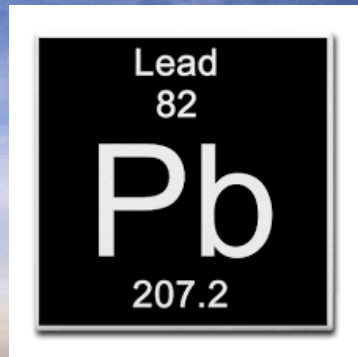
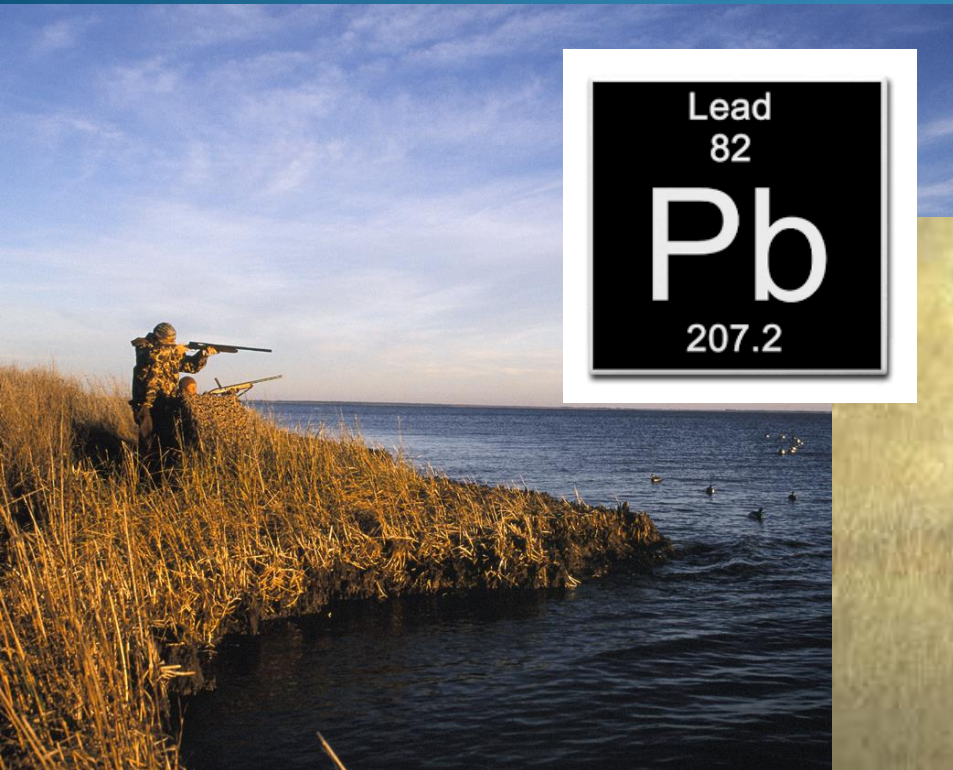




ASSOCIATION of
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AGENCIES

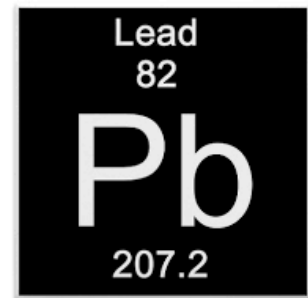
AFWA Resolutions on Lead: A Brief History

Jonathan Mawdsley, AFWA



AFWA's Leadership on Lead

- Seven resolutions and a position statement adopted by AFWA Directors from 1970-2010
- As early as 1970, AFWA called for complete phase-out of toxic shot for migratory bird hunting by 1973
- AFWA's March 1986 position statement was adopted by U. S. DOI and served as the basis for the phase-out of lead shot for waterfowl hunting in USA
- Much discussion and debate 1970-1986...



AFWA Resolution 1970-17-21

RESOLUTION NO. 17

USE OF NONTOXIC SHOT FOR MIGRATORY WATERFOWL HUNTING

WHEREAS, spent lead shot has contributed to the mortality of waterfowl for at least two decades; and

WHEREAS, a great deal of time, effort and expense has gone into researching this problem; and

WHEREAS, the continued failure to solve this and other serious forms of contamination has become intolerable:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that immediate steps be taken to bring about an orderly transition from the use of toxic to nontoxic shot for all hunting of migratory birds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the absence of a compelling reason by the industry, before the 1973 waterfowl hunting season the Bureau adopt a regulation prohibiting the use of toxic shot for hunting of migratory waterfowl.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

AFWA Resolution 1972-13-27

- Problems had been identified with iron shot substitute
- AFWA called for phase-out of lead, if an “acceptable substitute” could be identified

AFWA Resolution 1974-09-20

- Called for federal-state cooperation to address problem areas, rather than nation-wide or flyway-wide prohibitions on lead shot

AFWA Resolution 1978-03-16

- Noted recent decisions to phase out lead shot in the Atlantic, Central, Mississippi, and Pacific flyways
- Requested that Congress not impede the implementation of those decisions by restrictive language in the Interior Appropriations bill

AFWA Resolution 1984-04-12

- Opposed restrictive language in the Appropriations bills, from 1978-1984, prohibiting USFWS from enforcing steel shot zones without state concurrence
- Called for further state-federal collaboration

1986 AFWA Position Statement

- Association approved a position statement in March 1986 that called for a mandatory but gradual phase-in of nontoxic shot nationwide by 1991, starting with the counties or areas of greatest hunting intensity
- “A workable compromise for those who wanted nontoxic shot immediately and those who wanted it not at all”
- Interior Department adopted the Association’s policy as its own in June 1986.

