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## Resolution 1980-08-14 MX Missile System

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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WHEREAS, these claims are arising in the states of New York, Maine, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, North Carolina, North Dakota and Arizona among others; and

WHEREAS, the public lands are of enormous value to all Americans for their use and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, the public lands are a vital element in the management and perpetuation of America's wildlife and fisheries resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies hereby urges the rapid and final settlement of valid Indian land claims on a basis that will not require the loss or transfer of public lands into other ownerships; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this organization urges full mitigation and/or compensation for the loss of wildlife lands which may have been purchased with state or Federal hunting and fishing license fees or stamps in the event that these properties are involved in Indian claim settlements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies reiterates its conviction that payment of just claims should be made in cash rather than by transfers of natural resources.

#### **Resolution No. 7**

##### **Tax Deductions for Hunting Club Memberships**

WHEREAS, as estimated 6,000 private duck hunting clubs control and/or manage about 5.2 million acres of wetlands in the United States; and

WHEREAS, other private hunting clubs control and/or manage additional millions of acres of valuable wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, Subtitle G., Sec. 361 of P.L. 95-600 removes Federal income tax deductibility for certain business-related entertainment expenses, including dues paid to hunting clubs beginning with the 1979 tax year; and

WHEREAS, the loss of this tax deduction has the potential of making such clubs economically infeasible, and therefore incapable of retaining control and/or management of essential wetlands and upland areas; and

WHEREAS, these wetland and upland areas could be converted to economically profitable uses such as agriculture and intensified forestry;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges Congress to amend P.L. 95-600 to permit dues paid to private hunting clubs to be taken as Federal income tax deduction.

#### **Resolution No. 8**

##### **MX Missile System**

WHEREAS, the MX Missile National Defense System will have severe impacts on a 10-25,000 square mile area of Nevada and Utah; and

WHEREAS, the Great Basin is an area of limited water distribution and availability thus making water an extremely critical environmental component; and

WHEREAS, wildlife, endangered plants, recreational values, mining and ranching operations, archaeological sites, proposed wilderness inventory areas, and the proposed Great Basin Park will be greatly disturbed; and

WHEREAS, the huge work force required for the project will dramatically alter the life style of the present residents and overload the carrying capacity of the area's natural resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies hereby strongly recommends that all feasible alternatives, including systems and sites, be evaluated fully in an Environmental Impact Statement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all legal requirements, especially those under the Federal Land Policy Management Act, be scrupulously adhered to; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges that, should the current MX proposal be adopted, all reasonable measures be adopted to avoid, mitigate and compensate the loss of fish and wildlife values.

## **Resolution No. 9**

### **Ad Hoc Fisheries Task Force Report on National Park Service Fisheries Policies and Practices**

WHEREAS, the Task Force did not include representatives of state fish and wildlife agencies; and

WHEREAS, representatives of state fish and wildlife agencies were not consulted during preparation of the report; and

WHEREAS, the report unfairly characterizes state management practices and policies as being overly concerned with harvest; and

WHEREAS, the total spectrum of sport fishing experiences in park waters is virtually ignored in favor of "catch-and-release" aspects; and

WHEREAS, existing sport fishing patterns and fisheries management practices are, for the most part, compatible with park values; and

WHEREAS, these activities are unjustly criticized or given inadequate treatment in the report;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies opposes the report as written; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies urges the Department of the Interior to actively seek input from the various states and to give serious consideration to these views before the final report is issued.