

# **BARNSTABLE COUNTY**

**In the Year Two Thousand and Sixteen**

## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION 16-05**

**Whereas**, on or about, March 18, 2016 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director for the Northeast Region approved and signed a final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area, and

**Whereas**, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area is wholly located within the Town of Chatham, in the County of Barnstable, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and

**Whereas**, by virtue of the signing of the CCP the United States Fish and Wildlife Service did declare and ordain its authority and jurisdiction over certain submerged lands, waters, and dis-contiguous intertidal lands lying West of the so called Monomoy Barrier Beach Group, and

**Whereas**, such a claim to these waters, submerged lands, and intertidal lands is in direct conflict with the language of the 1944 Order of Taking, which provided for the creation of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area, and similarly, is in direct conflict with the historic and traditional oversight and management of these waters, submerged lands, and intertidal lands, and

**Whereas**, both the Town of Chatham and the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have voiced objection to the jurisdictional claims made by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and

**Whereas:** the Honorable William Keating, United States Congressman for the First Massachusetts District, has filed legislation in the United States House of Representatives, which seeks to affirm and designate the jurisdictional limits of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, on and within the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge and Wilderness Area to extend only so far as mean-low-water,

***NOW, THEREFORE,***

***BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates:***

Supports and endorses the legislative efforts of Congressman Keating and asks that the members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate recognize the merits of Congressman Keating's legislation to resolve and restrict the jurisdictional boundary authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Monomoy and advance it into law.

**(Submitted by Ronald Bergstrom, Chatham Delegate, at a regular Assembly of Delegates meeting on July 6, 2016.)**