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Press Release from the Board of County Commissioners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 4, 2020

BCC Recognizes National Conservation Efforts *Resolution approved unanimously*

SANTA FE, NM – The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, passed [Resolution 2020-93](#) in support of the national *Thirty by Thirty Resolution to Save Nature*, which sets a national goal of conserving at least 30 percent of land and ocean by 2030. In addition, Resolution 2020-93 directs Santa Fe County staff to analyze lands within the County and apply applicable parts of the national resolution to the County Sustainable Growth Management Plan or general strategic planning process, and acknowledges the numerous resolutions that have been passed by the BCC in support of protecting our land and water, and declaring a climate emergency.

On October 22, 2019, U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) introduced the *Thirty by Thirty Senate Resolution 372*, and Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-N.M.) introduced the companion [House Resolution 835](#) to the House of Representatives on February 6, 2020. Recognizing the importance of the national action, co-sponsors Commissioners Anna Hansen (D-2) and Hank Hughes (D-5) presented the local resolution to the full BCC with support from guest speaker Ken Hughes, representing the Northern group of the Sierra Club and the Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico.

Commissioner Hughes explained, “We are at a point in our history where nature is taking on new importance with climate change and environmental destruction. We need to look at our open space in a different way, it’s the lungs of the earth.” He continued, “We are fortunate here in Santa Fe County to have a lot of open space and we want to keep that for future generations.”

After reading the resolution into the record and making a motion for passage, lifelong environmentalist, Commissioner Hansen added, “This resolution is just one more step in protecting our community and our environment.”

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Please contact Communications Coordinator Carmelina Hart at 505-469-0083 or chart@santafecountynm.gov for more information.

