Resolution of Doña Ana County **Resolution No.** 2010-60

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE END OF THE USE OF HIDDEN AND UNMARKED STRANGULATION SNARES, POISIONS, STEEL-JAW AND ANY AND ALL BODY-GRIPPING ANIMAL TRAPS AND ALSO TO SUPPORT THE REFUGE CRUEL TRAPPING ACT H.R. 3710

WHEREAS, the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners is tasked to represent and address the needs of its residents, and

WHEREAS, commercial and recreational trapping of furbearing animals using hidden and unmarked strangulation snares, steel-jaw and other body-gripping animal traps is permitted on many of New Mexico's public lands, including in the Rio Grande River, Mesilla Dam, Organ Mountains and other public lands;

WHEREAS, strangulation snares, steel-jaw and other body-gripping traps are not particular about the age, sex or species they capture, and their use on public lands results in the unnecessary pain, suffering, maiming and killing of untold numbers of "non-target" animals, including domestic dogs and cats, rabbits, deer, songbirds, eagles, owls, hawks and all manner of threatened and endangered species;

WHEREAS, millions of people and numerous organizations, including the American Veterinarian Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, the World Veterinary Association, and the National Animal Control Association have declared steel-jaw traps to be inhumane;

WHEREAS, trappers are not required to mark the location of their set traps near public recreation areas, including hiking trails and other public lands;

WHEREAS, humans have suffered injuries and companion animals have been injured, maimed and killed by hidden and unmarked steel-jaw traps in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, tourism to southern New Mexico is of major economic benefit and concern to Doña Ana County and its merchants and residents, and ending the use of poisons, strangulation snares, steel-jaw and other body gripping animal traps on New Mexico's public lands will benefit the Doña Ana County by eliminating a practice that detracts from the tourist-friendly environment of our region, resulting in an even greater appreciation of the wondrous natural environment;

WHEREAS, the use of all types of poisons on New Mexico public lands is harmful to wildlife as well as domestic animals and their use causes unnecessary suffering and death to untold numbers of animals on New Mexico public lands;

NOW THEREFORE, the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners does hereby resolve to support the banning of animal trapping and poisoning on New Mexico public lands through the use of steel-jaw traps as well as all types of poisons, kill-type traps, snare traps and any modified version of any such traps.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners adopts this Resolution and encourages Congressman Harry Teague to support the Refuge from the Cruel Trapping Act, H.R. 3710, which proposes to ban the use of steel-jaw traps, snare traps and any modified version of any such traps in our National Wildlife Refuge System.

Recorded07/14/2010DAC

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of July, 2010

Board of County Commissioners
Doña Ana County, New Mexico

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SEAL DOÑA ANA COUNTY NEW MEXICO

Board of County Commissioners for Doña Ana County, New Mexico

(yea) nay	(yea) nay
Oscar Vásquez Butler, Chair	**Dolores Saldaña-Caviness, Vice-Chair**
(yea) nay	(yea) nay
Karen G. Perez, Member	**Scott A. Krahling, Member**
(yea) nay	
Leticia Duarte-Benavidez, Member	**Attested: Lynn Ellins, County Clerk**