



**CATRON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION № 56-2025**

**DECLARING A DISASTER IN THE COUNTY OF CATRON DUE TO THE EXTREME AND CONTINUAL  
INJURY & DAMAGE CAUSED BY MEXICAN GREY WOLVES**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners met in a special meeting on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, at 10:00 AM in the Catron County Courthouse, 100 Main Street, Reserve, New Mexico; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 4-38-1 (1884) the powers of a county as a body politic and corporate shall be exercised by a board of county commissioners; and,

**WHEREAS**, NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 (1975) provides that, “[a]ll counties are granted the same powers that are granted municipalities except for those powers that are inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties. Included in this grant of powers to the counties are those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of any county or its inhabitants; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Mexican Grey Wolf Recovery Program (MGWRP) was imposed on the people of Catron County by the Federal Government even though livestock production is a key positive socioeconomic factor, and major land use in Catron and is part of the custom, culture and tradition; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Government has continually lied about the nature of Mexican wolves claiming that Mexican wolves rarely prey on livestock and that County’s livestock would only minimally effected and officially stating that “Mexican wolves predominantly prey on elk in the United States, but other sources of prey throughout their current range include deer, small mammals, and birds. Mexican wolves are also known to scavenge on livestock (USFWS 2017b, pp. 12-19), 50 CFR Part 17, [Docket No. FWS-R2-ES-2021-0103; FXES111302WOLF0-FF02ENEH00] ; and

**WHEREAS**, not only has the official narrative been found to be blatantly false in recent months the destruction of livestock by Mexican wolves has exponentially exploded to disaster levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the destruction of the County's hunting and livestock industry not only decimates the local economy but also threatens the State and Country's food supply and thus our national security; and,

**WHEREAS**, Director Mike Sloan of State of New Mexico Game & Fish Department, stated at today's meeting that the State recognizes that there is a significant problem and it is attempting to address the issue, but has been unable to do so as it only has 3 full time personnel to address the problems; and,

**WHEREAS**, Brady McGee, US Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator, stated at today's meeting that he supports additional funds and resources for wolf conflict avoidance; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to Shawn Menges, Catron County Investigator, since 2024 there have been hundreds of thousands of dollars in actual losses and thousands of missing cattle; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to County Manager Deborah Mahler, \$907,000 would be the cost for the County adequately staff the wolf investigation program, funds that the County does not have; and,

**WHEREAS**, the damage has resulted in undue human & animal suffering and hardship and threats the safety, health welfare, and well-being of citizens and the economic function of the County of Catron and if not addressed immediately by the County Commission, will likely result in injury or damage to people or property or substantial financial loss to Catron County; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the authority granted pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-1 *et seq.*, and particularly NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-5 (2007), the Board authorizes the use of all available resources of the County to assist in the County's response to this situation.

**WHEREAS**, all locally available public and private resources and forces available to mitigate and alleviate the damage are deemed insufficient to cope with the resulting situation, initiate restorative management.

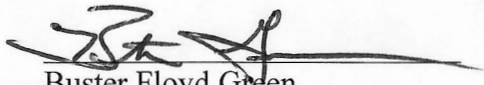
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Catron County by virtue of the County's general power and the authority provided by the New Mexico Civil Emergency Preparedness Act (NMSA 1978, §§ 12-10-01 to 12-10-11) does hereby declare wolf depredations in the County of Catron to be an emergency/disaster for the purposes of exercising necessary emergency powers and expenditure of available resources, and requesting aid, assistance, and relief programs, and funds from the State of New Mexico and the Government of the United States.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mexican wolf destruction in the County of Catron is hereby declared to be a continuing disaster in consideration of the extent of damage and the unceasing maiming, traumatization and killing of livestock.

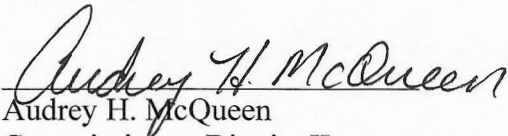
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners requests that the Governor direct that the Department of Finance and Administration make available emergency financial resources to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in Accordance with Sections 12-11-23 to 26, and NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-14 to 15 to be expended for the resources and services necessary to avoid or minimize economic or physical harm resulting from the disaster in Catron County.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners requests that the Governor direct the Adjutant General to order into service any elements of the New Mexico Army National Guard, the New Mexico Air National Guard and the New Mexico State Defense Force as are or may be needed to provide military support to the civil authorities of Catron County, to protect the county's livestock, inhabitants and to provide wolf conflict avoidance consistent with the Endangered Species Act 10J rule, as needed for this emergency pursuant to and in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 20-1-1 to 8, NMSA 1978, Section 20-2-1 to 8, NMSA 1978, Section 20-4-1 to 14 and NMSA 1978, Section 20-5-1 to 16 during the pendency of the emergency.

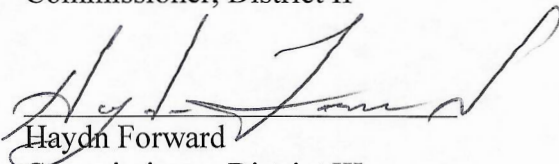
**DECLARED, RESOLVED AND PASSED** on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2025.



Buster Floyd Green  
Commissioner, District I

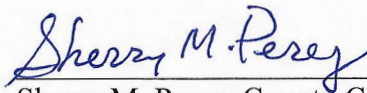


Audrey H. McQueen  
Commissioner, District II



Haydn Forward  
Commissioner, District III

Attest:



Sherry M. Perez, County Clerk

