

**Resolution Opposing Position Reductions in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection and Integrated Science Services Programs as Proposed by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board**

January 12, 2005

**Whereas**, conservation and enjoyment of natural resources is an important part of Wisconsin's heritage, and

**Whereas**, in Wisconsin fishing generates \$2.3 billion in economic impacts, including \$90 million in taxes and 26,000 jobs, and

**Whereas**, Wisconsin ranks second in the number of non-resident fishing days in the nation, and

**Whereas**, of 22.5 proposed position reductions directly affecting fisheries research, management, and habitat protection field services, only one-half of one position is funded by general purpose revenue, and

**Whereas**, of 22.5 proposed position reductions directly affecting fisheries research, management, and habitat protection field services, 10.5 positions are funded by federal grants and funding sources, and

**Whereas**, the proposed reductions would have substantial negative impacts on fisheries conservation, management, and enhancement programs with no positive impact on the State's general purpose revenue deficit, and

**Whereas**, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is dedicated to promoting scientific research and enlightened management of aquatic resources for optimum use and enjoyment by the public, now therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society does hereby urge the Wisconsin legislature to fully restore and fund all fisheries research, management and habitat protection positions proposed for elimination in the budget forwarded by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board in December 2004.

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