



**TETON COUNTY RESOLUTION 2016-0725A**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TETON COUNTY, IDAHO  
RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL LANDS TO THE COUNTY'S ECONOMY, RECREATION,  
HERITAGE AND QUALITY OF LIFE; AND OPPOSING THE PROPOSAL FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO TO  
TAKE WHOLESALE OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE STATE OF IDAHO**

**WHEREAS**, Teton County is home to federal public lands owned by all Americans; and,

**WHEREAS**, these federal public lands provide public recreational opportunities for residents and visitors for horseback riding, hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, hiking, backpacking, boating, riding snow machines and all-terrain vehicles, skiing, bicycling, sightseeing, and numerous other outdoor recreational activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, these federal public lands provide essential habitat for some of America's greatest wildlife populations; and,

**WHEREAS**, federal ownership and management of public lands in Teton County assure both the stewardship and preservation of these nationally significant lands and the wildlife and natural resources they contain; and,

**WHEREAS**, Teton County residents are actively collaborating among diverse interests and with public land managers to improve public land management and public access; and,


**WHEREAS**, federal public land management agencies employ residents of Teton County who are passionate and expert at their jobs, pay taxes, and contribute to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Teton County's forests are naturally prone to fire, including periodic large-scale fires, as part of the ecosystem in which they have evolved over millennia, although a warming climate has accentuated the process; and federal money and expertise to suppress wildfires is essential to protecting our communities, infrastructure, and public lands; and,

**WHEREAS**, continued federal ownership and management of public lands in Teton County insure both public access to and environmental protection of these lands and the resources they contain.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TETON COUNTY IDAHO BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:** that the Board of County Commissioners of Teton County, Idaho opposes any and all efforts by the State of Idaho to obtain the wholesale transfer of federal lands in Idaho to the State of Idaho, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners strongly supports federal ownership and management of public lands in Teton County and the incredible value of federal lands to bring to our county's economy, recreation, heritage and quality of life.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 25 DAY OF JULY, 2016, IN TETON COUNTY, IDAHO**

  
Bill Leake, Chairman

  
Cindy Riegel, Commissioner

  
Kelly Park, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**  
  
Mary Lou Hansen, Clerk