

DRAFT

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLOWA
IN AND OF THE STATE OF OREGON**

**IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING)
AN EMERGENCY WITHIN) **RESOLUTION 2010-005**
WALLOWA COUNTY REGARDING)
WOLF ACTIVITY)**

WHEREAS, non-indigenous Canadian wolves (canis lupus) are present in Wallowa County having migrated from the State of Idaho where wolves are not endangered; and

WHEREAS, domestic animals including cattle, sheep, horses, swine, dogs, cats, and other domestic animals fall easily to wolf predation; and

WHEREAS, as of June 7, 2010 there have been 6 confirmed (by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Wildlife Services) livestock depredations by wolves and 3 additional depredations confirmed by Wildlife Services but not by ODFW in Wallowa County; and

WHEREAS, livestock producers and ODFW have implemented various non-lethal methods to prevent livestock-wolf interaction and subsequent depredation and those actions have proven largely ineffective; and

WHEREAS, as of June 7, 2010 nine livestock producers have been issued “kill” permits to remove a wolf “caught in the act of killing their livestock” however given the large land area where livestock are present it is highly unlikely that a wolf or wolves will be caught in the act of depredation; and

WHEREAS, as of June 7, 2010 Wildlife Services has been authorized by ODFW to remove two wolves from the Imnaha Pack due to depredation activity; and

WHEREAS, the livestock industry is a critical component of the economy of Wallowa County and livestock depredation by wolves threatens the economic viability of the county’s livestock producers and many related businesses; and

WHEREAS, human safety is of utmost importance and the site of one of the confirmed depredations is less than 3 miles from the resort area at the head of Wallowa Lake thus placing both residents and visitors at risk from wolf interactions in the remote and the populated areas of Wallowa County; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Wolf Plan was written in 2005 before wolves were established in Oregon and a great deal has been learned since that time that makes components of the current plan and subsequent administrative rules ineffective; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, an emergency is declared to exist and the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners request that ODFW immediately amend the Oregon Wolf Plan and administrative rules to address the issues facing Wallowa County, its livestock producers and residents and visitors (See attached revisions proposed by the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners request funding be made available through the office of Oregon Emergency Management for ODFW, Wildlife Services and Wallowa County 1) to allow the hiring of additional staff to aide in the implementation of the amended wolf plan and administrative rules; 2) to provide additional resources for the purchase of radio collars for all adult and sub-adult wolves located in Wallowa County and 3) to provide staff for tracking collared wolves and reporting in real time the collared wolves movements to land owners, livestock owners and pet owners at high risk of depredation in the immediate areas of the collared wolves.

Dated this 7nd day of June, 2010.

WALLOWA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSONERS

Chairman Mike Hayward

Attest: _____
Sandy Lathrop, Exec. Assistant

Commissioner Dan R. DeBoie

Commissioner Susan Roberts