

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-10**

**SUPPORTING THE BANNING OF 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.**

**WHEREAS**, commercial and recreational trapping of furbearing animals using hidden and unmarked strangulation snares, steel-jaw and other body-gripping animal traps is permitted on many of New Mexico's public lands, including in the nearby Gila National Forest, the Ft. Bayard Game Refuge, and the Gila Wilderness; and

**WHEREAS**, strangulation snares, steel-jaw 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 traps to be inhumane; and

**WHEREAS**, trappers are not required to mark the location of their set traps in the nearby Gila National Forest, Ft. Bayard Game Refuge, nor on any other public lands that border the Town of Silver City; and

**WHEREAS**, humans have suffered injuries and companion animals have been injured, maimed and killed by hidden and unmarked steel-jaw traps in the Gila National Forest, and on other public lands that border the Town of Silver City; and

**WHEREAS**, tourism to the Gila National Forest and the Town is of major economic benefit and concern to the Town of Silver City 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 Silver City by eliminating a practice that takes away from the tourist-friendly environment of our region and Town, resulting in an even greater appreciation of the wondrous natural environment that surrounds our Town and thereby creating a stronger Town;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Silver City supports the banning of 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.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Silver City adopts this resolution and encourages Congressman Harry Teague to support the Refuge from Cruel Trapping Act, H.R. 3710, which proposes to ban the use of steel-jaw traps, kill-type traps, snare traps, and any modified version of any such traps in our National Wildlife Refuge System.

**PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED** this 23rd day of February, 2010.

(Seal)

/s/

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James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

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Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk