



**BACKCOUNTRY
HUNTERS & ANGLERS**

2014 NORTH AMERICAN POLICY STATEMENT: SCIENCE-BASED FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Purpose: The intent of policy statements are to provide a formal mechanism for Backcountry Hunters & Anglers to engage in specific conservation issues while establishing clear policy direction that not only defines the parameters of our position statements but the relevance to our mission. As declarations of policy, statements do not direct specific actions, establish policy priorities or allocate BHA resources.

Sponsored by: North American Board of Directors

North American Board Action: Adopted on March 20, 2014

North American Policy Statement:

Consistent with our support for the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers believes fish and wild resources belong to the public and supports science-based fish and wildlife management, and hunting, fishing and trapping as appropriate wildlife management tools.

BHA supports the authority and responsibility of state wildlife agencies to manage resident fish and wildlife populations on private and public lands. This includes Wilderness areas.

Federal land management agencies remain responsible for managing habitat on federally owned public lands and waters. BHA encourages cooperation between state wildlife managers and federal land managers to maintain robust fish and wildlife populations and to provide for high-quality outdoor experiences.

