

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LASSEN,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, REGARDING THE GRAY WOLVES IN LASSEN
COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish and Wildlife appears to only want to protect apex predators; and

WHEREAS, wolves have been present in Lassen County since 2017. Since Lassen County had the first pack established there have been numerous depredations, injuries and economic losses due to the invasive gray wolves. Eight depredations have occurred in Lassen County in the month of March; and

WHEREAS, wolf sightings, depredations and established packs have also been present in Modoc, Siskiyou, Plumas, Sierra, Tulare, Shasta, and Tehama counties; and

WHEREAS, these wolves are not native to California and should be considered an invasive species; and

WHEREAS, these wolves have shown a lack of fear towards humans by attacking livestock near homes, where both adults and children are present. This behavior possesses an imminent danger to local livestock producers and the families living and working on the affected properties; and

WHEREAS, the increase in gray wolf populations in the region has led to higher predation of big game species resulting in reduced wildlife populations, which negatively impacts local tourism, particularly hunting, a crucial source of economic revenue for our rural communities. Public Land Management (PLM) tags were reduced from 2 tags to 1 tag last year due to lack of game as a result to a high number of protected predators (IE: wolves, lions, and bears); and

WHEREAS, the legal protections afforded to the invasive gray wolf under both state and federal law have created a significant imbalance. Whereby rural residents, touring recreationists, and livestock producers, have little to no recourse to protect their property, livelihoods or safety without risking criminal and or civil penalties; and

WHEREAS, current California law allows for the removal of specific black bears and mountain lions that pose a public safety threat and similar authority should be extended for the invasive gray wolf; and

WHEREAS, Lassen County is socially and economically disadvantaged and one of the few counties in the state that is losing population, and we have been bearing the brunt of the economic losses created by this protected invasive species. It is unfair that the state can protect their animals but our residents cannot protect our animals; and

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WHEREAS, steel jawed leghold traps were banned by proposition by the people of the state of California, yet the Department of Fish and Wildlife has been using steel jawed leghold traps to capture the wolves in order to collar them. How is it the state can violate laws that were established by its own citizens; and

WHEREAS, Lassen County has written multiple letters and resolutions to the California Fish and Game Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Natural Resources have yet to receive any relief from these invasive species. A wolf compensation program was established for direct losses only but was not retroactive for losses incurred to Lassen County producers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lassen, State of California hereby directs that:

- It be proclaimed that a local emergency exists throughout Lassen County due to a significant threat to public safety due to depredation by invasive gray wolves in close proximity to rural residents within Lassen County.
- There be immediate intervention by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife services to address this rapidly evolving issue. Authorities are requested to consider euthanizing wolves to prevent livestock losses and ensure the safety of our Lassen County residents or relocating these problem wolves to urban areas.
- Lassen County calls for a vote of no confidence for Governor Newsom, the Fish and Wildlife Commission, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to evaluate if they are fit to hold their current office, in light of these facts.

This resolution was adopted on the 13th day of May 2025, at a regular meeting of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors in Susanville, California by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
County of Lassen, State of California

ATTEST:

JULIE BUSTAMANTE

Clerk of the Board

BY: _____
Michele Yderraga, Deputy Clerk of the Board

I, MICHELE YDERRAGA, Deputy Clerk of the Board of the Board of Supervisors, County of Lassen, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the said Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting thereof held on the 13th day of May, 2025.

Deputy Clerk of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors