

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION No. 2015- 17

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A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED ENFORCEMENT AND FUNDING OF  
THE FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

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**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 41st anniversary of the adoption of the Endangered Species Act (ESA);

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this visionary law is to save imperiled plants and animals from extinction and to protect vital habitat that provides us with clean water, food, medicines and other valuable products and services;

**WHEREAS**, according to a national Harris Poll, 90% of Americans agree that the ESA has helped hundreds of species, recover from the brink of extinction and 87% agree that the ESA is a successful safety net for protecting wildlife, plants and fish from extinction;

**WHEREAS**, the ESA has been more than 99% effective in meeting its purpose – i.e., since the ESA became law in 1973, less than 1% of the species protected under the ESA have ever been delisted due to extinction;

**WHEREAS**, due to the success of the ESA, iconic species such as the bald eagle, the peregrine falcon, gray wolves, grizzly bears, Florida manatees and the American alligator are once again thriving;

**WHEREAS**, due to the success of the ESA, here in the southwest, species such as the Aplomado falcon, Apache trout and whooping crane have been brought back from the brink of extinction;

**WHEREAS**, the ESA contributes directly and indirectly to our economy, in many ways, such as outdoor recreation and nature based tourism, agriculture, modern medicine, industry, and ecosystem services, which purify water, control climate, recycle nutrients and

protect us against flooding;

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of the ESA come at very little cost in that all federal spending on land, freshwater, ocean and wildlife conservation programs totals little more than 1% of the federal budget, and programs that protect endangered species make up only a tiny fraction of that amount;

**WHEREAS**, the rich natural resources of Santa Fe County's many lakes, rivers and streams have been threatened by our state's current drought, second only to California;

**WHEREAS**, the Sportsmens' reliable access to game and fish is becoming limited. Keeping the ESA strong will help assure the economic and recreational viability of hunting and fishing in Santa Fe County.

**WHEREAS**, one of New Mexico's most iconic fish, the Rocky Mountain cutthroat trout, is being threatened by the stresses of drought and overfishing, and protection by the ESA of this fish would help assure this species' survival for future generations of outdoorsmen to enjoy;

**WHEREAS**, the ESA ensures all these benefits, and some as yet unknown, not only now, but for generations to come;

**WHEREAS**, the ESA contains multiple provisions that offer private landowners flexibility in complying with the Act, including provisions that allow landowners to work cooperatively with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to minimize adverse impacts to listed species and avoid penalties or legal liability for their cooperation;

**WHEREAS**, the County, itself has taken steps to factor in the effects of climate change, the importance of the ESA in the face of climate change takes on added significance.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the County of Santa Fe fully supports the landmark ESA and strongly urges its continued application with adequate funding.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to the County's Federal Congressional Delegation.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this 27<sup>th</sup> day January, 2015.

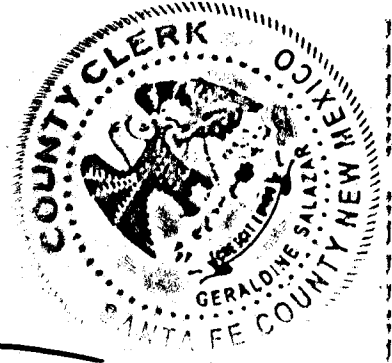
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Robert A. Anaya, Chairman

Attest:

Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk

1-27-2015



Approved As To Form:

for: Gregory Shaffer, County Attorney

BCC RESOLUTIONS 1756182



COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 29TH Day Of January, 2015 at 04:09:45 PM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1756182  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Geraldine Salazar  
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM