



January 19, 2001

William Sayler - President
Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
RR1 Box 205
Spearfish, SD 57783
Dear Mr. Sayler:

The Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is pleased to support your Resolution on the Formation of a Missouri River Recovery Committee. Many of our 150+ members are actively engaged in conservation/restoration projects for rare or native fishes of the Missouri River. We are working to build public support and recognition of the value of these species which have suffered serious declines in the face of widespread habitat alteration and degradation.

We can see many benefits to better coordination of rare fish conservation efforts throughout the basin, as well as opportunities to increase resources by raising the public profile of this irreplaceable component of our natural heritage. With the approaching bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the timing for a Recovery Committee couldn't be better. We would welcome the chance to participate on the Committee, to the greatest extent possible within the limitations of our membership and financial resources. Please keep us posted on the progress of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Michael Enk
President, Montana Chapter AFS
c/o USFS
PO Box 869
Great Falls, MT 59403

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