

No. 54	Resolutions Committee	Dennis Riecke
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Resolution Committee Motion Report for the September 2013 Governing Board Meeting

TO: John Boreman, AFS President

FROM: Dennis Riecke, AFS Resolutions Committee Chair

DATE: August 20, 2013

I. Motion Report (for February 2013 thru August 2013)

The Resolution Committee submits the following motion:

That the AFS Governing Board approves sending the resolution titled

“Appreciation to the Host for the Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society” to the AFS membership for a vote.

Minority View:

None

Background for Motion

This resolution was developed by the AFS Parent Society Resolutions Committee. It is customary for the Society to express its appreciation to the host AFS chapter for their considerable work done to plan, host and execute an AFS Annual Meeting.

A copy of this resolution is attached.

RESOLUTION
OF APPRECIATION TO THE HOST
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES
SOCIETY

WHEREAS, the 143st Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society convened in Little Rock, Arkansas on September 8-12, 2013, hosted by the Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society;

WHEREAS, we were able to intermingle with our colleagues and enjoy Little Rocks, known the world renown for southern hospitality

WHEREAS, our hosts provided an engaging theme of “Preparing for the Challenges Ahead” presented at facilities at the Little Rock Marriott Hotel and the Statehouse Convention Center and developed an extensive program including over 690 of oral presentations organized into over 24 Symposia in 22 contributed paper sessions, and 110 posters, representing authors from several countries;

WHEREAS, our hosts provided plenary sessions and speakers addressing the topics of what types of fisheries processional will be needed for the challenges ahead and educational and workplace modifications for future fisheries professionals in an era of the millennials;

WHEREAS, our hosts organized a trade show social where attendees were able to check out the latest technologies and services from 51 vendors and organizations;

WHEREAS, the continuing education committee provided 7 short courses and workshops covering topics including beginning/intermediate and advanced GIS, introduction to programming in R, leadership skills, aquatic habitat mapping using side scan sonar, acoustic telemetry technology, and standard methods for sampling and comparing data with North American standards in fisheriesstandarddatasampling.org;

WHEREAS, were able to mingle at the socials, hear about skills needed to enter and be successful in fisheries management and science at the student colloquium and explore future job opportunities at the career fair and student social;

WHEREAS, we convened for a grand social on the banks of the Arkansas River featuring an abundance of Cajun and Southern fare, complimented by outstanding beers from local microbreweries We were able to enjoy skeet shooting, a bike hike, a canoe trip, a distillery tour, and had the opportunity to experience the local history, agriculture and natural resources and to fish in a variety of abundant local waters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the membership of the American

Fisheries Society, having enjoyed the hospitality of Little Rock, Arkansas extends its hearty appreciation and thanks to our host, the Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, to the General Meeting Chair Darrel Bowman, and to the Program Chair Steve Lochmann, and their planning committee chairs and committee members.

Resolutions Committee Activity Report for the September 2013 Governing Board Meeting

TO: John Boreman, AFS President

FROM: Dennis Riecke, AFS Resolutions Committee Chair

DATE: August 12, 2013

II. Activity Report (for February 2013 thru August 2013)

(A) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments Organized by Focus Area in Strategic Plan

Goal 3: Value of Membership

Objective 3.1: Determine and respond to the needs and opinions of AFS members.

Strategy 3: Utilize standing and special committees at multiple levels of AFS to effectively respond to membership concerns.

Goal 1: Global Fisheries Leadership

Objective 1.2 Increase science-based fisheries conservation by increasing interactions with AFS Members and government policy makers.

Strategy 3: Increase public policy by producing additional science-based position statements, conferences, books, and symposia on important fisheries topics while maintaining and updating current positions statements.

1. In late January 2012 the AFS Resolutions committee received a resolution from the SDAFS titled “**The Federal Funding for Programs to Prevent, Control, and Manage Aquatic Invasive Species**”.

The SDAFS passed this resolution at their January 2012 annual business meeting and voted to send it to the AFS Resolutions Committee. The AFS Resolutions Committee reviewed the resolution in February 2012 and May 2012.

