

RESOLUTION NO. 2 - 2017

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NO NET LOSS OF PRIVATE LANDS IN MONTEZUMA COUNTY

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO C.R.S. § 30-11-101(2), the Montezuma County Board of Commissioners has general authority regarding the health, safety and welfare of its citizens;

WHEREAS, Montezuma County supports access to all public lands and supports maintaining the means of access as being useful to all citizens;

WHEREAS, Montezuma County only has approximately 26.6% private land, while Montezuma County also contains approximately 40% federal land, the majority controlled by the United States Forrest Service and Bureau of Land Management, and an additional approximate 34% of land under the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

WHEREAS, Montezuma County relies on Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding, which is annually authorized by the United States Congress, and therefore unreliable;

WHEREAS, economic opportunities are limited in Montezuma County by the lack of private land, and the loss of private land reduces property tax revenues needed in Montezuma County; and

WHEREAS, Montezuma County places a high value on private property rights and the preservation of those rights.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Montezuma County Board of Commissioners supports the concept of "No Net Loss of Private Land" for the remaining 26.6%. This concept entails offsetting the acquisition of federally owned lands with an equal allocation of private land so that there is no net loss of privately owned land in Montezuma County. This balance can be achieved through land exchanges within Montezuma County, auction of equitable public lands to the private sector, or other available legal means satisfactory to Montezuma County.

Adopted this 6th, day of February, 2017.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
MONTEZUMA COUNTY, COLORADO

Hein Russell
County Clerk and Recorder
Montezuma County, Colorado



Alan J. Della
James R. Lambert
Ken L. Smith