

Better Approval Review Process for Trans-genetic Organisms for use in Private Aquaculture

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Whereas, advancements in biotechnology are leading to the increased use of trans-genic organisms in aquaculture production, and

Whereas, these organisms may escape into public waters and interbreed with wild populations negatively altering their genetic makeup and potentially disrupting the ecosystem, and

Whereas, approval of the use of these new organisms should include consideration of the potential negative impacts to public rights if these organisms should escape into public waters, and

Whereas, the FDA approval process should include reviews by the USFWS, USEPA, NMFS or other appropriate federal, regional and state agencies to consider potential impacts to aquatic ecosystems, and

Whereas, such reviews should follow a NEPA process to properly evaluate the potential impacts of each new trans-genic organism on the aquatic ecosystem, now be it therefore

Resolved, that the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society does hereby urge passage of federal legislation which would provide for proper review and evaluation of the potential impacts of each new trans-genic organism before FDA approval is given for its use in aquaculture.