Resolution-
Adaptive management utilizing brown trout as a surrogate species in the Namekagon River, Wisconsin.

Whereas the Namekagon River is a federally designated Wild and Scenic River;

Whereas a coldwater fishery and trout fishing are key components to such designation.

Whereas the American Fisheries Society recognizes the concept of surrogate species, and the Joint Agency Fishery Management Plan for the Saint Croix-Namekagon recognizes brown trout as a surrogate species.

Whereas native brook trout are currently, mostly confined to tributary streams because mainstream habitat is already too warm to support them.

Whereas native brook trout will likely be extirpated by Climate Change.

Whereas naturalized brown trout are well established, support a world-class fishery, and appear to have acclimated to marginal thermal conditions.

Whereas brown trout are also threatened by Climate Change, but less so than brook trout.

Whereas the Executive Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force recommends adaptive management to Climate Change.

Be it therefore resolved that: The Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society urges the National Park Service, Wisconsin DNR, and Minnesota DNR to protect, study, and utilize the Namekagon River brown trout genotype.

Frank Pratt
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02-01-2011
Wi. AFS meeting at Radisson in Stevens Point, Wi.