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STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
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Governor Sandoval

#19

RESOLUTION #2016-1 OF THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BLUE RIBBON PANEL ON SUSTAINING AMERICA'S DIVERSE FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES IN RECOMMENDING CONGRESS DEDICATE 1.3 BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY IN EXISTING REVENUE TO DIVERSIFY FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT OF ALL WILDLIFE

WHEREAS Nevada is home to more than 890 species of animals, of which at least 65 are found here and nowhere else on earth; and

WHEREAS Congress passed the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts that established a fund to support conservation and science-based management of game and sport fish species financed by hunters, recreational shooters, fishermen, and boaters; and

WHEREAS a similar dedicated and sustainable funding mechanism is lacking for the many species of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles that are not hunted or fished; and

WHEREAS the Nevada Department of Wildlife has created a Wildlife Action Plan that was approved in 2012 by this Commission; and

WHEREAS the Wildlife Action Plan prioritizes 256 Species of Greatest Conservation Need and 22 key habitat types that require prescriptive actions to ensure persistence for future generations; and

WHEREAS there is a recognized need to expand the funding base for wildlife conservation in Nevada and throughout the Nation; and

WHEREAS the recent Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources, made up of 26 business and conservation leaders, was tasked with recommending a new funding mechanism to support state fish and wildlife conservation to ensure the sustainability of all fish and wildlife for current and future generations; and,

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED TO support the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources in recommending 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 wildlife; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED TO respectfully request that the Nevada Congressional Delegation support federal legislation that would implement this recommendation; and to encourage other Wildlife Commissions throughout the West to do the same; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED TO support state policy and legislation that would broaden dedicated funding mechanisms for wildlife conservation and implementation of the Nevada Wildlife Action Plan, and to serve as the State's 25 percent match in the event that new dedicated federal funding is secured.

ACTION TAKEN: This ____ day of _____, 2016

Ayes: ____ Nays: ____ Abstentions: ____

Jeremy Drew, Chairman