

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-02

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NORFORK AND GREERS FERRY NATIONAL FISH HATCHERIES AND REQUESTING THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE ARKANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION CONTINUE THE IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE FUNDING OF THE HATCHERIES.

WHEREAS, the United States Fish & Wildlife Service plans to cut budgets for the trout hatcheries below Norfolk and Greers Ferry dams; and

WHEREAS, the hatcheries provide the foundation for Arkansas's world-renowned trout fishery waters which produce a total economic impact of over one hundred and fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000.00) annually and cost the taxpayers only one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) annually to operate; and

WHEREAS, the hatcheries generate five million five hundred thousand dollars (\$5,500,000.00) in federal tax revenues, roughly three dollars and sixty-five cents (\$3.65) for every dollar invested; and

WHEREAS, seventy-five years ago, the White River was arguably the best smallmouth bass stream in America but with the construction of the dams built in the White River basin in the 1940's, the area lost its incredibly productive native fishery; and

WHEREAS, to help offset the loss of the river's native fishery, the federal government constructed the Norfolk National Fish Hatchery in 1955 and the establishment of world-class trout waters below Norfolk Dam; and

WHEREAS, fish production at the Norfolk hatchery employs hundreds of individuals and dozens of resorts employing hundreds of individuals have been established in these world-class fishing areas because of the increase in tourism with the town of Cotter, Arkansas, billed as the "Trout Capital USA"; and

WHEREAS, investment in the Norfolk and Greers Ferry fish hatcheries has consistently demonstrated positive returns for more than half a century and economic growth would be damaged, not enhanced, if funding for trout programs is reduced or eliminated; and

WHEREAS, these modest projects rank among the all-time success stories of our federal government because of the overall economic impact and return on investment they produce.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-02 CONTINUED

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COTTER CITY COUNCIL OF COTTER, ARKANSAS:

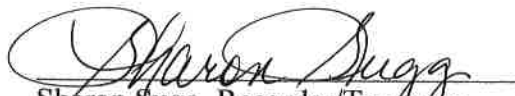
THAT the City requests that the President and Congress of the United States and the Arkansas Congressional Delegation support and continue the immediate and future funding of the Norfolk and Greers Ferry National Fish Hatcheries to allow the investment in these hatcheries to continue to contribute to the economic vitality of these towns, the State of Arkansas, and the entire country.

Passed this 24th day of March, 2011.

APPROVED:


Peggy Hammack, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sharon Sugg, Recorder/Treasurer