

The Alaska Herpetological Society

Resolution 3

A Resolution to Endorse, Adopt and Submit an Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal to Address the Collection of Wild Amphibians and Permits for Amphibian Possession

WHEREAS current regulations under 5 AAC 41.005 (a) prohibit the transport, possession, export, and release of any live fish “into the waters of the state” without a Fish Transport Permit

WHEREAS amphibians, included as “fish” under state definitions can also be released onto land

WHEREAS many Alaska residents and educators collect and possess wild amphibians without a Fish Transport Permit in violation of 5 AAC 41.005

WHEREAS the state currently has a mechanism for obtaining a permit for “educational purposes” but not for captive rearing for pets

WHEREAS collecting and rearing wild amphibians in homes and classrooms can provide excellent educational opportunities and can benefit native species if done properly

WHEREAS several states in the lower 48 provide amphibian collection and captive rearing opportunities for residents while providing stipulations for responsible engagement in these activities

WHEREAS the language in 5 AAC 41.005 does not include a permit exemption for the possession of “ornamental fish” as pets

WHEREAS the 5 AAC 41.070 and 18 AAC 36.005 provide stipulations on the import of live fish but are rarely if ever enforced for amphibians as pets

WHEREAS the attached Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal (AHS-2) seeks to add language to 5 AAC 41.005 (a) that prevents release “onto the lands of the state”

WHEREAS the attached Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal (AHS-2) seeks to add an exemption to 5 AAC 41.005 that permits handling, collecting, transporting, possessing and displaying wild amphibians as pets or educational aids without a permit assuming certain stipulations are adhered to

WHEREAS the attached Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal (AHS-2) seeks to add an exemption to 5 AAC 41.005 that permits the possession of “ornamental fish” as pets without a permit providing that 5 AAC 41.070 and 18 AAC 36.005 are adhered to.

43 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Herpetological Society officially endorses and adopts AHS-2 as
44 its own

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46 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Herpetological Society directs the Secretary to formally submit
47 AHS-2 to the Alaska Board of Fisheries on its behalf