*Source: Managing American Wildlife, Belanger & Kinnane
2002*

AFWA Resolution 1999-01-04

- Noted concerns about possible environmental contamination associated with the use of lead at outdoor shooting ranges
- Encouraged states to adopt guidance provided by National Shooting Sports Foundation, Sporting Arms and Manufacturing Institute, Archery Manufacturing and Merchants Organization, National Rifle Association of America (NRA) and Wildlife Management Institute as the basis of environmental management of outdoor shooting ranges

AFWA Resolution 2010-01-04

- Nine principles for any future regulation of lead ammunition and fishing tackle, including:
 - Future regulation of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle is best addressed by the individual states, rather than federal agencies
 - State agencies should focus regulation efforts where population-level impacts to wildlife are substantiated
 - Any new regulations that restrict use of lead ammunition or lead fishing tackle should include multi-year phase-in periods to allow industry, retailers, and hunters and anglers necessary time to transition and phase-in non-lead substitutes

Attached Documents

- “Lead Poisoning and Steel Shot” from *Managing American Wildlife*, Belanger & Kinnane 2002
- Resolution 1970-17-21
- Resolution 1972-13-27
- Resolution 1974-09-20
- Resolution 1978-03-16
- Resolution 1984-04-12
- Statement of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies on Non-Toxic Shot, 1986
- Resolution 1999-01-04
- Resolution 2010-01-04



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Association Documents

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2002

Managing American Wildlife: A History of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Dian Olson Belanger

Adrian Kinnane

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The Agenda Reviewed, a Future Agenda

that opportunities at the catch must be equally shared with non-Indians. But what that meant to Boldt was a fifty-fifty split of the harvest; that is, the relatively few Indians were entitled to the same amount as the vastly larger non-Indian population. That did not sound like equality to state administrators. And where would enough fish come from? The Association urged the Congress of the United States in 1974 to effect changes in Indian treaties such as would "achieve the goal of equal rights for all its citizens and to insure protection of the fish and wildlife resource." In 1979 the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the Northwest Treaty Tribes' right to up to 50 percent of the salmon catch in Washington. That was that.²⁵

Other cases involving other tribes, locations, and issues surfaced during this period of Indian activism. They were all over, says Jack Berryman, "like a terrible rash." New York Cayugas laid claim to prime deer hunting country. In North Carolina the Cherokees asked the courts to forbid the state from requiring non-Indians to purchase state licenses to fish in reservation waters. And so on. Sometimes decisions favored state law and regulation of resources, often not. With Congress and the courts reluctant to address the very real conservation issues below the surface of the sensitive one of minority rights, wildlife managers will not likely see the resolution of the Native American problem soon.²⁶

Lead Poisoning and Steel Shot

Lead poisoning of animals, chiefly waterfowl ingesting pellets from spent shotshells, emerged in the 1960s as a serious wildlife management issue. Few people then knew that the problem had been identified a century earlier or that it would embroil the conservation community in one of its most divisive scientific and political conflicts ever. Fortunately, this story appears to be nearing a happy ending.

In February 1894 George Bird Grinnell introduced American sportsmen to the dangers of lead poisoning to waterfowl on the front page of *Forest and Stream*. Grinnell described the scenario of hunters' fallen lead collecting on ducks' feeding grounds and their eating it for grit. Their gizzards ground the pellets down into fine dust easily acted upon by the gastric juices, with disastrous results. He wrote, "The [poisoned] birds are dumpy, stupid and stagger in their walk, and have little control over themselves." They also suffered respiratory problems, vomiting, convulsions, and fever. Grinnell did not mention their imminent deaths, but even today most ducks dead from lead poisoning are not readily found. They tend to expire in the marshes and disappear or are devoured. Nor was

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Grinnell first to note the toxic effects of lead on animals. He cited an 1852 article in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* in which Dr. G. Wilson reported detecting lead in the organs of animals that had died from drinking lead carbonate-impregnated water from a nearby factory.²⁷

In 1919 Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Biologist with the Bureau of Biological Survey, pursued both field observation and scientific experimentation to establish the relationship between ingestion of lead shot and lead poisoning in waterfowl. He learned that even two or three swallowed shot pellets could be fatal, while six invariably were. Usually from fifteen to forty pellets were found in contaminated ducks; one bird had seventy-six. Wetmore also worried about the survivors of lead poisoning. Would the “well-known” fact that lead induced abortions in female mammals apply to waterfowl? Scientists had recently determined that lead administered to male domestic fowl had a “powerful effect” on their virility and the vitality of their offspring. Would the same symptoms affect wild birds? Wetmore also proved that lead was the toxic agent in the shot and that the marshes popular with hunters were full of the pellets, which disintegrated only slowly over time. In wetlands areas where gravel was scarce, waterfowl quickly swallowed shot when found. Wetmore’s studies were rigorously conducted and sound in their judgments, but in 1919 he could only describe the problem, not even suggest a solution. He had successfully treated some affected birds with magnesian sulphate but concluded that the process was too time-consuming and uncertain of outcome to be practical.²⁸

Numerous other scientific investigations, appearing sporadically over the years, verified and expanded Wetmore’s findings. Frank Bellrose of the Illinois Natural History Survey became a leading authority on lead poisoning of waterfowl by the 1950s. Noting that different species seemed to vary in their susceptibility to plumbism, Bellrose concluded that their diverse eating habits, not their universal need for grit, were the primary determinants. For example, redheads, ring-necked ducks, and canvasbacks, which dove and dug for seeds and aquatic tubers in shoal water areas, consumed more poison than open-water, deep-diving waterfowl or foliage eaters such as scaup or baldpate varieties. In any case, the ducks kept dying, by the 1980s more than 2 million per year.²⁹

Finally, in 1965, the Mississippi Flyway Council, in a study entitled “Wasted Waterfowl,” formally urged that a substitute for lead shot be sought that was not toxic to waterfowl when ingested and also acceptable to the arms industry and hunters. The flyway council was not the first to propose an alternate shot material, and there also had been efforts of

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various types, not surprisingly unsuccessful, to discourage waterfowl from alighting in pellet-infested areas. In 1936 researchers R. G. Green and R. L. Dowdell proposed lead and magnesium pellets that would disintegrate in water, or gizzards, but the resulting shot did not perform well and, in fact, all tested lead alloys proved toxic. Gradually, scientific evidence accumulated that showed nontoxic steel (actually soft iron) pellets to be the only feasible substitute for lead.³⁰

Whether steel shot would work or not seemed to depend on who was being asked, but by 1970 the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners was convinced that it would. In that year the Association recommended, by unanimous resolution, that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife take "immediate steps" to "bring about an orderly transition from the use of toxic to nontoxic shot for all hunting of migratory birds" and that, absent a "compelling reason by the industry," regulations prohibiting toxic shot should be in place by the 1973 waterfowl hunting season. The National Wildlife Federation petitioned the Interior Department for similar regulations in 1972, and the Fish and Wildlife Service promised it would seek "an early solution" to the problem. Assistant Interior Secretary Nathaniel P. Reed formed a Steel Shot Coordinating Committee composed of representatives from ammunition manufacturers, flyway councils, and conservation organizations to evaluate further the extent of waterfowl poisoning and the effectiveness of steel shot.³¹

