furbearers as important natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States (BMPs) are being developed to help sustain regulated trapping through a science-based approach that evaluates animal welfare, efficiency, selectivity, safety and practicality to determine and advocate traps and trapping techniques that meet current international standards; and

WHEREAS, the association has previously endorsed the development and research of trapping BMP's and the development of trapper education materials, and encourages the use of Best Practices in education; and

WHEREAS, BMP research and development has been funded primarily through a cooperative agreement between the AFWA and the USDA-APHIS-WS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies advocates:

1. The continued development of Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States as a means of improving traps, trapping systems, and trapper education; and
2. The continued funding of the development of Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States via a Cooperative Agreement between the AFWA and USDA-APHIS-WS at a level of \$300,000-\$500,000 annually.