

Resolution #27
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

SUPPORT A WESTERN STATES WATER CONFERENCE

Submitted by Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club

Background: Many western states have grave water supply problems. States affected by decreasing water supplies and drought include Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and California. This situation is likely to get worse with global warming. At present the water dialogue seems to occur between affected cities and agricultural interests. However, wildlife could be seriously affected if ground water is tapped and springs and seeps and small streams dry up. Fish, birds, reptiles, as well as mammals would be impacted. A Western Water Conference is needed, involving the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, state wildlife and conservation agencies, wildlife and conservation groups, and independent water experts, to tackle this growing problem.

Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs requests that a high-level Western Water Conference be held with a focus on the importance of water in wildlife habitat, this conference to include both agencies and conservation groups.

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