The resolution was revised by the committee and 6 of the 7 committee members who voted, all voted to send it to the AFS Governing Board on June 15, 2012. The resolution was sent to AFS President Bill Fisher on June 19, 2012. At their August 18, 2012 meeting the AFS Governing Board voted to send the resolution to the membership for online comments and a vote. The resolution was posted on the AFS website on October 4, 2012 and the membership was notified of such and the 30 day comment period. The membership was notified that the comment period was extended to November 15, 2012. The comments received were reviewed by the AFS Governing Board on their December

17, 2012 conference call and they approved sending the resolution to the membership for an online vote. The Resolutions Committee chairman was directed to correct any factual errors in the resolution and submit a revised version for a 30 day online voting period by the membership. The Resolutions Committee approved the revised resolution on January 3, 2013. The resolution was posted online for a 30 day voting period on January 4, 2013. On January 8, 2013, in response to membership comments that they experienced difficulty commenting on two resolutions, AFS President John Boreman consulted with other AFS officers and decided to withdraw the resolutions from voting in favor of further consideration by the Management Committee in light of the additional comments. Many comments were received on another resolution but both resolutions up for a vote were withdrawn. Since no comments had been received on this resolution, it was reposed online on January 29, 2013 for a membership vote.

The resolution was approved by the AFS membership in early March 2013 with over 90% of votes received voting for adoption. A copy of this resolution is attached.

2. In late February 2013 the AFS Resolutions committee received a resolution from the SDAFS titled “**Resolution On Federal Funding For Implementation Of The Management And Control Plan For Bighead, Black, Grass, And Silver Carps In The United States**”

The SDAFS passed this resolution at their February 2013 annual business meeting and voted to send it to the AFS Resolutions Committee. The AFS Resolutions Committee reviewed the resolution in March 2013 and thought it was duplicative of the resolution passed in March 2013 titled “**The Federal Funding for Programs to Prevent, Control, and Manage Aquatic Invasive Species**”. AFS Resolution Committee members questioned why this resolution only advocated funding for the Asian Carp management and control plan when there are other national control plans that have not received any federal funding.

The Resolutions Committee decided not to submit this resolution to the AFS Governing Board for action.

3. The AFS Management Committee approved the Resolution Committee recommendations (see the Resolution Committees action report for the March 2013 AFS Governing Board call) for revisions to the AFS Procedures Manual (pages, 71-72 and 97-98) to clarify the steps for online posting and voting of resolutions.

4. At March 2013 of the AFS Governing Board there was general agreement that some rules should be established defining when use of a resolution is appropriate. The

Resolutions Chairman was instructed by the AFS President to develop these rules which are in the Committee's motion report for this meeting.

(B) Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration

5. Since all the Parent Society Resolutions have been scanned and posted to the Policy and Media Section of the AFS website by year of passage, a subject index would be useful to locate resolutions on resource issues. The Resolutions Committee --- in consultation with the AFS webmaster --- should compose such an index file in a format compatible with AFS website format guidelines.

**American Fisheries Society
RESOLUTION ON**

**THE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS TO PREVENT,
CONTROL, AND MANAGE
AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**

WHEREAS, since the European colonization of North America, it has been estimated that between 5,000-50,000 nonnative species have been introduced into the United States (Pimentel et al. 2000) and at least 4,500 species of foreign origin have established free-living populations in the United States (OTA 1993) and;

WHEREAS, the Office of Technology Assessment estimates that 10-15 percent of introduced species may become established and about 10 percent of established species become invasive (OTA 1993) and;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13112 defines an invasive species as “an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health and;

WHEREAS, in the Executive Summary of the National Invasive Species Management Plan the term “invasive species” was further clarified and defined as “a species that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health” and;

WHEREAS, Pimentel et al. (2005) have conservatively estimated annual economic costs to the United States of nonindigenous species, exceeds 120 billion dollars and;

WHEREAS, species introductions have been both intentional and accidental and the following pathways for the introduction of invasive aquatic species have been identified: aquaculture, water gardening, fishing, fisheries management, ballast water and other media, transportation, shipping, boating, natural disasters, the aquarium and pet industry, cultural traditions and;

WHEREAS, the US Congress in recognition of the harm caused by the introduction of the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) and out of concern about increasing numbers of aquatic invasive species introductions passed the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (Act), as amended by the National Invasive Species act of 1996 and;

WHEREAS, this Act mandates the development and implementation of a comprehensive national program to prevent and respond to problems caused by the unintentional introduction of nonindigenous aquatic species into the waters of the United States which led to the formation from 1991-2003 of six Regional Panels on Aquatic Nuisance Species (Regional Panels) covering the entire country and;

WHEREAS, in response to this Act, the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) was created and has approved seven National Species Management and Control Plans (Eurasian ruffe *Gymnocephalus cernuus*, brown tree snake, *Boiga irregularis* European green crab *Carcinus maenas*, Chinese mitten crab *Eriocheir sinensis*, Caulerpa *Caulerpa taxifolia*, New Zealand mudsnail *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*, and Asian carp, (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*, *Mylopharyngodon piceus*, *Ctenopharyngodon idella*, *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*) and has approved 39 State/Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans (State/Interstate Plans) with the goal of each state having an approved Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan in the near future and;

