



**2008
ADOPTED
RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE
72ND ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION**

**KEYSTONE, CO
MAY 15-17, 2008**

**2008 Adopted Resolutions
72nd Annual Meeting
of the
National Wildlife Federation
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Global Warming Education in American Schools

WHEREAS, due to global warming, over the next several decades children in America's schools will be faced with an unprecedented environmental threat not only to wildlife and its habitat, but also to the security, safety and prosperity of people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, global warming education will enable children and their families to learn about the human induced and human controlled causes of global warming, including population increases, carbon emissions caused by outdated building technologies, inefficient transportation, and life styles that demand high energy consumption, and to take action by making informed energy choices; and

WHEREAS, due to global warming, higher average temperatures will cause many of the existing premises of environmental science to be recalculated and rethought, altering current conditions and issues related to ecosystem sustainability, to support healthy habitats and wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, effective education on the science, societal, and economic effects of these changes will be essential for the next generation to comprehend and address them; and

WHEREAS, leading climate scientists have concluded that the world must reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% of current levels by 2020 and by 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 in order to avert the most serious consequences of global climate change, and to meet these targets our nation must have a well-educated population that is knowledgeable about existing methods for addressing our nation's energy consumption; and

WHEREAS, nature deficit in children, demonstrated by the fact that children today spend half as much time outside as children did 20 years ago and spend about 6.5 hours per day plugged into electronic media, increases the need to connect children to the natural world around them and for immediate global warming education programs linking outdoor activity in every school to benefit the cognitive abilities of children, fostering an appreciation for their natural world and a sense of stewardship; and

WHEREAS, every American child should have a "Green Hour" every day, a time for unstructured play and interaction with the natural world; and

WHEREAS, community-based conservation organizations play a vital role in engaging children in nature and promoting environmental education; and

WHEREAS, hands on environmental education incorporating outdoor activity reconnects children to the natural world and yields academic benefits including higher math, reading, and language arts scores and also increases children's critical thinking skills, self-confidence, and academic motivation while addressing the growing problems of childhood diabetes, obesity and attention deficit; and

WHEREAS, National Wildlife Federation's commitment to creating a new energy future for future generations focuses on providing sound, age-appropriate global warming education for all ages by: training professionals, organizations and individuals to educate the general public, reaching out to future leaders via college campuses, and providing sound education materials and training for school age teachers and students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, at its annual meeting assembled May 14-17, 2008, in Keystone, CO, hereby urges Congress and state legislatures to pass legislation that supports comprehensive global warming education in American Schools and ensures that children and families have positive opportunities to connect with the outdoors and nature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation strongly encourages government at the federal, state and local levels to effectively incorporate global warming education into the existing structure of American education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation and its affiliates support school students receiving effective, scientifically rigorous education about global warming, its solutions and its long term implications for wildlife, the environment, health and the economy (in accordance with the national guidelines developed by NWF in consultation with the North American Association for Environmental Education).

RESOLUTION 2008-02

Encouraging Conservation Groups to Provide Leadership in Reducing Global Warming

WHEREAS, the threat of global warming is the most serious threat to the natural and man-made environment humanity has ever confronted; and

WHEREAS, eminent scientists have stated that the world must reduce its rate of emission of global warming gases by no less than two percent a year to prevent catastrophic changes in sea level, climate, and other environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, most scientists agree that the level of existing emission of global warming gases must be reduced by 80% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation has urged Congress to adopt a climate change program which will result in the reduction of emissions by the United States at a rate of no less than two percent a year; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on the National Wildlife Federation, affiliate members, and the conservation community at large to lead by example, by reducing emissions associated with their activities as quickly as possible and investing in meaningful offsets to cover the remaining emissions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation and affiliate members, at the annual meeting assembled May 14-17, 2008, in Keystone, CO, hereby challenges each conservation organization to commit to the reduction of emissions associated with all its activities by at least two percent per year beginning in 2008, until emissions are reduced by at least 80%; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to determine its carbon footprint, using guidelines from organizations such as the World Resources Institute, in order to establish a baseline to track their efforts going forward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to track the business travel and commuting mileage of employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to identify and use carbon offset providers that have been reviewed and highly rated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to switch from coal-produced energy to alternative and renewable energy sources to supply electricity needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to support the “green industry” by selecting vendors and providers who are also making efforts to reduce their carbon footprint; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation encourages the conservation community to begin instituting fundamental infrastructure changes in their programs, policies and practices to diminish dependence upon carbon, such as:

Travel

Encouraging and providing employee incentives for public transportation, carpooling, bicycling, hybrid and electric vehicles. Promoting telecommuting. Providing on-site childcare and electric fleet vehicles. Increasing the use of conference call technology for organizational meetings to reduce travel. Inventorying employee travel for purposes of reduction, mitigation, or offset actions.

