

Resolution to Support Legislation to Modify State Statutes to Include Environmental Impacts of High Capacity Wells in the Permitting Process

10 January 2001

Whereas, Wisconsin groundwater resources replenish many surface water resources, especially coldwater streams, and

Whereas, these resources are important components of the ecosystem and valuable assets to the State of Wisconsin, and

Whereas, the current State permit process, s. 281.17 (1) of the State code, for new high capacity wells does not consider negative impacts to the aquatic ecosystem, and

Whereas, in recent years several small streams have been completely drained due to water withdrawal by high capacity wells permitted under the present regulatory system of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and

Whereas, the State code requires modification in order to consider impacts to the aquatic ecosystem, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society does hereby urge the Wisconsin legislature to pass State legislation, which would provide for proper review and evaluation of the impacts to the aquatic ecosystem as part of the regulatory permitting process for new high capacity wells.