RESOLUTION # 2025-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MODOC CONFIRMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN MODOC COUNTY DUE A SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY DUE TO DEPREDATION BY GRAY WOLVES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO RURAL RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the Modoc County Board of Supervisors declares a local emergency concerning the presence of gray wolves in the county. Since December 23, 2024, Modoc County livestock producers have lost six (6) cattle and one (1) sheep to wolf attacks. DNA tests have confirmed that wolves killed four (4) cattle and the one (1) sheep, with two (2) more cattle deaths pending DNA results but likely attributed to wolves. These killings have occurred close to rural residents, posing a significant threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, these wolves have shown a lack of fear towards humans, attacking livestock near homes where both adults and children are present. Recent incidents have shown that the wolves killed cattle without feeding on them, suggesting reasons beyond hunger. This behavior poses an imminent danger to local livestock producers and the families living and working on affected properties; and

WHEREAS, no effective means to protect the public or livestock from these wolves currently exists; and

WHEREAS, the County of Modoc finds the following threat to public safety:

Extreme peril to the safety of persons and property has arisen due to the presence of gray wolves posing an emergency threat to public safety.

Persistent wolf attacks have led to devastating losses for livestock producers.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that a local emergency exists throughout Modoc County due to a significant threat to public safety due to depredation by gray wolves in close proximity to rural residents within the County of Modoc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Modoc County is requests the intervention of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Services, to address this rapidly evolving issue. Authorities are requested to consider euthanizing or relocating problem wolves to prevent livestock losses and ensure the safety of the general public in affected communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Modoc, State of California, on the 11th day of March, 2025 by the following vote:

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Motion Approved:

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Geri Byrne, Supervisor District V

SECONDER: Shane Starr, Supervisor District II

AYES: Ned Coe, Supervisor District I, Shane Starr, Supervisor District II, Kathie Rhoads,

Supervisor District III, Casey Cockrell, Supervisor District IV, Geri Byrne, Supervisor District V

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF MODOC

Ned Coe

Chair of the Board

ATTEST:

Tiffany Martinez Tiffany Martinez

Clerk of the Board