



July 14, 2006

Re: Emergency Watershed Protection Program in North Carolina

Please find attached a resolution approved by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (NCAFS) regarding the United States Department of Agriculture's Emergency Watershed Protection program. The program's actions on stream bank erosion and debris blockages after floods can either benefit or harm fishery resources and their habitats. The Environmental Concerns Committee of the NCAFS identified this issue as a significant concern to the membership and developed the resolution to encourage actions that would meet the program's objectives while benefiting fishery resources through improved aquatic and riparian habitats. The resolution was presented to the NCAFS membership, voted on and approved at its annual meeting on 1 February 2006.

The NCAFS has a diverse membership. Its 139 members represent fisheries scientists from academic institutions, state and federal management agencies, and private institutions. Most NCAFS members are also members of the American Fisheries Society (AFS). The AFS was founded in 1870 and is the oldest and largest professional society representing fisheries scientists. The AFS promotes scientific research and enlightened management of aquatic resources for optimum use and enjoyment of the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Dorsey".

Lawrence Dorsey, President
North Carolina Chapter, American Fisheries Society
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704/986-6109
dorseylg@vnet.net

cc: Robert Curry, President, Southern Division American Fisheries Society
Christopher Kohler, President, American Fisheries Society
Ghassan Rassam, Executive Director, American Fisheries Society