earmarked mineral receipts from Federal lands, and (2) add the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and classified for retention in Federal ownership to the purposes for which monies from the Fund may be allocated under Section 6 of the Act.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, 43D ANNUAL CONVENTION, JUNE 16–19, 1965, CODY, WYO.

*Oil Shale Development*

Whereas, the Green River formation oil shales of the Colorado Plateau potentially constitute the world's greatest oil field; and,

Whereas, the 5 million to 10 million acres of land underlain by such oil shale are largely in Federal ownership, and contain surface resources of great public value; and,

Whereas, there is before the United States Congress a proposal to validate oil shale claims filed decades ago on perhaps 2 million acres of the Federal lands involved; and,

Whereas, these outstanding claims are apparently null and void under existing law;

Now therefore be it resolved, by, The Izaak Walton League of America in convention assembled this 19th day of June, 1965, at Cody, Wyoming, that recovery of Federally-owned shale oil should proceed under terms of the Mineral Leasing Act, with due consideration and protection of surface resource values; and,

Be it further resolved, that the League opposes legislation which would arbitrarily validate otherwise invalid oil shale claims, and thereby transfer both subsurface and surface public resources to private ownership.

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION,
*Washington, D.C., September 14, 1967.*

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,*
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for the invitation to comment upon oil shale regulations proposed by the Department of the Interior.

When the proposed regulations were first announced, the Federation's Executive Director, Thomas L. Kimball, wrote the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to say: "The proposed regulations, if leasing and land exchanges are considered to be in the public interest, do, in our opinion, contain the proper safeguards for fish, wildlife, and recreation and will adequately protect the surface of the land after extraction has been completed."

Mr. Kimball, however, posed two essential questions which he said should be resolved prior to a determination that the oil shale lands should be offered for leasing. These questions are:

"1. Since such a tremendous public wealth is involved, upwards of $300,000,000,000, why does not the Government conduct the necessary research and development for the competitive economic extraction of oil from the shale? This would permit the Government to develop the process and give all companies, large and small, the opportunity to compete for the leases. It would appear that the public at large would benefit from such a procedure.

"2. If private research is to develop the process, is there not enough land already in private ownership to prove the value of such an operation? Extreme care should be taken that private research and development and the subsequent patents cannot be used to limit the development and competitive use of such a vast public resource."

Mr. Kimball, earlier in the year, had appeared before another Senate Committee to comment upon oil shale lands and a copy of his statement is attached. We would be pleased if it, and this letter, can be included in the record of the current hearings.

Thank you for the opportunity of making these comments.

Sincerely,

LOUIS S. CLAPPER,
*Chief, Division of Conservation Education.*