MEMORANDUM

To: National Wildlife Federation Affiliate Presidents/Chairs, Executive Directors, Representatives, Alternate Representatives, and Board of Directors
Cc: NWF Directors of Conservation Partnerships
From: Benjamin Kota, NWF Secretary
Date: February 14, 2020
Re: Call for Proposed Conservation Policy Resolutions

2020 NWF CALL FOR PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

Requested by March 15, 2020; Due by April 14, 2020

This memorandum is the formal call for proposed Conservation Policy Resolutions for consideration at the National Wildlife Federation’s 84th Annual Meeting on June 10-13, 2020. Please email proposed resolutions and commentary along with a cover sheet to me, NWF Secretary, at resolutions@nwf.org. Detailed submission guidelines and deadlines are covered below.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSERVATION POLICY RESOLUTIONS

Conservation Policy Resolutions formally approved by NWF’s affiliate organizations establish NWF’s position on conservation issues. They inform other institutions, the press, and the public of our position on conservation topics. NWF is unique in that NWF’s Board of Directors does not set the organization’s national policies—the affiliates do through the resolutions process.

As declarations of policy, resolutions neither direct specific action to be taken by NWF nor allocate NWF resources. The establishment of the budget and the management of affairs of the Federation are vested in the NWF Board of Directors.

PROCEDURES

Proposed resolutions and accompanying commentary may be submitted only by NWF affiliates, NWF Board members, and the NWF President. As noted above, only NWF affiliates may vote on whether to adopt a resolution.

Proposed resolutions are requested by March 15, 2020 (early deadline); however, they are accepted until April 14, 2020 (final deadline). Please email proposed resolutions and commentary along with a corresponding cover sheet to Benjamin Kota, NWF Secretary, at resolutions@nwf.org. Advance submissions are appreciated!
Proposed resolutions will be assigned for consideration to one of the Resolutions Committees meeting at the Annual Meeting on June 12, 2020. Affiliates or NWF Board members proposing resolutions should be prepared to speak regarding their proposed resolutions at the appropriate Resolutions Committee meeting or have a representative speak on their behalf. Each proposed resolution reviewed by committee will then be open for discussion and voting by all affiliates during the General Resolutions Session on June 13, 2020.

RESOLUTION DRAFTING AND CONTENT

Resolutions should be clear, concise, fully edited and ready for adoption. We recommend keeping resolutions to one or two pages.

Resolutions are to be drafted in standard NWF resolution format with declaratory WHEREAS statements followed by an appropriate THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED statement. Existing policy resolutions may be found on the affiliate website at affiliates.nwf.org.

Proposed resolutions must be accompanied by both a cover sheet (form attached) and a commentary (250-word maximum) explaining why the proposed resolution is needed.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions not submitted within the time prescribed by the NWF Bylaws will not be considered unless two-thirds of the voting delegates consent. This “emergency” procedure is reserved for last minute issues of truly extraordinary importance, such as a serious and unforeseen event occurring after the deadline for submission. The originator of an emergency resolution must provide 125 copies for onsite distribution to all delegates and NWF Board members in attendance.

RESOLUTIONS TIPS

Start developing your resolutions early. Joining with other affiliates to draft and propose a resolution is a good way of enlisting support immediately. Working with the relevant Workgroups and Pillar Caucuses on your resolution helps refine it and gain affiliate support—and surface any potential controversies. Do not rely on NWF staff to propose a resolution on issues of concern to you. However, NWF Directors of Conservation Partnerships can assist with any questions you may have concerning content or form of proposed resolutions.

When two or more originators submit similar resolutions, the text of only one will be transmitted to the Resolutions Committee with the resolution reported as jointly submitted.

The most common reasons resolutions are not adopted include:

- The resolution was not vetted by other affiliates before being submitted and so the sponsor did not know it would be controversial.
- NWF already has sufficient or similar policy direction on the subject.
- The resolution may be premature – i.e., the occurrence of the event or problem is not certain or perhaps even under consideration.
- The subject is simply too local for a national policy.
- The proposed resolution is not germane to NWF’s mission of “uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world.”

QUESTIONS

Please contact Jessica Holmberg at 703-438-6326 or HolmbergJ@nwf.org with any questions about resolutions.
2020 PROPOSED CONSERVATION POLICY RESOLUTIONS

Requested by March 15, 2020; Due by April 14, 2020

The attached proposed conservation policy resolution and accompanying commentary is submitted for consideration at the National Wildlife Federation’s 84th Annual Meeting in Pacific Grove, California.

Submitted by:

Position/Title:

Affiliate:

Date:

Submission Instructions: Please complete this form for each separate proposed conservation policy resolution you submit. In addition to the proposed resolution (one to two pages maximum), please also attach commentary (250-word maximum) describing background and need for adopting the measure as national policy.

Please email this cover sheet along with your proposed resolution and accompanying commentary to Benjamin Kota, NWF Secretary, at resolutions@nwf.org. Proposed resolutions are requested by March 15, 2020 (early deadline); however, they are accepted until April 14, 2020 (final deadline). Advance submissions are appreciated!

Electronic copies of this cover sheet are also available online at the Affiliate Partnership Center website at affiliates.nwf.org/annual-meeting/.

Questions: Please contact Jessica Holmberg at 703-438-6326 or HolmbergJ@nwf.org with any questions about resolutions.