But the transition to nontoxic shot was to be neither orderly nor early. Hunters who had never seen a lead-poisoned duck were not convinced of the problem and resented inconvenience imposed by distant bureaucrats. Steel shot was more expensive than lead, had somewhat different ballistics characteristics, and was not always locally available. Early problems with performance and potential or real damage to gun barrels had been largely eliminated, but hunters in the field might not know that or be willing to grant second chances with their egos as marksmen or their prized firearms on the line. The Missouri Conservation Commission conducted an experiment with hunters who were given unmarked boxes of iron or lead shotshells. The study showed that both groups of hunters bagged similar numbers of birds and in this case the steel shot users left fewer cripples behind. But the controversy was only beginning.³²

In 1973 the Association heard a lengthy session devoted to the nontoxic shot issue. Ralph Bitely of the Maryland Wildlife Administration gave a grim report of lead-induced waterfowl mortality ("no longer tolerable," he said) in the Chesapeake area and concluded that following a

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year of voluntary compliance, his agency would move forward with a state regulation prohibiting the discharge of a firearm loaded with lead within 100 yards of the important waterfowl-habitat waters of Maryland. Bitely urged the states to support a ban on lead shot in one flyway in 1974 and nationwide in 1975. Yet when the Interior Department conducted public hearings in each of the flyways on substituting steel shot for lead, Maryland was among the majority of states that opposed the Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed regulation by flyway, its legislature having decided that Maryland "should be no more progressive than the rest of the states" and "could be no more restrictive than Federal regulations provide."³³

The IAGFCC *Newsletter* revealed the Association's growing internal dissension on the issue. The wildlife agencies of Massachusetts, Vermont, Georgia, Virginia, and Maryland in the Atlantic Flyway opposed the proposed federal regulation as did the Lead and Zinc Institute and the National Rifle Association. The International Association itself put forward at the hearings its 1974 resolution that called for local, not flyway-wide, application of steel shot through state-federal cooperation—a backing off from its earlier position. The National Wildlife Federation, several generally protectionist conservation groups, steel manufacturers, and Herbert Doig of New York, alone among the state fish and wildlife chiefs of his region, appeared on the list of those approving the immediate substitution of steel.³⁴

The nontoxic shot issue had become one of states' rights, echoing the sounds of turn-of-the-century states unwilling to impose migratory bird shooting restrictions on their own hunters only to give neighboring states with more liberal laws more targets. The Association's debate on the 1974 resolution revealed members' reluctance to endure political hardship for an unpopular cause when their particular states had no significant lead poisoning problem. No one mentioned migratory birds as a national and international resource, and Bitely's stance for a nationwide ban on lead shot was conspicuously lonely. In the end the frustrated, patience-tried delegates passed a resolution, amid a chorus of "No" votes, whose wording no one was sure of. When finally printed it read that "a nation-wide or flyway-wide prohibition of the use of lead shot is unnecessary and undesirable."³⁵

The Fish and Wildlife Service in 1976 began implementing a steel shot requirement anyway, first in heavily hunted Atlantic Flyway areas only, to be later expanded. By 1978 there were steel shot rulings covering parts of thirty-two states. And there were some unhappy, resisting hunters and

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game officials. But in 1978 Congress took a hand in the matter, passing the "Stevens Amendment" to the Interior Department's appropriation bill. It prohibited the Fish and Wildlife Service from spending federal funds to implement or enforce a nontoxic shot program in a state unless it had the state's consent, and in those states only in areas identified by the state. Basically, that put the issue back in the hands of the states, where it pitted wildlife managers against fierce local opposition to regulation. The national government, which first had tried to impose restrictions with heavy-handed lack of consideration for state input, now abdicated its responsibility to a national resource. The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies opposed the Stevens Amendment, by resolution in 1978, as a political impediment to biological decision making by the Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the states. But some state officials, who did not see the lead poisoning problem as a national one, favored the Stevens Amendment.³⁶

The controversy swirled and touched down like a tornado at intervals for the next several years. Lead versus steel shot became a prevalent topic in contemporary outdoors literature. One of the most persuasive contributions was Steve Grooms's editorial article, "The Steel Shot Controversy," which appeared in Minnesota's *Fins and Feathers* in 1980. The "debate" was over, if there ever was one, in Grooms's view. "The jury is in, and they have found steel to be biologically necessary and ballistically effective." A misinformed failure to act on nontoxic shot gravely threatened the future of waterfowl, the future of waterfowl hunting, and the future of hunting itself, according to Grooms. Ducks and geese, a "mobile, shared resource," he said, could be managed fairly and intelligently only through a federal framework. Actions such as the Stevens Amendment put game management in the hands of "politicians with no special commitment to either hunting or natural resources." With antihunting sentiment growing, it made no sense to appear to promote poisoning ducks and give animal-rights politicians and lawyers a case for shutting down waterfowling all over. Hunters could ill afford a "to hell with the resource" attitude; it was neither ethical nor sportsmanlike to poison birds unnecessarily.³⁷

The International Association, especially its Migratory Bird Committee, continued to grapple with the steel shot stumbling block. In response to an obvious need of professional wildlife personnel, conservation boards and commissions, and hunters, twenty-three states representing all four flyways, two industrial members, and the National Wildlife Federation organized a cooperative lead poisoning control information pro-

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gram under the leadership of Tom Roster, ballistics consultant. He conducted seminars and shooting clinics with nontoxic shot. Meanwhile, in the view of Texas game manager and IAFWA Migratory Bird Committee chairman Ted Clark, the Fish and Wildlife Service maintained “minimal” visibility, carrying out only partially its policy of conducting research and serving as an information clearing house. Regulation on toxic shot it left to the states.³⁸

While lead versus steel became an increasingly polarized political issue, waterfowl mortality continued. When a few bald eagles, not only a national symbol but an endangered species, died, secondary victims of their poisoned waterfowl prey, the controversy intensified dramatically. The National Wildlife Federation sued the Department of Interior for implementation of a mandatory nontoxic shot program by 1987, arguing that lead shot “is a technological anachronism and lead poisoning is an indefensible waste of valuable wildlife resources.” Convinced that the courthouse was the least satisfactory place to resolve the controversy, IAFWA Executive Committee chairman Robert Brantly, President Russell Cookingham, and Jack Berryman met with the litigating parties in Washington in an attempt to mediate the issue. But neither side would compromise. The mediation effort collapsed. Tensions ran high.³⁹

