

Resolution to Support Legislation to Modify State Statutes to use the American Fisheries Society guidelines when determining freshwater mussel restitution values

January 12, 2005

Whereas, Natural Resources are an important part of Wisconsin's natural heritage, and

Whereas, Wisconsin residents place a high value on their natural resources, and

Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is not compensated for freshwater mussels killed by violation of law in the 12,600 streams and rivers of the state, and

Whereas, it is the responsibility of a strong and effective government to recoup the cost of public resources lost due to a violation of law, and

Whereas, Wisconsin freshwater mussel restitution values are not included in fish kill values, and current state statutes, 29.983, 29.987, 29.977 and 283.87 do not provide a collectable value for freshwater mussels, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society does hereby urge the Wisconsin legislature to pass State legislation, to update the state statutes directing the Department of Natural Resources to use the most recent restitution values of freshwater mussels established by the American Fisheries Society.

Glenn A. Miller, Resolutions Chair, Wisconsin Chapter American Fisheries Society