



*Colfax County*  
**Board of Commissioners**

P.O. Box 1498 • Raton, New Mexico 87740

Phone: (575) 445-9661 • Fax: (575) 445-2902

www.co.colfax.nm.us

**COMMISSIONERS**

**BOBBY LEDOUX**

*Chairman*  
525 Cook Ave  
Raton, NM 87740  
(575) 447-7167

**JAMES L. NEWTON**

*Vice-Chairman*  
P.O. Box 156  
Springer, NM 87747  
(505) 228-2485

**ROY P. FERNANDEZ**

*Member*  
455 A NM SR 72  
Raton, NM 87740  
(575) 445-2846

**MARY LOU KERN**

*Colfax County Manager*  
(575) 445-9661

**RAYETTA M. TRUJILLO**

*County Clerk*  
(575) 445-5551

**RESOLUTION #2019-28**

**SUPPORT OF PROTECTING WILDLIFE  
CORRIDORS**

WHEREAS, in Colfax County, New Mexico our wildlife resources are fundamental to our history, culture and identity; and

WHEREAS, for centuries wildlife have been intertwined with the cultural fabric and has been integral in supporting thriving civilizations and our interaction with wildlife have fostered the creation of important cultural traditions which continue to be passed down today; and

WHEREAS, wildlife species can move considerable distances to meet their daily, seasonal and ecological needs and their movement often crosses multiple jurisdictional boundaries, including federal, state, tribal and private lands; and

WHEREAS, private lands and waters provide vital habitat for hundreds of wildlife species and also include important corridors for wildlife to safely move and migrate across larger landscapes; and

WHEREAS, fragmentation such as, roads, fences, development and other human-created and natural barriers are increasingly making it more difficult for wildlife species to migrate safely across landscapes; and

WHEREAS, land managers from the Carson National Forest have a role in identifying and addressing the importance of the National Forest in establishing connectivity for wildlife to safely move and migrate across forest lands; and

WHEREAS, Special Management Areas, such as the proposed Valle Vidal Management Area promotes, protect and prioritizes habitat connectivity and is an important migration corridor for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and wintering/calving elk herds; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need and opportunity to foster increased collaboration among state, federal, private and tribal natural

resource managers to promote and protect landscape connectivity; and

WHEREAS, recent polling in New Mexico shows widespread support for the protection of wildlife corridors in the state; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that **Colfax County** expresses support for and urges Congress to act swiftly to enact the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act in order to mitigate connectivity issues by establishing a grants program to support habitat connectivity for migrating wildlife species; and:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **Colfax County** expresses support for the National Forest Service to adopt and establish special management areas that provide wildlife with habitat connectivity, and that balances traditional land use values with wildlife and habitat connectivity needs; and

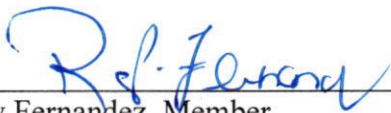
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the entire New Mexico Congressional Delegation to show support for the protection of wildlife corridors.

APPROVED IN OPEN MEETING THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019.

COLFAX COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby LeDoux, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James L. Newton, Vice-Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Fernandez, Member



ATTEST:

*Rayetta M. Trujillo*  
Rayetta M. Trujillo, CLERK OF THE BOARD

Recording (Date - Time) : 09/19/19 - 12:00:00 AM  
COLFAX COUNTY, NM -- Rayetta Trujillo -- County Clerk  
DOC# RES-2019-028