In the meantime, despite the setback, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies was working hard to develop a nontoxic shot policy that would enjoy internal consensus and be both possible and palatable within the conservation, political, munitions manufacturing, and hunter communities. After several iterations the Association approved a position statement in March 1986 that called for a mandatory but gradual phase-in of nontoxic shot nationwide by 1991, starting with the counties or areas of greatest hunting intensity.⁴⁰

Suddenly the smoke cleared. The gradual phase-in approach was a workable compromise for those who wanted nontoxic shot immediately and those who wanted it not at all. Beginning the phase-in where lead was most concentrated promised the best possible remedy for the threatened waterfowl. The Interior Department adopted the Association’s policy as its own in June 1986, and the U.S. District Court, Sacramento, dismissed the National Wildlife Federation’s suit as “premature.” The Federation declared a victory in light of the federal government’s acceptance of the IAFWA phase-in policy. In 1984 Durward Allen, emeritus professor of wildlife ecology at Purdue University, had grumbled that “we have known about lead in the marshes for 90 years. It is time we made our move.” The move that worked was finally made in 1986, led by the International Association.⁴¹

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19. *Proc.* 1974, pp. 272-75.
20. *Proc.* 1976, pp. 141-43; *Proc.* 1977, pp. 192-93; IAFWA Archives, Box 3, Folder 3; IAFWA *Newsletter*, May 1977, p. 1; *Proc.* 1979, pp. 68-69; *Proc.* 1980, p. 133; *Proc.* 1982, pp. 111, 122-25; *Proc.* 1983, pp. 103-5.
21. IAFWA Archives, Box 3, Folder 3; *Proc.* 1977, pp. 192-93; *Proc.* 1978, pp. 64-65. AWARE still exists and receives donations from time to time.
22. Jack Berryman to Cookingham, Brantly, and Myers, "Association Plans for the Future," August 29, 1985; Statement of Ad Hoc Committee on Association Affairs, March 23, 1986, IAFWA Files.
23. See, for example, Martin Seneca, "Indian Hunting and Fishing Rights," *Proc.* 1975, pp. 71-77; Department of Interior Office of the Special Assistant to the Secretary, Pacific Northwest Region, "Background Information on Indian Fishing Rights in the Pacific Northwest," revised January 1976, pp. 1-3.
24. *Proc.* 1975, p. 74.
25. *Proc.* 1974, pp. 170-90, 288; IAGFCC *Newsletter*, November 1979 and February 1980, p. 4. See also Interior Department, "Background Information on Indian Fishing Rights."
26. Richard Starnes, "New Indian Ripoff," *Outdoor Life*, October 1979, pp. 15-17; Lenzini, "Litigation Summary," 1984, pp. 27-31; IAFWA *Newsletter*, May 1981, p. 4; Berryman interview, June 5, 1986.
27. "Lead-Poisoned Wildfowl," *Forest and Stream*, February 10, 1894, p. 1.
28. Wetmore later became Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Alexander Wetmore, "Lead Poisoning in Waterfowl," U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bulletin no. 793, July 31, 1919, pp. 1-13.
29. Frank C. Bellrose, "Effects of Ingested Lead Shot upon Waterfowl Populations," *Transactions, 16th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference*, 1951, pp. 125-33; Frank C. Bellrose, "Lead Poisoning: A Tragic Waste," in Hawkins et al., *Flyways*, pp. 471-73.
30. Bellrose, "Lead Poisoning," in Hawkins et al., *Flyways*, pp. 471-73.
31. *Proc.* 1970, p. 219; Hawkins et al., *Flyways*, pp. 473-74.
32. IAGFCC *Newsletter*, September 1974, p. 4, citing an article by Jim Auckley in *Missouri Conservation*, July 1974; Reed and Drabelle, *Fish and Wildlife Service*, pp. 53-54.
33. *Proc.* 1973, pp. 91-95; *Proc.* 1974, p. 282.
34. *Proc.* 1974, p. 290; IAGFCC *Newsletter*, December 1974, p. 2.
35. *Proc.* 1974, pp. 281-84, 290.
36. Hawkins et al., *Flyways*, pp. 476-77; Reed and Drabelle, *Fish and Wildlife Service*, pp. 53-54; IAGFCC *Newsletter*, August 1976, p. 3; *Proc.* 1978, p. 123.
37. Steve Grooms, "The Steel Shot Controversy," *Fins and Feathers*, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, December 1980, pp. 26ff. Reprint in IAFWA Archives, Box 27, Folder 5.
38. *Proc.* 1983, pp. 7-20; Ted L. Clark, "Waterfowl Management Plans: Views of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies," *Transactions*,

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- 48th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, 1983, pp. 289-91.
39. Jay D. Hair, National Wildlife Federation, to Hon. William P. Horn, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, April 10, 1986, in IAFWA files; Lenzini, correspondence, October 30, 1986.
40. Statement of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies on Non-Toxic Shot, March 13, 1986, IAFWA files.
41. Department of Interior News Release, "Assistant Secretary Horn Announces Planned Phase Out of Lead Shot for Waterfowl Hunting: Nontoxic Shot Zones for 1986-87 Waterfowl Season Set," June 25, 1986; Jay D. Hair, Executive Vice-President, National Wildlife Federation to Interested Parties, "Steel Shot Lawsuit," July 2, 1986; see also Paul Lenzini, Memorandum to IAFWA Government Members, "1986 Steel Shot Litigation," July 2, 1986; Durward L. Allen, "These Fifty Years: The Conservation Record of the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conferences," *Transactions, 50th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference*, 1985, p. 31.
42. U.S. Department of Agriculture, "Policy on Fish and Wildlife," Secretary's Memorandum 9500-3, July 20, 1982; U.S. Department of Interior, "Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Policy: State-Federal Relationships," March 18, 1983.
43. Draft, Resource Policies of the IAFWA, October 14, 1983, in IAFWA files. See Appendix G.
44. IAFWA Archives, Box 1, Folder 8.
45. North American Waterfowl Management Plan: press releases, summaries, memoranda of Jack Berryman, May 1986, in IAFWA current files.
46. See, for example, Stephen R. Kellert and Miriam O. Westervelt, "Historical Trends in American Animal Use and Perception," *Transactions, 47th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference*, 1982, pp. 649-64.
47. See Robert H. Connery, *Governmental Problems in Wild Life Conservation* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1935), pp. 177-202; Clifton J. Whitehead, "State Fish and Wildlife Agency Responses to Funding Challenges," *Transactions, 48th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference*, 1983, pp. 139-45; *Proc.* 1983, pp. 190-94.