Buildings

Encouraging retrofitting organizational facilities for green energy and conservation. Reducing standby mode electronics. Siting new organization buildings on mass transit lines, near affordable housing. Providing incentives for employees to reduce the carbon footprint of their homes.

Investments

Directing organizational investment portfolios into more green investments.

Publications

Reducing organizational printed publications and paper use through electronic alternatives, eliminating waste, and utilizing more efficient technologies.

Pascagoula River and Gulf of Mexico Water Protection

WHEREAS, the Pascagoula River is the last unimpeded major river system in the contiguous 48 states and is uniquely representative of the early southeastern landscape; and

WHEREAS, the River system's bottomland forests, marshes, savannas and aquatic habitats support rare and spectacular wildlife such as the Gulf sturgeon and 23 threatened or endangered species; and

WHEREAS, more than 250 species of birds use its extensive north-south forested corridor as a critical area for foraging and resting during intercontinental migrations; and

WHEREAS, the Pascagoula River is utilized extensively as a natural resource by citizens throughout the region and beyond for fishing, hunting, ecotourism, water sports, bird watching, and as an inspiration for other cultural endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Pascagoula River, its associated estuary and the Gulf of Mexico serve as nurseries and habitats for commercial and recreational fin- and shellfisheries that provide jobs and have important economic impacts for Mississippi's coastal counties; and

WHEREAS, activities that alter the functional dynamics of this floodplain river ecosystem and associated flora and fauna also impact local citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Petroleum Site at Richton proposes to take 50 million gallons of water per day for a five-year period from the upper reaches of the Pascagoula River; and

WHEREAS, extractions of such large volumes of water from the Pascagoula River (up to 25% of seasonal flow) will have harmful effects on this pristine southern river ecosystem, its renewable living resources, and human interactions with these resources; and

WHEREAS, transport of nearly 80 billion gallons of hyper-saline water (brine) from the Strategic Petroleum Site at Richton for approximately 100 miles of pipeline to the Gulf of Mexico off the State of Mississippi increases the risk of catastrophic pollution of the Pascagoula River ecosystem as well as harm to the state's coastal marshes, marine species and their essential habitats, and near shore marine environments, including a treasured National Seashore; and

WHEREAS, this discharge of brine will have a negative impact on commercial and recreational fisheries that contribute significantly to the region's cultural and socio-economic well-being, particularly during the lengthy recovery from Hurricane Katrina;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation in the annual meeting assembled May 14-17, 2008 in Keystone, Colorado calls upon the U.S. Department of Energy to address seasonal aspects of flow reduction resulting from its proposed water withdrawal from the Pascagoula River with a principal focus on determining impacts to floral, faunal, sociological, and economical dynamics of this incomparable river system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Wildlife Federation calls upon the U.S. Department of Energy to evaluate and pursue alternatives to the Strategic Petroleum Site project at Richton as per the guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act that fully address potential impacts to the cultural, social, socio-economic, biological, and anthropologic values associated with the Pascagoula River ecosystem, its associated estuary and Gulf of Mexico. Results of this evaluation of need, alternative site selection, design and construction methods must be presented to the Governor of Mississippi, all state and federal natural resource agencies, and the general public.

Responsible Oil and Gas Development on Our Public Lands

WHEREAS, the public lands managed under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Rocky Mountain West support world class cold water fisheries, provide important core habitat and migration corridors for big game species, contain critical winter range for elk, mule deer, and pronghorn antelope, and support struggling populations of sage-grouse; and

WHEREAS, more than 26 million acres of big game habitat, an area the size of Ohio, as well as millions of acres of sage-grouse habitat already have been leased for oil and gas development and more than 126,000 new oil and gas wells have been proposed on public lands in the West over the next 15 to 20 years; and

WHEREAS, hunters, anglers, other members of the public who value wildlife, and wildlife professionals have been denied meaningful participation in the decision-making process about where oil and gas development on public lands is appropriate and how this development can be conducted to minimize impacts to wildlife and fisheries resources; and

WHEREAS, oil and gas development has been exempted from common-sense laws and policies such as the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act that were originally put in place to protect wildlife, fish, water, and habitat from the adverse impacts of energy resource extraction; and

