



RESOLUTION

Commending the Dedicated Service of

Colonel Bob Brantly

WHEREAS, Colonel Robert M. 'Bob' Brantly was born in Jacksonville, Florida in November 1935 – the same year that the Florida Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish became the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission; and

WHEREAS, he attended the University of Jacksonville in the 1950s, was a 'walk-on' football player for Florida State University, was a competitive rodeo cowboy, and served in the United States Air Navy Reserve from June 1955 to June 1957; and

WHEREAS, he began his esteemed career with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission as a Wildlife Officer in September 1957, and worked his way through the ranks in increasingly responsible positions as an Education Officer, Regional Manager in the Lake City office, as Regional Operations Administrator and Deputy Director for Operations at the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission headquarters in Tallahassee; and

WHEREAS, the Colonel was promoted to the position of Executive Director of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission on April 1, 1977 and retired in 1993, where he earned the admiration and respect of his fellow colleagues by the manner in which he carried out his responsibilities in a calm, smooth, fair and deliberate fashion; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 Bob Brantly provided the leadership in the Commission's decision to conduct an emergency deer hunt in the Everglades due to extreme high water that became a global issue among the anti-hunting community and prevailed in demonstrating the role hunting plays in sound wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, his genuine concern for wildlife and fisheries conservation and recognition of the importance of wildlife, its management and protection ensures that these treasured resources will be available for future generations to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, he has served as an able and efficient administrator and humanitarian who when hearing the Florida legislature called for the elimination of funding for five regional Public Information Coordinators, asked five of his division directors to each donate and reclassify a position in order to retain the currently employed Coordinators; and

WHEREAS, he has received many prestigious awards from conservation and international groups such as the 1981 Florida Wildlife Federation's **State Conservationist of the Year Award**, the 1983 **Ernest Thompson Seton Award**, an award from **Safari Club International** in 1985, the 1989 **Seth Gordon Award**, and the 1991 **Guy Bradley Award**; and

WHEREAS, the Colonel used the \$1,000 cash prize received from his 1991 Guy Bradley Award to initially establish and fund the SEAFWA Wildlife Officer of the Year Award and continued to personally fund this important award; and

WHEREAS, he served as the President of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) in 1980 and as Executive Secretary of SEAFWA for nearly twenty-one years; and has served as President of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, as it was then known, from 1986-1987; and

WHEREAS, he has been a positive force in the SEAFWA organization, serving with great distinction as its Executive Secretary managing the business and financial operations of the Association and serving as the primary point of contact for SEAFWA since 1994.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Southeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, that we hereby bestow the honorary title of **SEAFWA Director Emeritus on Robert M. "Bob" Brantly** and further provide that he has a standing invitation for his participation at the Fall SEAFWA Conferences and the Spring Directors Meetings including the waiver of registration fees for same, and provided further that the SEAFWA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award shall be renamed, effective immediately, to be henceforth and forever known as the "**Robert M. Brantly Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award**" and that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Bob Brantly and congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement from SEAFWA and extend our warmest wishes for his enjoyment and continued prosperity in fellowship with his many friends, professional colleagues and his lovely family: wife Sandy, adult children – Bobby, Susan, Richard, Kim and Missy and grandchildren.

Adopted by SEAFWA at their Fall Conference in Destin, Florida on October 21, 2014.

Alabama Director of Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Arkansas Director, Game and Fish Commission

Florida Executive Director, Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Georgia Director, Wildlife Resources Division

Kentucky Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Louisiana Director, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Mississippi Executive Director, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Missouri Director, Department of Conservation

North Carolina Director, Wildlife Resources Commission

Oklahoma Director, Department of Wildlife Conservation

South Carolina Director, Department of Natural Resources

Tennessee Executive Director, Wildlife Resources Agency

Texas Executive Director, Parks and Wildlife Department

Virginia Executive Director, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

West Virginia Chief, Wildlife Resources Division