7. A Triple Challenge: Funds, Rights, and Identity

1. Paul A. Lenzini, interview by Philip L. Cantelon and Adrian Kinnane, November 29, 2001, p. 74.
2. Gramm-Rudman-Hollings was replaced in 1990 by the Budget Enforcement Act, whose "pay as you go" provisions shifted the emphasis from deficit reduction targets to spending cuts.
3. Gordon C. Robertson, "Report of the Legislative Counsel," *Proc.* 1987, pp 41-42.
4. *Washington Post*, January 7, 1987, p. A19.
5. Personal communication from Paul Lenzini, March 2002.

9-18-1970

Resolution 1970-17-21 Use of Nontoxic Shot for Migratory Waterfowl Hunting

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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WHEREAS, there is a need for the development of a grizzly bear management plan encompassing all grizzly bear habitat; and

WHEREAS, the various agencies having responsibilities related to grizzly bear management are in general accord concerning the need for improved management of this species:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges that Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana establish a technical committee to formulate research and management objectives concerning grizzly bears, to be pursued both inside and outside of the national parks, and that all relevant agencies having responsibilities for wildlife or for land management coordinate their efforts with these states in the development of a comprehensive management plan which will include all presently occupied or potential grizzly bear habitat, and which shall have as its major objective the perpetuation of the grizzly bear.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 15

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF PEREGRINE FALCONS

WHEREAS, the peregrine falcons have suffered an unprecedented population decline throughout much of their world wide range; and

WHEREAS, they no longer breed east of the Mississippi River and recent surveys showed that breeding pairs at long-known nesting sites have continued to disappear westward and northward on the continent; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence strongly indicates that DDT and other chlorinated hydrocarbons are adversely affecting reproduction and survival of these falcons; and

WHEREAS, falconers, pet-keepers, egg collectors, wildlife photographers, and research biologists have all taken a toll that threatens to continue at an increasing rate:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners respectfully urges the governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States and their respective political subdivisions to establish and/or strengthen their regulation over activities that affect peregrine populations and to encourage multilateral management on a continental basis.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 16

WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT ON NATIONAL FOREST LANDS

WHEREAS, the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is obligated by Public Law 86-517 to manage the national forests " . . . under principles of multiple use and to produce a sustained yield of products and services and for other purposes . . . "; and

WHEREAS, national forest lands contain some of our best forest game habitat, especially for big game, rare and endangered species, and forest non-game important for a variety of recreational, aesthetic, and ecological purposes; and

WHEREAS, wildlife funds provided the Forest Service by the Congress are not adequate to support joint state-federal habitat programs on the national forests, making it necessary to limit or curtail desirable programs to improve the forest environment for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, although the Forest Service does employ competent wildlife biologists to fully coordinate wildlife with other resources management activities to meet multiple use objectives:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners favors a realistic program of wildlife habitat improvement on national forest lands, and hereby requests the Forest Service to develop the necessary plans and programs to achieve adequate recognition of the wildlife resource under multiple use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association urges the Congress to provide the necessary funds to carry out wildlife management responsibilities of the Forest Service under multiple use, and to support cooperative state-federal programs on national forest lands.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 17

USE OF NONTOXIC SHOT FOR MIGRATORY WATERFOWL HUNTING

WHEREAS, spent lead shot has contributed to the mortality of waterfowl for at least two decades; and

WHEREAS, a great deal of time, effort and expense has gone into researching this problem; and

WHEREAS, the continued failure to solve this and other serious forms of contamination has become intolerable:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that immediate steps be taken to bring about an orderly transition from the use of toxic to nontoxic shot for all hunting of migratory birds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the absence of a compelling reason by the industry, before the 1973 waterfowl hunting season the Bureau adopt a regulation prohibiting the use of toxic shot for hunting of migratory waterfowl.

Adopted by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners on September 18, 1970, at New York City, New York.

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Resolution 1972-13-27 Lead Poisoning

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 11

FOREIGN AND INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF LIVE FISH AND EGGS

WHEREAS, the importation of live fish and eggs into North America from foreign countries possesses the grave danger of introducing serious fish diseases, and

WHEREAS, the uncontrolled shipment of live fish and eggs in interprovincial and interstate commerce increases the opportunity for dissemination of dangerous fish diseases throughout the continent, and

WHEREAS, the problem of controlling fish diseases exceeds regional boundaries and is of international significance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners support and urge the adoption of national legislation aimed at controlling importation and interstate or interprovince shipments of live fish and eggs to prevent spread of fish diseases. Such legislation should provide adequate penalties to discourage violation of the law, and should provide for funding for efficient and uniform inspection procedures, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urge the member states to adopt legislation or regulations aimed at controlling shipments of live fish and eggs to prevent the spread of fish diseases.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

WILDERNESS ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the administration of land and water resources in accordance with the Wilderness Act (P. L. 88-577, September 3, 1964) limits the production and utilization of wildlife, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for more outdoor recreation to meet the ever increasing demands of the rapidly expanding population of the United States, and

WHEREAS, changes in land and water use, deemed necessary for human needs, severely reduce outdoor recreation potential,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior to join with representatives of the several state conservation agencies and game and fish departments in an analysis of conflicts and benefits of wilderness management to assist resource administrators and the public in making decisions relative to wilderness classification proposals and "back country" management proposals.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

LEAD POISONING

WHEREAS, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners is aware that lead shot ingestion impose an adverse impace on waterfowl resources, and,

WHEREAS, the Association is further cognizant of the need for relief from this problem, and

WHEREAS the Association is advised of the substantial disadvantages of the iron shotshell currently being researched,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners strongly endorses development of a lead shot substitute for the purpose of waterfowl hunting in the United States and Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association urges the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to begin research to identify the extent and distribution of lead shot poisoning on a flyway by flyway basis and to identify techniques of management which can reduce or eliminate ingestion of lead shot by waterfowl, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that conversion from lead to an acceptable substitute be made as soon as possible within the limitations of technology: As a means of accomplishing this the following is recommended:

A. Results from field tests of hunters using iron shot at designated experimental areas during the 1972-73 waterfowl hunting season should be analyzed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife by March 1, 1973.

