

BLAINE COUNTY RESOLUTION 2020-29

FORMING THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY WILDLIFE SMART COMMUNITIES COALITION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITIES OF KETCHUM, SUN VALLEY, HAILEY, BELLEVUE; AND BLAINE COUNTY, TO FORM THE “WOOD RIVER VALLEY WILDLIFE SMART COMMUNITIES COALITION”, SUPPORTING THE VALUE OF WILDLIFE TO THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY, AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLES OF COMMUNITIES IN PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE HABITS FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO WILDLIFE.

WHEREAS, Blaine County residents and visitors appreciate the diversity of wildlife that live throughout the county, and desire that wildlife be encouraged to retain their natural behavior by not allowing wildlife to habituate to our human environments; and

WHEREAS, residents of Blaine County recognize the intrinsic value and ecological role, and economic benefits of wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Wood River Valley has experienced increased human/wildlife conflicts, raising concerns for the safety of the public and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, residents of Blaine County recognize the need to minimize human/pet/wildlife conflicts and property damage that may lead to lethal control of wildlife by implementing wildlife smart communities best practices; and

WHEREAS, communities and residents of Blaine County desire to work with Idaho Fish and Game, the state agency with trust responsibilities for the State’s wildlife and who is charged with preserving, protecting, perpetuating and managing wildlife, while considering the health, safety and welfare of the surrounding public; and

WHEREAS, a critical component to reducing human-wildlife conflicts is a holistic community effort that requires Blaine County residents to ensure that their actions and behaviors minimize impacts to wildlife.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Cities of Ketchum, Sun Valley, Hailey, Bellevue; and Blaine County, that we recognize the importance of wildlife to our citizens, environment and economy, and acknowledge the responsibility of each community to ensure that wildlife stays wild keeping residents, visitors, pets and wildlife safe.

FURTHERMORE, we acknowledge the collaborative intent is to actively participate in the Wood River Valley Wildlife Smart Communities Coalition by providing guidance, recommendations and education to our residents and visitors on how to implement best practices that will result in wildlife smart communities.

FURTHERMORE, this resolution will be forwarded to Idaho Fish and Game, Sawtooth National Forest and Bureau of Land Management to acknowledge and agree to their active partnership in supporting this resolution’s efforts.

DATED this _____ day of August 2020.

BLAINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

Jacob Greenberg, Chairman

ATTEST:

Angenie McCleary, Vice Chairman

JoLynn Drage, Clerk

Dick Fosbury, Commissioner