WHEREAS, the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 authorized and provided for the development of State and Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans with authorized funding of \$4,000,000 in Section 1301(c) to support implementation of State/Interstate Plans but that level of funding has never been fully appropriated (USFWS 2012a, USFWS 2012b) and;

WHEREAS, since 2004 annual federal authorizations and appropriations have resulted in only \$300,000 for all Regional Panels and \$1,075,000 for all State/Interstate Plans to implement activities and programs to prevent, monitor and control aquatic invasive species and thus the amount of funding per State/Interstate Plan—\$29,800 in FY 2011 (USFWS 2012b)— is decreasing as more State/Interstate Plans are approved by the ANSTFS since the \$1,075,000 is divided equally among all State/Interstate Plans and;

WHEREAS, funding for State/Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans is not part of the FY2013 President's budget (USFWS 2012b) and funding has been significantly reduced to support the maintenance of the USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database and;

WHEREAS, aquatic invasive species biologists have recommended that adequate funding would be \$1,000,000 per year for adequate implementation of each State/Interstate Plans (39 plans), each Regional Panel, the Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan (2010), and for the USGS Aquatic Nuisance Species Database and;

WHEREAS, in the near future it is anticipated that there will be at least 53 State/Interstate Plans (50 State Plans and 3 Interstate Plans),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society urges the Congress of the United States to appropriate \$61,000,000 on an annual basis to fund the Regional Panels (\$6,000,000), the State/Interstate Plans (\$53,000,000), the Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan, (\$1,000,000) and to fund the USGS Aquatic Nuisance Species Database (\$1,000,000) for prevention, control and management of nonnative aquatic invasive species.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if it is not possible for the Congress of the United States to appropriate \$61,000,000 on an annual basis for these plans, panels and database that federal funding should be increased dramatically for each approved state/interstate plan, for each regional panel and for the USGS Aquatic Nuisance Species Database. Furthermore, future appropriations should account for the development of additional state/interstate plans, so that the funding allocated for each of these plans will not decrease in future years as more such plans are approved with equal funding provided to each approved state/interstate plans and each regional panel.

Justification for the American Fisheries Society

Resolution on

1Federal Funding for Programs to Prevent, Control, and Manage Aquatic Invasive Species

State aquatic invasive species programs are critical for the prevention, detection, monitoring, control and management of aquatic invasive species. Federal funding for these state programs has been the same at \$1,075,000 dollars since 2000 when each of the approved state and interstate plans received \$100,000. In 2004 each of the 16 approved plans received \$71,000 dollars. In 2011 there were 39 state and interstate plans that each received federal funding of \$29,800. This represents a 70% decrease in funding since 2000 and a 58% decrease since 2004. The current level of federal funding for state and federal plans is inadequate to effectively respond to the negative impacts that aquatic invasive species have on native species.

Federal funding for the six regional plans have remained unchanged since implementing legislation was enacted in 1994. Funding of \$50,000 per year is provided to each panel. This funding level is insufficient for effective panel operations. It has been estimated that adequate funding would be \$1,000,000 per panel annually.

Literature Citations for the

American Fisheries Society

Resolution on

**1Federal Funding for Programs to Prevent, Control, and Manage
Aquatic Invasive Species**

Office of Technology Assessment (OTA). 1993. Harmful non-indigenous species in the United States. Report OTA-F-565, Washington, DC, US Government Printing Office. Available at: www.wws.princeton.edu/~ota/disk1/1993/9325_n.html

Parker, M.A., and T.R.E. Keeney. 2004. Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Report to Congress, Fiscal Year 2004.,US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC.

Pimentel, D., Lach, L., Zuniga, R. & Morrison, D. 2000. Environmental and economic costs of nonindigenous species in the United States. *Bioscience*, 50(1): 53-65.

Pimentel, D., Zuniga, R. & Morrison, D. 2005. Update on the environmental and economic costs associated with alien invasive species in the United States. *Ecological Economics*, 52(3): 273-288.

USFWS. 2012a. State/Interstate aquatic nuisance species management plans: cost-share grants to implement prevention and control activities. First in a series of three. US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC.

USFWS. 2012b. The evolution of the state/interstate aquatic nuisance species management plan grant program. Third in a series of three. Washington, DC.