WHEREAS, the state and federal agencies that manage wildlife and fisheries and oversee oil and gas development do not have adequate resources to monitor, plan, and properly manage the expanding number of oil and gas projects occurring on our public lands; and

WHEREAS, the great tradition of public lands hunting and fishing, as well as other outdoor recreation, on public lands in the Rocky Mountain West currently is threatened by short sighted and often irresponsible oil and gas development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation in the annual meeting assembled May 14 -17 in Keystone, Colorado, calls upon the USFS and the BLM to adopt and implement a more balanced approach to the development of energy resources on our public lands, one that will ensure the conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat now and in the future; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation calls on the federal land management agencies to employ the best available science regarding the wildlife impacts of oil and gas development and the efficacy of wildlife mitigation measures in order to ensure that wildlife and other important public lands resources are protected for future generations to enjoy; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation calls on Congress to repeal the onerous provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that frustrate public oversight

and fast-track oil and gas development on our public lands at the expense of fisheries, wildlife, and communities in the Rocky Mountain West.

RESOLUTION 2008-05

Support for Using the Best Available Science to Conserve Greater Sage-grouse in Areas Scheduled for Intensive Energy Development

WHEREAS, the Greater Sage-grouse is a highly sensitive species native to sagebrush ecosystems throughout the West which has experienced a substantial loss of habitat resulting in population declines in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Sage-grouse was petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act in 2000, was found “not-warranted” for listing by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in 2005, and a Federal District Court in 2007 remanded that Finding to the USFWS instructing the agency to issue a new Finding by mid- 2009; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation and its western affiliates with Greater Sage-grouse in their states are committed to the long term conservation of Greater Sage-grouse and ensuring that Greater Sage-grouse populations are not allowed to decline to a point which would support listing as Threatened or Endangered; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation and its western affiliates with Greater Sage-grouse in their states support the preservation and improvement of Greater Sage-grouse habitat, as well as grazing and agricultural practices that are not detrimental to Greater Sage-grouse habitat; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation and its western affiliates with Greater Sage-grouse in their states support the responsible development of oil and gas and other energy resources which take into account the requirements of Greater Sage-grouse and their habitat, as well as other wildlife and their habitat needs; and

WHEREAS, all state wildlife agencies with Greater Sage-grouse have expended a great deal of time and resources to develop Greater Sage-grouse conservation plans for their respective states; and

WHEREAS, these state Greater Sage-grouse conservation plans identify similar risk factors for Greater Sage-grouse conservation, including energy development, invasive plants, uncontrolled wildfire, habitat fragmentation and other landscape level impacts; and

WHEREAS, the pace of energy development on public lands has increased substantially since 2000, and is a major government-authorized action negatively affecting Greater Sage-grouse which is increasing exponentially; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages the majority of federal Greater Sage-grouse habitat and has been actively leasing and permitting energy drilling of this habitat and

WHEREAS, recent scientific studies on the effects of conventional oil and gas and coal bed methane development in Wyoming and Montana show that the BLM’s standard stipulations

and mitigation to protect Greater Sage-grouse are ineffective at sustaining local Greater Sage-grouse populations; and

WHEREAS, representatives of fish and wildlife agencies from a five-state area including Colorado met recently, reviewed the most current published scientific studies and issued a consensus report stating that core Greater Sage-grouse habitat areas need to be designated where no energy development will occur on the surface, that low density (<1 drilling pad per square mile) surface development aids local grouse population persistence, and that geographically-phased development can be used to maintain large functioning blocks of Greater Sage-grouse habitat; and

WHEREAS, these State fish and game agencies concluded that implementation of the best available science “may enhance the likelihood that Greater Sage-grouse populations will persist at levels that allow historic uses such as grazing and agriculture and maintain their current distribution and abundance, thereby avoiding the need to list Greater Sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act.”; and

WHEREAS, the agencies responsible for conservation of Greater Sage-grouse habitat and populations now have the opportunity to develop conservation plans that incorporate the best available science, and provide the greatest opportunity to ensure that Greater Sage-grouse populations are not allowed to decline to a point which would support a listing as Threatened or Endangered; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, at its annual meeting assembled May 14-17, 2008, in Keystone, Colorado urges that the BLM and other land management agencies defer energy development within occupied Greater Sage-grouse habitat until new effective stipulations, on and off-site mitigation practices, Resource Management Plans, and other planning documents incorporate the best available science, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NWF encourages state and federal agencies permitting energy development within occupied Greater Sage-grouse habitat, and the energy industry itself, to implement the findings of the five-state panel regarding the best available science on the impacts of energy development so as to ensure the long-term conservation of effective core habitats, and sustainable populations of Greater Sage-grouse.

