

Resolution to Support Retention of Federal Public Lands

Whereas, Federal public lands such as Federal Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks and Bureau of Land Management lands are located in every state in the country and are very important for many forms of outdoor recreation such as hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife watching; and

Whereas, Federal public lands play a major role in the \$614 billion outdoor recreation and tourism economy throughout the United States; and

Whereas, in recent years there has been a major effort to sell or transfer federal public lands to state and local governments and the private sector with this effort focused mainly on federal public lands in the West; and

Whereas, tens of thousands of Wisconsin citizens recreate on Western federal public lands annually including thousands of hunters, anglers and trappers; and

Whereas, sale or transfer of Western federal public lands would be a bad precedent for the potential sale or transfer of federal public lands in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, the National Wildlife Federation and many of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation sister affiliates of the NWF throughout the country have been working to persuade the President and the US Congress not to sell or transfer federal public lands.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin strenuously opposes the sale or transfer of Federal public lands to state or local governments or the private sector; and

Now Therefore Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation further commits to continue efforts to educate the general public about the threat to federal public lands and to raise to elected officials and candidates for national office, the Federation's strong opposition to the sale or transfer of federal public land.

Submitted by the WWF Forestry and Parks Committee by:
Jerry Knuth, Chair