

Nora L. Barraza
Mayor

Carlos Arzabal
Mayor Pro Tem



Town of Mesilla, New Mexico
RESOLUTION NO. 2010-31

Sam Bernal
Trustee

Jesus M. Caro, Jr.
Trustee

Linda L. Flores
Trustee

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE BAN OF COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL TRAPPING OF FURBEARING ANIMALS.

WHEREAS, commercial and recreational trapping of furbearing animals using hidden and unmarked strangulation snares, steel-jaw leg hold and other body-gripping animal traps is permitted in the Rio Grande River and Mesilla Dam areas, Organ Mountains, Dona Ana Mountains, Baylor Canyon Pass trail and other New Mexico public lands; and

WHEREAS, strangulation snares, steel-jaw leg hold and other body-gripping animal traps are not particular about the age, sex or species they capture, 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; and

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 leg hold traps to be inhumane; and

WHEREAS, trappers are not required to mark the location of the steel-jaw Leg hold and other traps they hide on New Mexico public lands, including near hiking trails and other public lands that border the Town of Mesilla and Doña Ana County; and

WHEREAS, humans have suffered injuries and companion animals have been injured, maimed and killed by hidden and unmarked steel-jaw traps on public lands in New Mexico, including on public lands within Doña Ana County; and

WHEREAS, tourism to the Town of Mesilla, the City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, and southern New Mexico is of major economic benefit and concern to the Town of Mesilla and its merchants and residents; and

WHEREAS, ending the use of strangulation snares, steel-jaw and other body-gripping animal traps on New Mexico's public lands will benefit the Town of Mesilla by eliminating a practice that takes away from the Tourist-Friendly environment of our Town and region, resulting in an even greater appreciation of the wondrous natural environment that surrounds our Town and area, thereby creating a stronger Town of Mesilla;

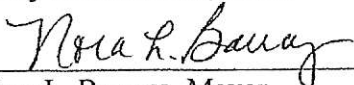
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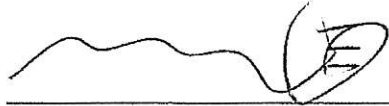
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Town of Mesilla supports banning animal trapping on New Mexico public lands through the use of steel-jaw traps, kill-type traps, snare traps, and any modified version of any such traps.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED on this 13th day of December, 2010.

ATTEST:



Nora L. Barraza, Mayor



Nick Eckert, Town Clerk-Treasurer