Avoiding New Water Storage Facilities

WHEREAS, rivers and streams that provide important fish and wildlife habitat and water supply for growing human populations have been significantly altered for water supply, irrigation, energy production, and flood control; and

WHEREAS, once altered and disconnected from their wetlands and floodplains, these rivers and streams provide degraded habitat for fish and wildlife, and are rendered more susceptible to the impacts of global warming; and

WHEREAS, several United States Governors, responding to predicted population growth, and the threat of reduced water availability resulting from global warming, have announced programs to plan new water storage and conveyance facilities; and

WHEREAS, new dams, reservoirs, and other water storage and conveyance facilities would likely result in the further degradation of imperiled habitat for fish and wildlife populations as well as inundation of high value wetland, floodplain, and in stream habitat; and

WHEREAS, existing water storage and conveyance facilities are aging and nearing life-expectancy capacity due to upstream erosion and in-basin sedimentation; and

WHEREAS, efficient use, conservation, reuse and recycling of water resources can reduce the need for additional storage facilities such as reservoirs, and natural storage maximized in forested headwaters, floodplains, braided channels, and wetlands can keep water resources available to fish, wildlife, and people while minimizing the need for storage facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, at its annual meeting assembled May 14-17, 2008, in Keystone, Colorado, opposes development of new water storage projects, unless the following criteria are met:

- 1) Performance of detailed needs assessments that incorporate demand management and full-cost pricing in projections of future demand;
- 2) No lower-impact alternatives, such as conservation, reuse or using existing, rehabilitated or re-operated reservoirs, are available;
- 3) Maximization of existing water supplies through efficiency, conservation and reuse of wastewater in both non-potable and potable applications;
- 4) Adoption of integrated water resource planning and management approaches, in order to optimize the performance of existing water infrastructure;
- 5) Completion of an analysis of the effects of climate variability and climate change on the reliability and performance of existing freshwater supply systems, as well as on water needs for fish and wildlife;
- 6) Protection and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat and populations as part of the projects, well beyond that needed to mitigate the direct environmental and social impacts of siting, constructing, and operating the projects;

- 7) Identifiable beneficiaries of water supplies or other benefits pay pro rata shares of the project's costs, including construction, operation and maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation urges federal, state and local owners of existing water storage and conveyance facilities to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) available through existing under-utilized conservation programs to significantly reduce upstream erosion and extend the useful life of existing water storage and conveyance facilities.

Groundwater Protection

WHEREAS, healthy ecosystems function as a unit; and

WHEREAS, groundwater is an integral part of the aquatic interface among surface waters, wetlands and streams; and

WHEREAS clean, ample groundwater supplies are essential to both human and ecological health, vital to the nation's economy, drinking water supplies, recreation industries and a vital part of the "commons," which should be accessible to all for the public good; and

WHEREAS, groundwater is a finite global resource, increasingly threatened by drought, over-consumption, contamination and an inadequate legal regime to protect groundwater and surface water; and

WHEREAS, diversion of groundwater is occurring more frequently worldwide, triggering dewatering of wells and springs and degrading surface waters; and

WHEREAS, authority over groundwater resources often comprises a patchwork of state and local statutes in many cases unrelated to broader needs and demands; and

WHEREAS, the burgeoning effects of global warming suggest that better management of water supplies, including keeping flows underground, is one way to protect water resources from inordinate warming; and

WHEREAS, identification and protection of aquifers and recharge zones is a crucial step in protection of groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, technological advances continue to offer new, potentially effective methods of managing groundwater, e.g. pumping into closed aquifers, capturing runoff in place, directing it into the aquifer and allowing groundwater reserves to feed to the surface under a natural Regime; and

WHEREAS, groundwater protection and management is an important component of overall water resources management, and recognizing the interconnectedness of groundwater and surface water and the impacts that groundwater withdrawals have on surface water bodies and public rights should be considered a part of this process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, at its 2008 annual meeting in Keystone, Colorado, acknowledges the importance of groundwater and surface water resources to environmental, public and economic health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation aggressively supports proper long-term management and protection of groundwater resources, including the recognition that groundwater and surface water are interconnected and that groundwater

withdrawals may impact public rights, other water users, and damage natural resources including surface water resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation supports protection and management of groundwater as essential to the health and prosperity of the nation and recognizes the importance of managing groundwater resources so that both groundwater and surface water resources are protected and so that groundwater withdrawals are not allowed to harm or impair public rights or natural resources.

