

**Resolution for Continued Scientific International Cooperation and
Collaboration
among the United States, Mexico, and Central America**

Approved by the membership of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists
(SWAN)
at the Annual Meeting at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, USA
14 April 2017

WHEREAS, The Southwestern Association of Naturalists (SWAN) is an international association of scientists, students, laypersons, and others that for 64 years has fostered scientific collaboration and cooperation and promoted the study of plants and animals (living and fossil) in the multinational region that includes the southwestern United States, Mexico, and Central America and research in other regions of the world of interest to our association; and,

WHEREAS, there is a great deal of anxiety and fear about current and future relations and scientific collaboration in all the countries served by SWAN as a result of the current immigration policies and actions in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, White House executive orders and actions on visas and immigration discourage many of the best and brightest students, scholars, and scientists from studying and working in the United States, or attending academic and scientific conferences. Implementation of such policy compromises our association's ability to attract scientific talent and maintain scientific leadership. It is in the interest of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists to support a balanced approach to immigration that advances our scientific endeavors; and,

WHEREAS, there is a deep-seated desire not to disrupt nor diminish our excellent scientific relations and collaborations among scientists, students, laypersons, and others among our countries, and instead to maintain a steadfast commitment to continue our long-established scientific association;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SWAN pledges to maintain and reaffirm its strong international scientific ties and relationships with the United States, Mexico, Central America, and countries of South America and to support and foster continued scientific exchange and cooperation.