B. Conduct controlled studies to evaluate relative effectiveness of iron and lead shot in harvesting of waterfowl at specific ranges and to determine the extent of gun barrel damage, such as choke deformation, barrel scoring and possible forcing cone fatigue of guns by use of iron shot.

C. A decision should be made, based on the results of these experiments, whether or not the candidate lead shot substitute is acceptable and problems which need further study should be identified.

D. The Bureau must establish criteria for the term "acceptable lead shot substitute" to include:

1. Standards for ballistics capabilities of lead substitute shells to insure reasonable harvest capability without excessive crippling loss.

2. Safety limits.

3. Equipment damage, including permissible barrel wear to protect hunters' equipment.

4. Shot sizes needed for all legal gun gauges.

5. The effect of the lead shot substitute impacted in or digested by waterfowl.

E. As a result of tests and research, the Bureau should establish a reasonable timetable for conversion to a lead shot substitute if the current substitute candidate meets the criteria established by the Bureau, and approved by the Flyway Councils.

F. Present plans for the development of alternative solutions to the problems.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1971, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTIONS NO. 14 ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL

WHEREAS, proposed legislation contained in H.R. 13152, entitled "Federal Animal Damage Control Act of 1972", outlines procedures for conduct of an animal damage control program through cooperative state and federal efforts, reaffirms authority for management of resident wildlife by the states, provides for continuous federal funding assistance, stipulates that state cost-sharing funds contain a maximum of 10 percent of hunting, fishing, trapping license revenues and provides that federal funding assistance be contingent upon designation of the State Wildlife Agency as the organization responsible for program administration, and,

WHEREAS, the restraints within the legislation will increase the cost of needed animal damage control programs,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby endorses H.R. 13152, as passed by the House of Representatives and recommends the following amendment:

1. Section 4(D) substitute the following wording, "The head of a federal department, agency, or establishment shall cooperate with the state in the conduct of a mutually acceptable program for the control of predatory and depredating animals in lands subject to his jurisdiction."

2. Section 4 (E) amend to authorize \$5,000,000.00 in 1974 and 1975 and \$4,000,000.00 in subsequent fiscal years.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972 Hot Springs, Arkansas.

RESOLUTION NO. 15 FARM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATE LANDS

WHEREAS, wildlife populations on farm lands are declining due to loss of quantity and quality of habitat; and

WHEREAS, habitat loss is primarily due to changing land use and modern farming practices; and

WHEREAS, private farm lands must support farm wildlife species if they are to exist in appreciable numbers because suitable public lands are not available and wildlife species will not exceed certain densities; and

WHEREAS, private landowners cannot be expected to provide wildlife habitat on their lands without proper compensation; and

WHEREAS, state wildlife agencies, alone, cannot provide solutions to these problems because of lack of funds and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is obligated by Title 7, Chapter VII, Part 701, National Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP) to include provisions for wildlife and outdoor recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, REAP practices designated for wildlife are having to compete for REAP appropriations and with practices which will eventually improve landowners income and are not being utilized to any appreciable degree:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners recommends to the U.S. Department of Agriculture that immediate steps be taken to create a realistic program which will improve wildlife habitat on private lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following action be taken immediately;

1. REAP wildlife practices provide 100 percent payment for cost of plant materials, fertilizer, lime and preparing the seed bed;

2. REAP wildlife practices be removed from direct competition for funds with REAP practices designed to improve landowner incomes:

3. REAP wildlife practices be placed on lists of available practices in all county A.S.C.S. offices;

4. Wildlife practices developed by the Farm Game Committee of the S.E. Section of the Wildlife Society entitle "G4-A, Field Border Development and Management" and "G4-B, Management of Wildlife Habitat" be included in REAP.

This resolution was adopted on September 15, 1972, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

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9-13-1974

Resolution 1974-09-20 Lead Shot

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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WHEREAS, it remains for the Congress and the Administration through its Office of Management and Budget and the Congress to implement this program; and

WHEREAS, implementation of a realistic wildlife habitat management program would result in great tangible and intangible benefits to the American public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners again urges the Administration and the Congress to provide funds necessary to carry out the vital wildlife habitat management responsibilities of the U. S. Forest Service under the multiple-use concept and to support cooperative state-federal programs on national forest lands.

Resolution 8

WILD HORSE AND BURRO ACT

WHEREAS, P.L. 92-195 was enacted in 1971 to provide complete protection for wild horses and burros on public lands; and

WHEREAS, latest inventory data reveal an estimated 27,000 wild horses and 14,000 wild burros on lands administered by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management; and

WHEREAS, numbers are increasing at an annual rate of from 20 to 25 percent which will allow the population to double in less than four years; and

WHEREAS, damage to habitat of other wildlife is already occurring due to over-use by wild horses and burros; and

WHEREAS, management agencies do not have the necessary flexibility to maintain wild horse and burro numbers in balance with the carrying capacity of the range;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners urges Congress to authorize the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to sell, donate or otherwise remove federally owned excess horses or burros to be utilized as the recipient desires; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that use of aircraft and motorized vehicles be recognized as biologically acceptable and economically feasible means of herd management and that their responsible and monitored use be authorized for protection and management of wild horses and burros.

Resolution 9

LEAD SHOT

WHEREAS, lead poisoning of waterfowl, through shot ingestion, has been a major problem in some but not all areas of the United States; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been made to place a nationwide or flyway-wide ban on the use of lead shot either through federal legislation or administrative action of the Fish and Wildlife Service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners endorses the concept that lead shot problems can best be resolved by Federal-State cooperation to address problem areas and that a nation-wide or flyway-wide prohibition of the use of lead shot is unnecessary and undesirable.

