

## **Resolutions Committee**

**Committee Membership:** A. W. Ferguson, D. Gonzalez, J. Lombardi, T. J. McIntyre, S. G. Mech, L. Olson, S. R. Sheffield, D. W. Sparks, J. A. Yunger (Chair).

### **Mission:**

The Resolutions Committee of the American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) was established in 1956 to provide a mechanism for the Society to share relevant science and express views on issues that involve mammals. The Resolutions Committee also writes the Host Resolution for the Annual Meeting of the ASM.

### **Functioning:**

As part of the Resolution Committee's Mission, proposals are first reviewed internally by Committee members, then revised as needed in consultation with the proposer. Resolutions deemed appropriate and ready for further consideration are vetted with the President. Upon approval, resolutions will be circulated to the ASM membership. Resolutions represent objective assessments of facts as they pertain to issues of relevance to mammals and mammalogy, and that they adhere to the highest scientific and ethical standards. Consequently, resolutions frequently require multiple drafts, supporting literature, and input from the Society; as a result, they rarely comprise a rapid development.

### **Information Items:**

(1) Following the 2019 ASM meeting, the Resolutions Committee did not receive any new proposed resolutions. However, since last year's Committee report, a resolution on federal delisting of the wolf was proposed. This resolution generated much debate within the Society. The final decision by President Kelt was that the proposed resolution would not go forward.

(2) The Public Lands Resolution was unanimously approved at the 2019 Members Meeting. Feed-back on this resolution was extremely positive and supportive. Special thanks goes to the Conservation Committee for work on this resolution. It was distributed to 25 organizations and individuals and published in Journal of Mammalogy, Vol 100 (6).

### **Action Items:**

(1) Based on a straw-poll at last year's Members Meeting and discussions with numerous individuals within our Society, there is strong support for electronic voting of resolutions. The primary motivation behind electronic voting for ASM resolutions is that they could then be completed more rapidly than voting only at our annual meeting. At times this has been necessary for response to topics of critical concern in our rapidly changing world. The second reason is that not all members, due to travel restrictions and limited funding, are able to attend annual meetings. Some of these members can provide valuable input and wish to be involved in the process. This action item formally requests approval for digital voting of ASM resolutions. If approved, guidelines for the Committee will also be changed. Most notably, proposed

resolutions must be submitted to the Committee three month prior to an electronic vote.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
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