

A Resolution in Support  
of the  
North American Model of Wildlife Conservation

The South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**WHEREAS**, wildlife conservation in the United States and Canada is distinct from other systems of management worldwide and has been termed “The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation”; AND

**WHEREAS**, the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation is based on the following principles:

- 1) Wildlife should be held and managed as a public trust, for the benefit of the public, and at the discretion of a sovereign state or province.
- 2) Wildlife agencies must continue to combat the illegal market hunting and trafficking of wild animals.
- 3) Surplus wildlife is to be allocated by law, not the market place. This approach insures that all citizens in good standing, irrespective of wealth, social status, or landownership are able to participate in the annual harvest of wildlife within the laws set by legislatures and rule-making authorities.
- 4) Wildlife should be harvested for cause only and all hunters should be obliged to make practical use of all animals taken.
- 5) Wildlife is an interstate and international resource to be managed cooperatively by sovereign states and nations.
- 6) Science is the proper tool for evaluating and discharging wildlife management policy.
- 7) Sport hunting should be distinguished by the elements of ethical conduct and fair chase. AND

**WHEREAS**, the principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation have successfully guided the development of modern wildlife management and agency administrations for the better part of a century; NOW

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society on this day of March 18, 2008 in Chamberlain, SD, will adhere to the principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation in fulfilling its established conservation objectives; AND

**BE it further resolved** that the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society endorses the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation as the guiding principles to make sound wildlife management decisions and promote effective wildlife policies in the State of South Dakota; AND

**BE it further resolved** that the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society will promote and support adherence to the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation by all governmental agencies in the State of South Dakota, as well as private landowners and managers; AND

**BE it further resolved** that copies of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Governor of South Dakota, the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, the Commission of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, the Region 6 Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the South Dakota Congressional delegation.