

RESOLUTION No. 25- 9014

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

WHEREAS, the Plumas County Board of Supervisors declares a local emergency concerning the presence of gray wolves in the county. According to California Fish and Wildlife records, since December 1, 2024, Plumas County livestock producers have lost 14 head of livestock to confirmed wolf attacks. These killings have occurred close to rural residents, posing a significant threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, these incidents are increasing, with March of 2025 having 3 confirmed depredations, more than any other month since records have been kept; 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 Plumas 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.

WHEREAS, without timely, practical, and locally informed solutions, individuals may feel compelled to take unregulated actions to protect their property and safety, jeopardizing both wildlife and public trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that a local emergency exists throughout Plumas 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 Plumas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board respectfully requests that the California Fish and Game Commission, in coordination with the Governor of California and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, initiate immediate regulatory changes to grant sheriffs the authority to investigate wolf incidents and declare a specific gray wolf a public safety threat, thereby authorizing its removal under clearly defined and lawful procedures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board respectfully requests that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game, on immediate regulatory changes to grant sheriffs the authority to investigate wolf incidents and declare a specific gray wolf a public safety threat, thereby authorizing its removal under clearly defined and lawful procedures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Plumas County is requesting the intervention of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and United States Fish and Wildlife, 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, tourist, and recreationist in affected communities.

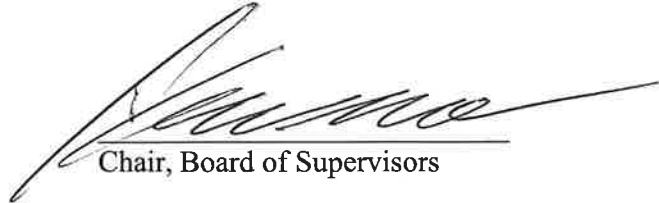
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is not a call for widespread lethal control, but a request for the establishment of reasonable, focused tools that allow rural communities to respond to legitimate threats in a responsible and lawful manner.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California, at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 15th day of April 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors: Goss, Hall, Ceresola, McGowan, Engel

NOES: Supervisors:

ABSTAIN: Supervisors:


Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Approved as to form:


Joshua Breehtel, Attorney
County Counsel's Office