RESOLUTION 2008-08

Separating Ecosystem Restoration Authorizations from Water Resources Development Acts

WHEREAS, since 1974 Congress has principally chosen Water Resources Development Acts (“WRDAs”) to consider and enact legislation to guide and authorize policies, programs and projects of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, while these bills are purportedly intended to be passed biennially, they have often become mired in disputes and controversy and have been delayed sometimes for multiple congressional sessions; and

WHEREAS, in recent years Congress has increasingly begun to view WRDAs as ‘omnibus’ public works bills, which have resulted in increasingly large backlogs of unfunded and un-constructed projects and which include large numbers of projects and project modification authorizations, often for which no previous studies or justifications exist, and which are subject to little or no scrutiny to determine whether they are priorities or in the national interest; and

WHEREAS, increasingly the Army Corps of Engineers is being called upon to assist in ecosystem restoration activities such as the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan in Florida, Great Lakes restoration, the Louisiana Coastal Area Plan, the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Ecosystem Restoration, restoration projects in numerous bays and estuaries, and others, and the success of such programs require sustained multi-year planning efforts and authorizations of related elements where costs and bringing about the restoration of ecosystem health depends especially on timely implementation of plans that are based upon adaptive management principles; and

WHEREAS, the delays associated with WRDAs in recent years have adversely affected the pace, success and ultimate costs of critically important ecosystem restorations, where federal obligations are failing to be met, sometimes with years of delays;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, in its annual meeting assembled May 14 -17, 2008, in Keystone, CO, hereby calls upon Congress and the Administration to develop new legislative or other mechanisms to separate national priority ecosystem restoration projects from the current omnibus WRDA approach; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation urges Congress and the Administration to exercise greater legislative oversight and attention to expedite critical ecosystem restoration projects so as to maintain regular and reliable authorizations and funding and to provide greater support for the ultimate and timely success of these important national interest programs.

RESOLUTION 2008-09

National Flood Insurance and Natural Catastrophe Insurance

WHEREAS, the Congress established the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in 1968 to provide otherwise difficult to obtain flood insurance for residences and businesses that are located in flood prone areas in exchange for the participating communities' agreement to guide new development away from flood hazard areas; and

WHEREAS, since its inception the NFIP has grown to more than 5.1 million policies providing more than \$1 trillion in annual flood insurance coverage, and the vast majority of the nation's communities are currently participating; and

WHEREAS, global warming is causing sea level rise, increased storm surge and intensified tropical storms and other changes in climate and weather patterns, which in turn threaten people and wildlife along the coasts and in floodplains; and

WHEREAS, vitally important fish and wildlife habitat such as in the case where the US Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that 8 federally listed wildlife and plant species in the Florida Keys are threatened or endangered as a result of the implementation of the NFIP, and the National Marine Fisheries Service has determined that salmon in the Pacific Northwest are threatened by development in the floodplains along salmon streams, and many similar examples exist nationwide; and

WHEREAS, coastal and floodplain development, in part facilitated by the NFIP, has also degraded water quality, open space, and groundwater recharge areas, and has reduced recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in implementing the NFIP, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has given virtually no attention to the dangers to people and wildlife posed by global warming and excessive coastal and floodplain development; and

WHEREAS, nationally, average annual flood damages have continued to rise at an alarming rate, with annual losses now exceeding an average of \$6 billion, triple the adjusted rate of the early 20th Century, and this is before considering the catastrophic losses of the hurricane years of 2004 and 2005; and

WHEREAS, today the NFIP is approaching \$18 billion in debt to the U.S. Treasury, with virtually no possibility of overcoming the debts and large interest payments without a massive federal bailout; and

WHEREAS, Congress has begun considering legislation that would add wind insurance to the NFIP as a new federally-insured peril and otherwise expand federal subsidies for natural catastrophe insurance programs, without reforming the well-known problems in the existing programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation, in its annual meeting assembled May 14 -17, 2008, in Keystone, CO, hereby expresses its opposition to any legislation that would exacerbate the financial instability of the NFIP, including legislation that would add wind insurance, or that would fail to address the risks to people and wildlife of new development and re-development in high-hazard, environmentally-sensitive areas, such as coastal barrier islands, estuaries, ocean, lakeside and riverine shorelines and floodplains; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Wildlife Federation calls on the Congress and FEMA to shift the focus of federal flood insurance programs onto the identification and mitigation of hazard risks, including the risks posed by global warming, rather than subsidization of insurance rates.