

Resolution No. 5

Series OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF CARBONDALE, COLORADO SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO PROTECT 30 PERCENT OF U.S. LANDS, WATERS, AND OCEANS BY 2030**

**WHEREAS**, the United States is facing a conservation and climate crisis as nature declines and greenhouse gas emissions continue to increase; and

**WHEREAS**, science shows us that worldwide biodiversity is deteriorating at a faster rate than at any time in human history; and

**WHEREAS**, from 2001 to 2017, more than 24 million acres of land were lost to human development in the lower 48 United States, which equals the loss of one football field-sized patch of land every 30 seconds; and

**WHEREAS**, scientists say that the loss of biodiversity, the increasing number of extreme weather events, and human encroachment upon wildlife habitat may increase the risk of the transmission of infectious diseases such as COVID-19 and SARS.

**WHEREAS**, scientists warn we must conserve and restore at least 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030 if we hope to preserve biodiversity and ecosystems as well as mitigate the impacts of climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, the global 30x30 campaign is a science-based initiative to conserve at least 30 percent of U.S. lands, waters, and oceans by the year 2030 to address the twin threats of climate change and the rapid loss of biodiversity, waters, and natural places; and

**WHEREAS**, the 30x30 campaign will include locally led conservation efforts; work towards a more equitable and inclusive vision for nature conservation; honor the sovereignty of Tribal nations; support private conservation; and ensure the effort is guided by science; and

**WHEREAS**, the 30x30 campaign relies on efforts by federal, state, local, and Tribal governments; agricultural and forest landowners; fishermen, hunters, anglers, outdoor recreation users and many other key stakeholders to identify and implement collaborative strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, every person, regardless of race, background, or economic status, should have access to close-to-home opportunities to get outside in nature; and

**WHEREAS**, our natural places help to provide food security, clean air to breathe, and clean water to drink, while offering us a wide range of health benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, wilderness, wildlife refuges, national conservation lands, monuments, and other protected areas drive our local economies and conserved places provide access for hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, camping, and other outdoor recreation pursuits; and

**WHEREAS**, conserved private lands, including working forests, farms and ranches protect open spaces, preserve threatened wildlife, and help maintain our community's our way of life; and

**WHEREAS**, over 100 economists and scientists have found that the global economy would benefit from the creation of far more protected areas on land and at sea than we have today; and

**WHEREAS**, protected public lands are the backbone of our state's outdoor recreation industry, which generates \$788 billion in consumer spending nationally and supports 5.2 million jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, 77 percent of voters in the Rocky Mountain West support setting a national goal of conserving 30 percent of land and waters in the United States by 2030 and 61 percent of voters are concerned about the future of land, water, air, and wildlife.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Town of Carbondale, Colorado stand with President Biden, U.S. agencies, members of Congress, state and local officials, and other public, private and nonprofit partners in support of science-based, locally-led conservation efforts to protect at least 30 percent of lands, waters, and oceans by 2030; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the U.S. government, Congress, and state and local leaders to significantly increase the tools and resources available to achieve locally-driven conservation projects, and to facilitate collaboration and good-faith conversations among all people living in the United States as we work together to address our biodiversity and climate crises.

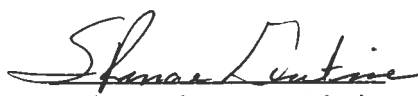


---

Dan Richardson, Mayor

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

ATTEST:



~~Cathy Derby, Town Clerk~~  
S. Renee Castine, Finance Director