

PASSED

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION 99- 9-29-1) IN THE MATTER OF OPPOSING THE LISTING
) OF THE CANADIAN LYNX AS A THREATENED
) SPECIES IN OREGON AND THE ENTIRE
) NORTHERN TIER OF THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing that the Canadian Lynx be listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA); and

WHEREAS, the decision by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to go forward with this proposal is the result of an out-of-court settlement of a law suit brought by the Defenders of Wildlife and others; and

WHEREAS, it is a social/political proceeding and has no biological foundation; and

WHEREAS, if listed, the lynx has the potential for closing down access to far more public land than the Northern Spotted Owl, not only in Oregon, but across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish and Wildlife has stated on the record that there is not now, nor has there ever been, a self-sustaining breeding lynx population in Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature passed House Joint Memorial Six during the 1999 Legislative Session which requested that the United States Congress direct the United States Fish and Wildlife Service not to list the Canadian lynx as a threatened species in Oregon and during the hearings on this memorial there was no adverse testimony from any credible source; and

WHEREAS, the only study that allegedly proves that there were lynx in the Cascade Mountains in Oregon has been wildly attacked by the members of the wildlife community as unverifiable; and

WHEREAS, the listing of the lynx will severely curtail logging and road building in the cascades; and

WHEREAS, listing the lynx will severely impact recreational use of the public lands by snowmobilers, cross country skiers, off-road vehicle users and others; and

WHEREAS, listing of the lynx will curtail the hunting and trapping for many species in the affected areas; and

WHEREAS, wildlife management decisions should be made using sound, verifiable science and not through public opinion and litigation driven by the desire for social engineering; and

In the Matter of Opposing the Listing of the Canadian Lynx as a Threatened Species in Oregon and the Entire Northern Tier of the United States

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WHEREAS, wildlife management decisions should be made using sound, verifiable science and not through public opinion and litigation driven by the desire for social engineering; and

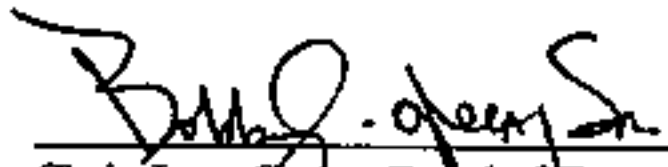
WHEREAS, the following organizations and groups oppose the listing of the Canadian lynx in Oregon: the Association of Oregon Counties, the Oregon State Legislature, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Hunters Association, the Oregon Sportsman's Defense Fund Incorporated, the Blue Ribbon Coalition, the Western United Sporting Dog Association, the Western Wildlife and Sportsmen's Association, and many other natural resource user groups; and

WHEREAS, because of pressure from virtually every state proposed for this listing, and threat of lawsuits from some, the decision to list the Canadian lynx as threatened has been postponed until January 8, 2000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County opposes listing the Canadian lynx as a threatened species by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners encourages the United States Fish and Wildlife Services in the future to rely on science and wildlife managers in making such important decisions.

Dated this 24th day of September, 1999.



Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners