



**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2023-36**

**Opposing the Listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as an Endangered Species**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") has proposed listing the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as an endangered species, promulgating full and immediate protections of the habitat in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners believes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not scientifically established the historical or current populations of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard; and

**WHEREAS**, the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners believes that there are other flaws in the "science" currently being relied on by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

**WHEREAS**, the FWS seems to have arbitrarily and capriciously dismissed any studies which disagreed with their studies of population trends, levels of sustainability, species resiliency, and other factors which were used to designate the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as endangered; and

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, the scope of protection offered by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in listing the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as "endangered" 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**, that the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners stands in resolute opposition to the proposed listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as an endangered species and encourages the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reevaluate its "scientific" data.



PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 31st day of July, 2023 by the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners in an open meeting in Portales, New Mexico.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ATTEST:

*Paul Grider*

Paul Grider, *Chair* – District V

Voted:  Yes  No  Abstained

*appeared remotely*

Rodney Savage, *Vice Chair* – District II

Voted:  Yes  No  Abstained

*Dennis Lopez*

Dennis Lopez – District I

Voted:  Yes  No  Abstained

*Roy Lee Criswell*

Roy Lee Criswell – District III

Voted:  Yes  No  Abstained

*Tina Dixon*

Tina Dixon – District IV

Voted:  Yes  No  Abstained

*Mandi M. Park*  
Mandi M. Park, Roosevelt County Clerk

