

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LA PLATA COUNTY, COLORADO, SUPPORTING THE 30X30 CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT 30 PERCENT OF LANDS AND OCEAN BY 2030

WHEREAS, the 30x30 campaign is a worldwide, science-based initiative to conserve at least 30 percent of the Earth's lands and ocean by the year 2030; and

WHEREAS, this campaign was launched to address our climate crisis and reverse the destruction of our wildlife, waters and natural places; and

WHEREAS, science-based research has found that conserving and restoring lands and waters is necessary to preserving the Earth's biodiversity and ecosystems and mitigating the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, biodiversity loss and human encroachment upon wildlife habitat is increasing the risk of infectious diseases such as COVID-19, Lyme disease and SARS; and

WHEREAS, our natural places provide us with food supplies and clean drinking water, boost our economies, and offer us a wide range of health benefits; and

WHEREAS, wilderness, wildlife refuges, national conservation lands, monuments and other conserved places provide access for hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, camping and other outdoor recreation pursuits; and

WHEREAS, permanently conserved private lands, including working ranches and farms, protect open spaces, preserve threatened wildlife and help maintain our Colorado way of life; and

WHEREAS, every person, regardless of race, background or economic status, should have access to safe, clean and close-to-home opportunities to get outside in nature; and

WHEREAS, scientists are warning that protecting at least 30 percent of lands and water is the bare minimum we must achieve if we hope to stabilize the climate.

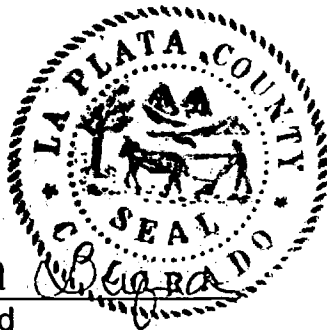
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LA PLATA COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

1. That we establish our support for the 30x30 initiative and science-based, locally led efforts to conserve and restore at least 30 percent of lands and water by 2030.
2. That we support efforts by Congress to champion this goal, such as the Thirty by Thirty Resolution to Save Nature, led by Senators Tom Udall and Michael Bennet, and Representatives Deb Haaland, Joe Neguse, Ted Lieu, Ruben Gallego and Ed Case.

3. That we call upon Congress to advance its own initiatives as well as support and assist state and local efforts to achieve 30x30 goals.

DONE AND APPROVED IN DURANGO, LA PLATA COUNTY, COLORADO this
17th day of December, 2020.

Attest



Elizabeth B. Berra
Clerk to the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LA PLATA COUNTY, COLORADO

Clyde Church
Clyde Church, Chair

Gwen Lachelt
Gwen Lachelt, Vice-Chair

Julie Westendorff
Julie Westendorff, Commissioner