



RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CLOSURE OF THE CHICAGO WATERWAY SYSTEM

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission estimates the sport and commercial fishing industry is worth \$7 billion dollars annually (Barnhart 2005) and,

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes were not originally connected with the Mississippi River watershed and,

WHEREAS, over 182 non-native species are now found in the Great Lakes (NOAA 2010) and,

WHEREAS, Asian carp are within miles of invading Lake Michigan and pose a significant ecological threat to the Great Lakes and tributaries (Fields 2005; ACRCC 2010) and,

WHEREAS, a number of non-native species including zebra mussel, quagga mussel, and round goby have been introduced to the Mississippi River Watershed through the Chicago Waterway System and,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society urges all state and federal governments and the natural resources agencies under their charge to take immediate steps to biologically separate the Chicago Waterway System from Lake Michigan, thus closing the biological connection between the Mississippi River Watershed and the Great Lakes and implement strict and enforceable ballast water legislation thus halting the further introduction of future aquatic invasive species.

References and Resources

ACRCC (Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee). 2010. Asian Carp Management Frequently Asked Questions. Available: <http://asiancarp.org/RegionalCoordination/faq.asp>. (February 2010).

Barnhart, G. 2005. The threat posed to the Great Lakes Basin by Asian carp. Available: http://www.glfc.org/fishmgmt/testimony_AsianCarp.pdf. (February 2010).

Fields, S. 2005. Great Lakes Resource as Risk. Environmental Health Perspectives 113(3): A164-A173.

NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). 2010. Aquatic Invasive Species, Program Background. Available: <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Programs/ais/>. (February 2010).