

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF ROOSEVELT
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-03

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE LISTING OF THE LESSER
PRAIRIE CHICKEN AS A THREATENED SPECIES**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“FWS”) is proposing to list the Lesser Prairie Chicken, scientific name *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, as a threatened or endangered species, promulgating full and immediate protection of the species in the States of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas;

WHEREAS, the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened or endangered species will create a wide range of adverse effects upon communities, industries, and people who are located within, reside, ranch, farm, and use the millions of acres of public and private lands identified as Lesser Prairie Chicken habitat in the five states;

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of employees in the energy—hydrocarbon, nuclear and renewable—industries along with employees in agriculture and utility workforce depend on reasonable access to their job sites in the affected areas to financially support their families and the communities in which they reside;

WHEREAS, the loss of the robust energy, agriculture and utility employment sectors in the region, will also adversely impact thousands of support jobs necessary to sustain the region’s economic health and vitality;

WHEREAS, local industries and employment sectors are already actively taking actions for mitigation and protecting wildlife and native species, including the Lesser Prairie Chicken; and

WHEREAS, the scope of protection offered by FWS in listing the Lesser Prairie Chicken as “threatened” is excessive and will result in harm to working families, local industries and communities, as well as the State of New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE ROOSEVELT COUNTY COMMISSION, NEW MEXICO, that

- 1. Roosevelt County** oppose the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, as a threatened and/or endangered species;
- 2. Roosevelt County** encourage the New Mexico Congressional Delegation to work vigorously to defeat the FWS proposed listing of this species;
- 3. Roosevelt County** encourage the City of Portales, Town of Elida, Village of Dora, Village of Causey and Village of Floyd, local chambers of commerce, Roosevelt County Community Development Corporation, civic organizations, and all citizens of Roosevelt County to become engaged in

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Donna J. Carpenter, Roosevelt Co. Clk., Roosevelt, NM



the listing process and officially comment to FWS of the adverse impacts the proposed listing will have on them, our community and state;

4. **Roosevelt County** request Governor Martinez to actively participate with the County in opposing the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken, and to secure resources from experts within the State Land Office, Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources, New Mexico Game and Fish Department, University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, Eastern New Mexico University, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, and/or any other state colleges and universities to assist the counties in their effort to oppose FWS's proposed listing;
5. **Roosevelt County** secure from our local Senators and Representatives a commitment to support Roosevelt County in this effort and to encourage other New Mexico legislators to join the counties and state in opposing FWS's proposed listing;
6. The County Manager, Commissioner Kendell Buzard, and/or the Chair of the Commission are authorized to sign letters, correspondence, documents and specific comments to FWS or others to further the purposes of this Resolution on behalf of Roosevelt County;
7. Commissioner Kendell Buzard, Chairman of the Public Lands Advisory Committee, is authorized to represent Roosevelt County at all meetings, events or conference calls regarding the FWS proposed listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened species;
8. **Roosevelt County** review its land use plans, long range planning process and existing and ongoing efforts within Roosevelt County to foster, promote and protect the Lesser Prairie Chicken and other species and their habitat, including the work of the Bureau of Land Management in forming an area of critical environmental concern for such species, land exchanges specifically designed to allow the Bureau of Land Management to actively manage populations of the Lesser Prairie Chicken and the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard and demand of FWS coordination in open and public hearings with the Roosevelt County Commission to ensure our local efforts are recognized and considered by FWS.
9. **Roosevelt County** join with its sister counties of Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Harding, Lea, Quay, Chaves and Union, in attending public meetings with the FWS; coordinating comments to FWS, demanding coordination meetings with FWS, and working with counties in the States of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas affected by the proposed listing to further the purposes of this resolution; and
10. Retain American Stewards of Liberty to serve as advisor to Roosevelt County on this issue.

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11. A copy of this resolution be sent to the New Mexico Congressional delegation, Governor Martinez, Senators Adair, Burt, Ingle and Senator Pirtle, Representatives Espinosa, Ezzell, Gray, and Wooley, the following New Mexico Counties: Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Harding, Lea, Quay, Chaves and Union; the following cities and towns: Portales, Dora, Elida, Causey and Floyd; the following organizations: Roosevelt County Community Development Corporation, Portales/Roosevelt County Chamber of Commerce, Association of Commerce and Industry, the Association of Counties; the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, the Pecos District Office of the Bureau of Land Management, the BLM Roswell Resource Area Office; Mr. Dan Ashe, Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and local media outlets.

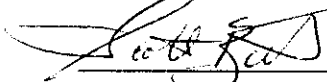
PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 5th day of February, 2013 in open meeting.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO


ATTEST: 
Donna Carpenter, County Clerk

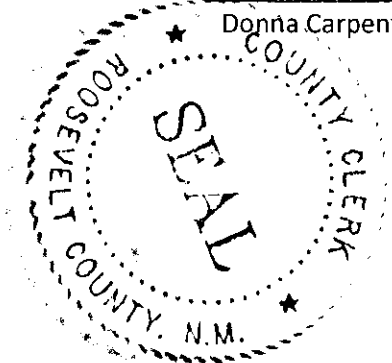

Bill Cathey, Chairman


Kendall Buzard, Vice-Chairman


Scott Burton, Member

Rick Leal, Member


Jake Lopez, Member



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