



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF LAKE AND STATE OF COLORADO

**RESOLUTION 2016-22**

**PUBLICLY STATING THE VALUE OF PUBLIC LANDS TO THE  
COUNTY'S ECONOMY, RECREATION, HERITAGE, AND QUALITY  
OF LIFE; AND OPPOSING ANY EFFORT TO CLAIM, TAKE OVER,  
LITIGATE FOR, SELL, OR TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OF ANY  
FEDERAL PUBLIC LAND PARCELS OF 50 OR MORE ACRES  
TO THE STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN LAKE  
COUNTY, COLORADO AND SUPPORTING CONTINUED FEDERAL  
OWNERSHIP OF FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS**

**WHEREAS**, Lake County includes many beautiful, natural landscapes including deserts, mountains, rivers, reservoirs and other natural treasures; and

**WHEREAS**, many of those stunning places are public lands owned by all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, public land under the management of the US Forest Service, the US Bureau of Land Management, and other federal land management agencies constitutes 73% of the land in Lake County; and

**WHEREAS**, these federal public lands are essential to the quality of life in Lake county providing public recreational opportunities for wildlife watching, hiking, hunting, fishing, skiing, backpacking, horseback riding, bicycling, sightseeing, and numerous other outdoor recreational activities; and

**WHEREAS**, these federal public lands provide essential habitat for fish and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, these federal lands contain many historically significant irreplaceable cultural sites and landscapes that are spiritually significant; and

**WHEREAS**, wildlife and scenic landscapes on public lands, including Lake County's four 14ers and miles of Gold Medal trout streams, attract outdoor recreation and tourism that are significant drivers of the Lake County economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the unified consistent management of federal land by federal land management agencies across the nation best protects the national values and utility of the public lands for all Americans and the values on which Lake County is dependent; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake County business owners attract many employees because of the iconic landscapes and recreational opportunities afforded by federal public lands; and

**WHEREAS**, there is broad consensus in Lake County of the need for effective



are passionate and experts at their jobs despite lack of adequate federal funding, pay taxes, and contribute to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans from throughout the country value these public lands as a part of our national heritage and as our inalienable birthright as Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake County forests are naturally prone to fire, including periodic large-scale fires, as part of the ecosystem in which they have evolved over the millennia, although a warming climate has accentuate the process; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Colorado as follows:


That the Board of County Commissioners opposes any effort to claim, take over, litigate for or sell off any federal public land parcels of 50 or more acres within lake County except pursuant to processes established by Congress in the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and other applicable laws, following public participation and site based analysis of wildlife, ecological, and community implications of the proposed land transfer. This does not preclude the county from facilitating small-scale land swaps of 50 acres or less within its borders when pertinent and shown to be beneficial to Lake County residents.

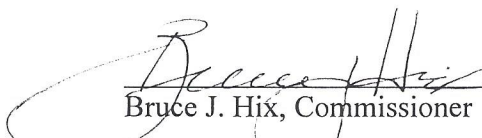
**NOW, THEREFORE, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE THAT:**

1. The Board of County Commissioners supports collaborative federal land management in Lake County and the irreplaceable value public lands bring to our county's economy, recreation, heritage, and quality of life.
2. The Board of County Commissioners appreciates collaboration with federal employees who manage current and future use and access to America's public lands in Lake County, and looks to increased future collaboration, especially regarding travel management decisions. The board also appreciates work and collaboration with the dedicated employees of Colorado Parks and Wildlife division who manage wildlife in Lake County in partnership with federal land managers.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE AND  
STATE OF COLORADO



  
Michael J. Bordogna, Chair

  
Bruce J. Hix, Commissioner

