



RESOLUTION NO. 25-08-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA, SUPPORTING THE ENHANCING SAFETY FOR ANIMALS ACT OF 2025

WHEREAS, the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan created by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service under the authority of the Endangered Species Act caused the re-introduction, starting in 1998, of the Mexican Wolf, an apex predator, on the working landscapes of Arizona and New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Wolf recovery takes place on deeded and leased lands without the approval of the owners or lessees of the lands; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of the Mexican Wolf causes large negative impacts on the ranching and cattle growing activity of the owners or lessees of the lands, including but not limited to: death of livestock animals; death of domestic animals; disappearance of animals; wounded animals; increased veterinary care; increased husbandry, ranching and management activities; expensive preventative and conflict avoidance measures; increased livestock stress issues; reduced livestock weight gain; reduced livestock reproduction rate; and others; and

WHEREAS, the large negative impacts on the ranching and cattle growing activity of the owners or lessees of the lands caused by the recovery of the Mexican Wolf, create direct financial losses; increased operating costs; reduced operating income; reduced ranch profitability; reduced ranch value; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of the apex predator Mexican Wolf on the working landscapes of Arizona and New Mexico causes emotional distress and anxiety on the ranching and cattle growing community due to the constant threat of depredation and associated losses; the fear of direct confrontations with wolves; and the social conflicts caused with conservation groups and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of the Mexican Wolf under the implementation of the Endangered Species Act "whatever the cost" (Tennessee Valley Auth. v. Hill | 437 U.S. 153 - 1978), has caused the Arizona and New Mexico ranching and cattle growing community to bear the

full cost of the Mexican Wolf recovery for almost 30 years with insufficient Mexican Wolf Program compensation for the direct losses and without any Mexican Wolf Program compensation for all other losses and diminished income; and

WHEREAS, it is patently unfair and un-American that approximately 30,000 ranchers, growers and their families and communities in rural Arizona and New Mexico, representing 0.009% of the American Nation have remained solely burdened for almost 30 years with the full negative economic impacts of a national recovery program, despite numerous and repeated pleas for federal help; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Wolf U.S. population recovery is a resounding success and has been one of the fastest recovery efforts on record; the downlisting criteria for the Mexican Wolf U.S. population outlined in the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan for abundance and genetic incorporation are almost met and will now certainly be met; but the downlisting criteria for the Mexican Wolf Mexican population are so far from being met that *regulatory* delisting per the Recovery Plan seems realistically unachievable and is widely recognized by both governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations as virtually impossible in the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, *executive* delisting of the Mexican Wolf U.S. population by Presidential Executive Order or Secretary Final Rule would not comply with the delisting criteria of the Recovery Plan and would therefore challenge the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, Gila County supports the rule of law; and

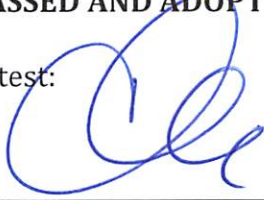
WHEREAS, Gila County supports the right of The People to petition Congress to change the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GILA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT:

- Gila County formally supports the Enhancing Safety for Animals Act of 2025 to remove the Mexican Wolf from the lists of threatened species and endangered species that are published pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act; to nullify all Final Rules related to the Mexican Wolf; and to bifurcate any potential future Mexican Wolf U.S. population recovery criteria from Mexican Wolf Mexican population recovery criteria.
- The Chairman of the Gila County Board of Supervisors is authorized and directed to sign this Resolution supporting the Enhancing Safety for Animals Act of 2025 introduced by Representative Paul Gosar.

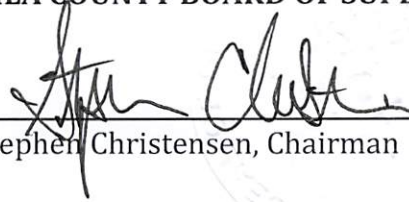
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of August 2025, at Globe, Gila County, Arizona.

Attest:



Charlotte Asrarynezami
Clerk of the Board

GILA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Stephen Christensen, Chairman

Approved as to form:



The Gila County Attorney's Office