

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES

RESOLUTION 2

Federal Block Grant Support to the States for Black-Footed Ferret Recovery



WHEREAS, WAFWA adopted in Convention two previous Resolutions (2010 and 2015) calling for the Federal government to commit full support for black-footed ferret recovery under the Federal Endangered Species Act and preclude listing of other associated short-grass prairie species in a manner compatible with diminished regulations, voluntary involvement by diverse partners, and financial incentives to private landowners; and

WHEREAS, this support has not been made available to the extent necessary through Federal programs to adequately conserve and recover the black-footed ferret, despite a clear path forward for the full recovery of this species; and

WHEREAS, the twelve States within the historical range of the black-footed ferret desire to more expeditiously recover the black-footed ferret, and its associated habitat and species, through their own leadership in coordination with other partners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that WAFWA supports the interest of these twelve States and Tribes in their proposed efforts to accelerate black-footed ferret recovery; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that WAFWA requests the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to enter into discussions to grant funding to these States and interested Tribes within these states to accomplish such an effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no less than \$30,000,000 be provided annually for a comprehensive recovery program supporting recovery efforts and cost of administering participating landowner incentive payment programs, and prey management programs with appropriate federal and state management plans according to recovery guidelines suggested by the pertinent 2013 Recovery Plan for the black-footed ferret.

Adopted in Convention
Vail, Colorado
July 11, 2017