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Resolution 1979-22-26 Acid Precipitation

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Resolution No. 22

Acid Precipitation

WHEREAS, sulfur oxides and nitrogen oxides emitted into the atmosphere undergo a series of chemical reactions to form sulfuric and nitric acids which lower the pH of rain and snow to cause acid precipitation; and

WHEREAS, meteorological processes are known to transport these oxide emissions hundreds or even thousands of kilometers from their original sources; and

WHEREAS, softwater lakes and streams, such as those of the Precambrian areas of eastern Canada and the United States, are particularly vulnerable to acid precipitation due to their low buffering capacity, and are rapidly becoming acidic; and

WHEREAS, numerous softwater lakes in the United States and Canada are currently acidified to a degree sufficient to have caused observable loss of fish and other aquatic life species; and

WHEREAS, current demand for alternative sources of energy to replace oil has placed increased emphasis on coal, which without adequate management controls, will result in further increased emissions of sulfur and nitrogen oxides,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies joins the American Fisheries Society assembled at its annual meeting September 14, 1979, in West Yellowstone, Montana, in requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Canadian Environmental Management Service to ensure that appropriate sulfur and nitrogen oxide control technologies are applied to emission sources to ameliorate the problem of acid precipitation and the protection of fish and other aquatic life.

Resolution No. 23

Management of Marine Mammals by the States

WHEREAS, the Marine Mammal Protection Act (PL 92-522) became law in December 1972 specifically but temporarily pre-empting state authority to manage marine mammal species; and

WHEREAS, in January 1973 the State of Alaska petitioned for the return of management authority over 10 species of marine mammals which are important components of the marine systems significantly affecting and being affected by residents of coastal Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has continued to maintain and support at great expense the programs with acknowledged expertise which is required for an effective management program conducted in accordance with guidelines set forth in the Act; and

WHEREAS, excessive expenditures of time and money have been made in order to comply with procedures set forth in the Act, including the