

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO, ESTABLISHING AND MAKING A STATEMENT  
OF POLICY REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS,  
NATURAL AREAS, AND OPEN LAND RESOURCES  
TO THE CITIZENS OF ROUTT COUNTY**

WHEREAS, agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources in Routt County sustain and protect the important wildlife, natural, scenic, and open space qualities of Routt County; and

WHEREAS, agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources in Routt County provide direct and indirect economic value to Routt County, demonstrated by revenue generated from agriculture, tourism, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources in Routt County, by protecting open space and natural qualities and through embodying the Western character and spirit of the County, add to the tourism experience of our visitors as well as the quality of life of our residents, urban and rural alike; and

WHEREAS, various community studies, surveys, reports, and plans undertaken during recent years have indicated nearly unanimous public, community, and county-wide opinion and support on the importance of open space, agricultural lands, natural areas, and other open land resources in Routt County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board"), pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-107(1)(bb), has the power to provide for the preservation of cultural, historic, and architectural history within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board, pursuant to C.R.S. § 29-20-104(1)(c), (g) & (h), has the authority to plan for and regulate the use of land by preserving areas of historical importance, regulating the use of land on the basis of its impact on the community or surrounding areas, and otherwise planning for and regulating the use of land so as to provide planned and orderly use of land and protection of the environment in a manner consistent with constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is desirable and beneficial to the citizens of Routt County to establish a policy statement reflecting the importance of agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources to the County, which policy may be used to guide the decision making of the Board and other County officials and staff; and

WHEREAS, such policy statement reflecting the importance of agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources would serve and promote the public health, safety, welfare, and morals of the citizens of Routt County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Routt County, Colorado, that it shall be the policy of the Board that:

1. Agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources within and throughout Routt County are integral elements of and necessary for the continued vitality of the County's history, economy, landscape, lifestyle, and culture. In particular, such lands are important for their wildlife, recreational, environmental, aesthetic, visual, open space, tourism, and natural resource values.

2. Through present and future study, consideration, and adoption of land use, cultural preservation, "right-to-farm," or other County resolutions, ordinances, regulations, plans, reports, or policies, the Board shall attempt and aspire to:

\* conserve, enhance, and protect agricultural lands, natural areas, and open land resources within and throughout Routt County;

\* integrate planning efforts to promote the retention and protection of such lands for present and future generations while allowing for their reasonable use for traditional agricultural and other uses.

ADOPTED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1995.

**BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO.**

*Nancy Stahoviak*  
Nancy Stahoviak, Chairman

Vote: Ben S. Beall (Aye) (Nay)  
Nancy Stahoviak (Aye) (Nay)  
Dan Ellison (Aye) (Nay)

ATTEST:

*Kay Weirland*  
Kay Weirland, Routt County Clerk and Recorder