Resolution 10

APPRECIATION TO THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation is generously providing office space

9-13-1978

Resolution 1978-03-16 Non-Toxic Shot

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 1978-03-16

NON- TOXIC SHOT

WHEREAS, in 1976 the Secretary of the Interior on advice from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service made the decision to require the use of non-toxic shot for waterfowl hunting on areas where losses from lead poisoning were critical, and starting that year in the Atlantic Flyway, the implementation of use of non-toxic or steel shot has taken place, after consultation with the states, in the Central and Mississippi Flyways; and this year the use of steel shot in the United States will be finalized by inclusion of the Pacific Flyway; and

WHEREAS, understandably there has been extensive debate over the requirement for use of non-toxic loads by hunters, hunter organizations, and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has continued to be deeply interested in and concerned about the loss of waterfowl to lead poisoning and has supported the use of non-toxic shot to reduce these needless losses for several years; and, furthermore, believes that the decision to implement or not to implement non-toxic shot requirements in the United States is a biological decision by the Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the states based on their research and determination of alternatives; and

WHEREAS, that the Congress may choose to impede that decision by resorting to restrictions on appropriations is of great concern to the I.A.F.W.A. since the problems that would result from such action in the fields of future research and law enforcement would seriously affect the overall management of migratory waterfowl in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, at its annual convention in Baltimore, September 13, 1978, strongly urges that the 1979 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act not contain language that would restrict the Fish and Wildlife Service in its overall administration of the nontoxic shot program.

9-11-1984

Resolution 1984-04-12 Reaffirming Opposition to the Stevens Amendment

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution No. 4

Reaffirming Opposition to the Stevens Amendment

WHEREAS, each year millions of waterfowl die from lead poisoning after they ingest lead pellets deposited by waterfowl hunters;

WHEREAS, a number of other migratory birds, including endangered bald eagles, are also documented as dying from lead poisoning;

WHEREAS, in each year since 1978, language has been incorporated into the Department of the Interior's (DOI) appropriations bill that prohibits the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) from enforcing steel shot requirements or zones without state concurrence;

WHEREAS, this language has effectively hampered the USFWS's ability to take effective action on the pervasive problem of lead poisoning and has caused the Department of the Interior to retreat from its once strong leadership on steel shot;

WHEREAS, this language is in direct conflict with several major statutes, including the Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, that places responsibility within the DOI for managing and perpetuating certain wildlife; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies went on record opposing this type of restrictive appropriations language;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies reaffirms its opposition to the Department of the Interior Appropriations Act language that prohibits the USFWS from enforcing steel shot requirements or zones without state concurrence, thereby preventing the Service from exercising its mandated responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress is urged to delete language that restricts the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from enforcing steel shot requirements or zones without state concurrence, and

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED, that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service continue to work closely with the states through the flyway councils and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Migratory Wildlife Committee in the determination of steel shot zones and in the implementation of steel shot regulations.

Resolution No. 5

Broadening Latitude for Expenditures of Dingell-Johnson Funds

WHEREAS, the Wallop-Breaux Act (Public Law 98-369) will dramatically increase the amount of money available for fish restoration, aquatic education, public access, and boating facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of Congress that the expanded D-J funds must be used to provide additional benefits to sport fish conservation efforts and not used to replace state activities currently underway; and

necessary to also keep in mind the capability of the manufacturers of ammunition and their distribution system and that the industry needs some certainty to know what to plan for. Colonel Brantly disagreed with Mr. Doig, indicating that there was a need to act now and, because of the Association's professional competence, to spell out some detail in the criteria. Mr. Molini agreed that the apparent dictatorial language required modification. Mr. Myers and Mr. Cronan both agreed to a modification of the dictatorial language as part of their motion. *The question was called; the motion was passed.*

The statement in Appendix I incorporates the changes that were agreed upon, approved, and forwarded to the Business Meeting for approval and subsequently approved at that meeting and later distributed.

Mr. Larry Gale reported for the Association Affairs Committee. The report recommended that: the Association relocate its Washington offices to the Hall of the States at about the same time as the National Wildlife Federation moves into its new headquarters, an additional resource person be added to the Washington office staff with sufficient additional secretarial help as necessary, and the present policy of entering into defensive legal actions be continued.

Mr. Wes Hayden, who will be retiring March 31, presented a personal message to the Executive Committee and guests, indicating that it had been a privilege to serve and that there had been many memorable events. He thanked the leadership and cooperators for their support, assistance, and guidance and commented upon the conservation values that the Association had embraced.

The Executive Committee adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

The Executive Committee re-convened in executive session at 2:05 p.m.

Hanzlick moved, Donaldson seconded a motion that the recommendations of the Association Affairs Committee be approved. Passed. There was later a consensus that all items except 5 and 7 would be referred to the Business Meeting for approval. Number 5 and 7 would be handled by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Myers named Dr. Donaldson as Chairman with Chester Phelps, Gene Deems, and Allen Gebhardt as members of an Ad Hoc Budget Committee to develop the Association's budget for 1987.

The Executive session was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Appendix I. Statement of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies on Non-Toxic Shot¹

It is the position of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) that lead is an environmental pollutant and the continued use of lead shot for waterfowl hunting must be eliminated by 1991 through scheduled replacement with non-toxic shot through progressively more restrictive measures. In addition, the IAFWA holds that the U.S. Department of the Interior is legally obligated to utilize the powers granted it pursuant to

¹Developed by the Migratory Wildlife Committee; approved with modification by the Executive Committee; approved at the Business Meeting, March 17, 1985, Washington, D.C.; modified and approved March 23, 1986 at Reno, Nevada.

the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Endangered Species Act to develop a rational program of definitive control of lead poisoning in waterfowl based solely upon the body of available scientific data. In adopting this position, the IAFWA:

1. Recognizes that lead poisoning is a significant and controllable mortality factor of North American waterfowl and certain other wildlife.
2. Accepts as valid the estimate of two to three percent of the fall/winter waterfowl population succumbing to lead poisoning annually.
3. Recognizes that the importance of lead poisoning as a mortality factor in waterfowl does not lie only in the losses incurred in massive die-offs, but in the day-to-day losses that pass unnoticed.
4. Finds that currently available steel shotshell ammunition is an effective alternative to that containing lead shot, and the large scale use of steel shot will not result in inordinate crippling losses of waterfowl.
5. Endorses the mandatory use of non-toxic shot as a means of significantly reducing the incidence of lead poisoning in waterfowl.
6. Supports additional research and development leading to improved non-toxic shotshell ammunition for taking waterfowl as long as such research does not interfere with timely implementation of non-toxic shot programs.
7. Recognizes that states may implement non-toxic shot zones on an accelerated schedule instead of the schedule adopted March 23 1986 (attached hereto as Exhibit I and incorporated herein by specific reference) provided a minimum twelve month prior notification is given.

