

474707

Instrument # 474707

IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO,

9-16-2010 03:29:38 No. of Pages: 4

Recorded for : IDAHO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'

ROSE E. GEHRING

Fee: 0.00

Ex-Officio Recorder Deputy

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-130

DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the heritage, culture and custom of the people of Idaho County have significantly developed as a result of the absence of the wolf from the County; and the development of recreation, hunting and ranching have benefited from the absence of wolves; and

WHEREAS, the absence of wolves has created an environment of security for humans, wildlife and livestock that has become an essential lifestyle, custom and culture of the people of Idaho County; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) introduced Canadian gray wolves to central Idaho in 1995 and 1996 as a Nonessential Experimental Population over the united objection of the Idaho Congressional Delegation, Idaho Legislature, Idaho Governor, Idaho Counties, and numerous Idaho agriculture groups; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho State legislature passed HJM 5 (2001) stating that they opposed the introduction of the Canadian Gray Wolf and "wolves be removed by whatever means necessary"; and

WHEREAS, title 36, chapter 1, section 103(a), Idaho Code; states "All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho"; and

WHEREAS, the Federal recovery goals for gray wolf populations was defined as the maintenance of 30 breeding pairs and 300 wolves established across Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming for a period of 3 consecutive years, and this management objective was successfully met in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho, via the state legislature, implemented a federally approved Wolf Management Plan (2002) of 150 wolves as the final federal requirement for USFWS to delist wolves under the Federal Endangered Species Act; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to relieve the unacceptable gray wolf impacts on a population of ungulates, the IDFG believes will continue to decline without intervention; and

WHEREAS, the population of gray wolves in Idaho is now out of control and well over the introduction target number and growing at 20% each year; and

WHEREAS, the uncontrolled proliferation of imported wolves on private land has produced a clear and present danger to humans, their pets and their livestock. This danger has altered and retarded historical uses of private land, dramatically inhibiting previously safe activities such as walking, picnicking, biking, berry picking, hunting and fishing. This is an illegal government taking of private rights on private property; and

WHEREAS, scientific data shows that elk populations in the Lolo Elk Management Zone (Lolo Zone) are far below historic levels and current population management objectives, and that gray wolf predation is a primary cause of mortality, preventing the cow elk component of the population from reaching management objectives; and

WHEREAS, survival data and computer modeling indicate the Lolo Zone elk population is expected to continue to decline at a rate of 14 to 16% annually; and

WHEREAS, the delisting and state management of the biologically recovered wolf population has been delayed by litigants and the courts; and

WHEREAS, damages to livestock producers and outfitters have reached unacceptable levels; and

WHEREAS, the presence and boldness of wolves have caused citizens grave concern for their safety and the safety of their families, livestock and pets during their daily activities; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of the gray wolf, as an Experimental Population, has failed as an experiment as evidenced by the devastating effects it has had on the custom and culture of Idaho County citizens, natural resources and ecosystem, including the wildlife and domestic livestock production in Idaho County; and

WHEREAS, the experimental introduction of wolves has allowed the government, through the Endangered Species Act, to further inhibit use of large parcels of public land; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide relief from the unacceptable gray wolf impacts on health and safety of Idaho County citizens, the local economy, livestock production, and a population of ungulates that IDFG believes will continue to sharply decline without intervention; and

WHEREAS, environmental groups have broken their word on agreeing to delist wolves once 300 in each of the three states were reached, and have successfully sued in federal court to relist wolves under the Federal Endangered Species Act, and now demand several thousand wolves before delisting; and

WHEREAS, the only option of appealing Judge Molloy's decision would go before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, activist federal judges continue to legislate from the bench and disregard tax supported expert wolf management; and

WHEREAS, the Defenders of Wildlife has terminated their agreement with the State of Idaho to compensate livestock owners for confirmed and probable kills causing great economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the cost of protecting the people, natural resources and livestock of Idaho County will be an extraordinary cost exceeding the availability of local funds, management options and resources currently available, and that Idaho County may require State of Idaho and Federal emergency assistance, the Idaho County Board of Commissioners finds that:


WHEREAS, Section 46-1011, Idaho Code authorizes the Commissioners of Idaho County, Idaho to declare a disaster emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY DECLARED

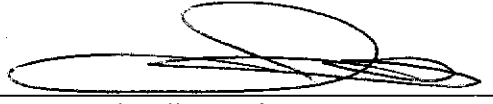
By the Idaho County Board of Commissioners that:

1. A disaster emergency, as defined in Section 46-1002 (3) and (4), Idaho Code, is in existence as a result of the 1995-96 introduction of the Canadian Gray Wolves, causing vast devastation of the social culture, economy and natural resources of Idaho County.
2. Public safety is compromised, economic activity is disrupted and private and public property continues to be imperiled.
3. A local emergency exists pursuant to title 46, Chapter 10, Section 1011, Idaho Code, and other State and Federal laws pertaining to disaster emergencies and assistance for which State of Idaho and Federal assistance agreements may be required and requested consistent with State of Idaho Chapter 10, Title 46, Idaho Code and other applicable statutes and laws to supplement local county disaster response and recovery efforts.
4. The Idaho County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that the Governor of the State of Idaho, under the authorities of Title 46, Chapter 10, Section 1008, Idaho Code, issue an Executive Order or Disaster Proclamation immediately declaring the Canadian Gray Wolf a 'managed predator' in Idaho County, as allowed by the 2002 Idaho Wolf Management Plan, and to be controlled per Idaho Code, and contract with USDA Wildlife Services to eradicate any such packs near homes, ranches, livestock, recreation areas or on site in Idaho County by any means necessary.
5. This local emergency shall be deemed to continue until active Idaho State management of the wolf population has been accomplished through the legislatively-approved state management plan including a policy of no-wolf tolerance zones near homes, ranches, livestock, and recreation areas and the recovery of the elk and moose populations in Idaho County meet IDFG management objectives.
6. The Idaho County Board of Commissioners, State of Idaho, hereby authorizes the Clerk to attest and execute said declaration.

This Resolution (2010-130) is duly approved and adopted by the Board of Idaho County Commissioners subscribing their names hereto, this 16th day of Sept, 2010.



Skip Brandt, Chairman
Idaho County Board of Commissioners
District I



James Rockwell, Member
Idaho County Board of Commissioners
District II



Jim Rehder, Member
Idaho County Board of Commissioners
District-III

ATTEST:



Rose Gehring, Idaho County Clerk

September 16, 2010
Date

