

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

2017-219-BOG

**A Resolution Supporting the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on
Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources**

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson, Dingell-Johnson and Wallop-Breaux Acts to establish funds financed by hunters, recreational shooters, anglers, and boaters to support conservation and science-based management of game and sport fish species; and

WHEREAS, this system of funding from the contributions of hunters, trappers, and anglers has supported the most effective wildlife management system in the world, to the benefit of our most treasured game and sport fish species; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and sustainable funding mechanism to protect and enhance the many species of fish and wildlife which are not ordinarily hunted, trapped, or fished has been established by conservationists of this nation; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is home to more than 1,200 species of fish and wildlife, the vast majority of which are not hunted, trapped, or fished; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has the primary responsibility for the management of all fish and wildlife in the state and has adopted a Wildlife Action Plan that addresses the needs of the state's diverse fish and wildlife species, including species of greatest conservation need; and

WHEREAS, limited financial resources are available to fully implement Alaska's Wildlife Action Plan to help prevent future endangered species listings and provide for the needs of all fish and wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, States have long recognized the need for more comprehensive fish and wildlife programs to conserve all species; however, adequate funding has remained elusive; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources, composed of 26 business and conservation leaders from across the United States and convened by the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, recommends that that a reliable and assured funding mechanism be established for state fish and wildlife conservation and management for current and future generations;

WHEREAS, securing dedicated federal funding is likely to require a nonfederal match similar to that in place for the Pittman-Robertson, Dingell-Johnson and Wallop-Breaux Acts.

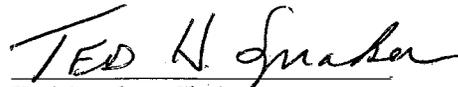
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board supports the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources' recommendation that Congress dedicate \$1.3 billion dollars annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program to diversify funding and management of all fish and wildlife; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to recognize and commend the bi-partisan leadership of Congressman Don Young and Congresswoman Debbie Dingell in introducing legislation in July 2016 to enact this recommendation (HR 5650 – Recovering America's Wildlife Act); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to respectfully encourage the Alaska Congressional Delegation to continue its leadership on funding wildlife conservation by supporting federal legislation that would implement this; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in the event new dedicated federal funding should be secured, the Board supports collaborative efforts to locate and establish the required nonfederal match funding mechanisms for wildlife conservation and the implementation of the state's Wildlife Action Plan.

Vote: 7-0
Adopted March 21, 2017
Glennallen, Alaska


Ted Spraker, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game