Exhibit I: Criteria for Defining Areas Where Non-Toxic Shot Will be Required for Taking Waterfowl¹

Purpose: The intent is to develop a program that will progressively implement, over a five-year period, a nationwide non-toxic shot requirement for harvesting waterfowl to reduce lead levels available to the waterfowl.

Criteria: Non-toxic shot will be required in those counties or areas where waterfowl harvest is in accordance with the schedule shown in Table I.

Table I. Implementation Schedule

Harvest level (birds per square mile)	Hunting season that monitoring is to begin	Hunting season in which non-toxic shot is to be required in qualifying areas	Non-toxic shot required in deferred areas
20	1985	1987	1991
15	1986	1988	1991
10	1987	1989	1991
5	1988	1990	1991
>5	1989	1991	1991

¹Exhibit I to Statement of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies on Non-Toxic Shot, approved March 23, 1986, Reno, Nevada.

States may defer implementation of non-toxic shot until 1991 if the state can show that the minimum requirements of both monitored criteria for implementation have not been reached. Such determination will be based on two of the decision criteria in Table II.

Rationale: Exposure of waterfowl to lead poisoning is directly related to hunting pressure. Harvest statistics provide an indication of hunting intensity by geographic area. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife publication (*Distribution of Waterfowl Species Harvested in States and Counties During 1971-80 Hunting Seasons*) provides the most recent 10-year harvest by counties and states; thus, it can serve as a source document for determining specific areas in each state that must be addressed.

Monitoring: Monitoring techniques are acceptable for ingested shot in gizzards and one or more of the following: (1) lead residue in liver, (2) lead residues in blood or (3) protoporphyn. A minimum of 100 samples should be analyzed from each area. Samples will be gathered only from those waterfowl species showing a propensity of ingesting shot.

Table II. Criteria for Establishing Non-Toxic Shot Zones

Harvest Level	Monitoring Begins to Defer Implementation	Qualifying Areas Converted
<i>I. Implementation Criteria for waterfowl</i>		
Harvest per sq. mi. (by county, or other designated areas as jointly agreed by State and FWS; harvest estimate based on most recent FWS or State data):		
20 or more	1985	1987
15 or more	1986	1988
10 or more	1987	1989
5 or more	1988	1990
> 5	1989	1991
<i>II. Decision Criteria</i>		
Gizzard (ingested shot)	1 or more shot in 5%.	
Liver (lead content)	2 ppm wet weight in 5%.	
Blood (lead content)	0.2 ppm in 5%.	
Protoporphyn	40 ug/dl in 5%.	
<i>III. Other Conditions</i>		
Sample size (species known to be susceptible to lead poisoning).	100 (hunter killed or trapped).	
Sampling procedures	Most susceptible species only.	

9-21-1999

Resolution 1999-01-04 Controlling Lead Mobility at Shooting Ranges

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 1999-01-04

CONTROLLING LEAD MOBILITY AT SHOOTING RANGES

WHEREAS, providing places for hunters and shooting enthusiasts to develop shooting skills is an important part of the mission of wildlife agencies, and

WHEREAS, an increasing proportion of Pittman-Robertson funds collected annually are derived from recreational shooting activities other than hunting, and it is predicted that the proportion derived from recreational shooting will likely continue to increase from its current twenty percent; and

WHEREAS, the management of outdoor shooting ranges is undergoing increasing scrutiny because of environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, shooters and hunters have always demonstrated a concern for the environment; and

WHEREAS, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, Sporting Arms and Manufacturing Institute, Archery Manufacturing and Merchants Organization, National Rifle Association of America (NRA) and Wildlife Management Institute have developed science-based guidance documents entitled, *Lead Mobility at Shooting Ranges*, *Environmental Aspects of Construction and Management of Outdoor Shooting Ranges* and *NRA Range Source Book* that guide the environmental management of outdoor shooting ranges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies hereby urge shooting range operators, including its member agencies, to adopt the aforementioned guidance documents at the earliest possible opportunity as the basis for environmental management of all outdoor shooting ranges, and provide this resolution to the above mentioned organizations.

9-29-2010

Resolution 2010-01-04 Lead Ammunition and Fishing Tackle

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Resolution 01-04 2010

LEAD AMMUNITION AND FISHING TACKLE

WHEREAS, lead is used for ammunition and fishing tackle due to its unique properties and ease and cost of manufacture; and

WHEREAS, lead from ammunition and fishing tackle under certain circumstances of exposure may pose health risks to wildlife; and

WHEREAS, state fish and wildlife agencies have primary trust responsibilities for most fish and wildlife resources in this country; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, which represents the collective perspectives of the state fish and wildlife agencies, played a key leadership role in resolution of the debate over regulation of lead shot for waterfowl hunting in the 1970s and '80s; and

WHEREAS, state fish and wildlife agencies have been proactive in implementing regulations, educational initiatives, and other efforts to reduce lead exposure to fish and wildlife in cases where population-level impacts have been documented;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies adopt the following principles regarding future regulation of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle:

1. Future regulation of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle is best addressed by the individual states, rather than federal agencies.
2. State fish and wildlife agencies should proactively address issues associated with wildlife population health, and cooperate with the respective state health agencies where human health issues have been substantiated, related to lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle.
3. Decisions related to future regulation of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle should be based on the best available science related to wildlife population health.
4. Effective human dimensions strategies should be developed to ensure good communication and understanding by hunters, anglers, and shooting sports interests.
5. Collaboration with industry, conservation organizations, hunting, angling, and shooting sports interests is essential, and AFWA and the states should continue to lead efforts to bring this about.
6. State agencies should focus regulation efforts where population-level impacts to wildlife are substantiated.
7. Public education and voluntary programs may be used where appropriate in lieu of regulation.
8. Any new regulations that restrict use of lead ammunition or lead fishing tackle should include multi-year phase-in periods to allow industry, retailers, and hunters and anglers necessary time to transition and phase-in non-lead substitutes.
9. State fish and wildlife agencies should lead efforts to develop the best science, and AFWA should provide this information to members for their use in bringing hunters, anglers and various interests together to determine the need for and nature of any needed management approaches to use of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle.

Resolution submitted by the Executive Committee with recommendation that it be passed.