

HIDALGO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

405 Duncan Hwy.
Lordsburg, NM 88045
(575) 542-9141



RESOLUTION #25-006

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CATRON COUNTY'S DECLARATION OF DISASTER DUE TO EXTREME AND CONTINUAL INJURY AND DAMAGE CAUSED BY MEXICAN GREY WOLVES

WHEREAS, the Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District met in a duly noticed, regular meeting on May 20, 2025, at the Hidalgo County Commission Chambers, 305 Pyramid St., Lordsburg, New Mexico 88045; and,

WHEREAS, the Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District represents the citizens located within the boundaries of the Hidalgo SWCD and represent the interests of the District in all matters affecting the health and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, livestock production remains a critical economic and cultural foundation of Catron County and neighboring rural counties, and the introduction and proliferation of Mexican grey wolves have led to sustained livestock losses in Catron County, which have increased exponentially in recent months to disaster levels, decimating the local ranching economy and causing growing impacts regionally; and,

WHEREAS, Mexican grey wolves have become increasingly habituated and aggressive in Catron County, as evidenced by numerous incidents of wolves stalking children, roaming in and around communities, killing pets on front porches, and otherwise endangering the safety of residents and visitors, causing widespread fear and trauma in local communities; and,

WHEREAS, the Catron County Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 56-2025 on April 8, 2025, formally declaring a public-safety disaster in Catron County due to the threat of injury and damage caused by Mexican grey wolves; and,

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 56-2025 acknowledges that all locally available public and private resources are insufficient to cope with the escalating wolf crisis; and,

WHEREAS, Catron County's emergency declaration invokes the use of all available county resources and necessary emergency powers, and formally requests immediate assistance and relief from the State

of New Mexico and the federal government under the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 12-10-1 et seq., the New Mexico Civil Emergency Preparedness Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 12-10-1 to 12-10-11, and other relevant emergency statutes; and,

WHEREAS, the Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District finds that the harms reported by Catron County constitute a continuing and regional emergency that threatens public safety, economic stability, and the cultural foundations of rural life in western New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District, that the Board formally supports Catron County's declaration of a public-safety disaster and urges the Governor of New Mexico and relevant state and federal agencies to immediately respond with funding, personnel, and emergency resources as requested by Catron County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District finds that the conditions reported by Catron County constitute a continuing and regional emergency requiring urgent and sustained intergovernmental coordination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District calls upon all appropriate agencies, including the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Department of Game and Fish, the Department of Finance and Administration, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to take immediate steps to mitigate further harm and to restore balance to the impacted areas.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED on this 20th day of May 2025.

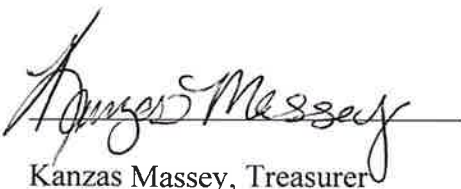
HIDALGO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD SUPERVISORS

 5/20/25

Hollis Vaughn, Chair



John Samuel, Vice-Chair



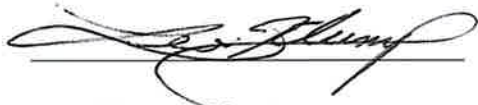
Kansas Massey, Treasurer



Walt Anderson, Member


Brandon Jones, Member


Jose Retana, Member


Levi Klump, Member

ATTEST BY:


Aimee Samuel, HSWCD Admin Assistant

