

Resolution on Increased Urban Angler Recruitment

WHEREAS, less Wisconsin residents are participating in angling and hunting, particularly in urban areas; *and*

WHEREAS, there is a high priority and focus at the national and state level to increase angling and hunting recruitment; *and*

WHEREAS, the annual impact of hunters, recreational shooters, and anglers in Wisconsin contributes over \$100 million for conservation of fish and wildlife, over 53,000 jobs, and over \$8 billion to the state economy; *and*

WHEREAS, sustained participation in angling and hunting is vital to conservation and to the membership of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF); *and*

WHEREAS, urban populations continue to grow, especially young adults, and recruitment strategies are increasingly being focused in urban areas; *and*

WHEREAS, food is an increasing motivating factor for angling and hunting among young adults (16-26) and the barriers to starting angling are lower than hunting; *and*

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has developed and piloted an effective program called "Fishing for Dinner," which targets the recruitment and training of young adults to become anglers; *and*

WHEREAS, the WWF has the infrastructure to work in cooperation with the Fishing for Dinner program to focus on recruiting new anglers; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the WWF seek financial assistance through grant funding available through the WDNR and the national Recreation of Boating and Fishing Foundation; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the WWF, at its Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, on April 22nd, 2017, in cooperation with WDNR coordinate and expand the existing Fishing for Dinner Program implementation in urban areas.

Submitted by Alumni of the Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corps,

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