

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF CLAY COUNTY, KANSAS**

**RESOLUTION 2021 -12**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S "30 x 30" LAND PRESERVATION GOAL.

**WHEREAS**, on January 27, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., issued Executive Order 14008 entitled Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad (86 Fed. Reg. 7.619): and

**WHEREAS**, in Section 216 of Executive Order 14008, President Biden directed the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and other senior officials, to develop a program to conserve at least 30 percent of the lands and waters in the United States by 2030, which is called the "30 X 30" program; and

**WHEREAS**, under the 30 X 30 program, some 680 million acres of our Nation's Lands would be set aside and permanently preserved in its natural state, preventing the productive use of these lands and their resources; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no constitutional or statutory authority for the President, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, or any other federal agency to set aside and permanently preserve 30 of all land and water in the United States, and no such authority is referenced in Executive Order 14008; and

**WHEREAS**, the 30 X 30 program, if implemented, is likely to cause significant harm to the economy of Clay County, and injure the County's businesses and its citizens by depriving them of access to public lands and preventing the productive use of these lands' resources; and

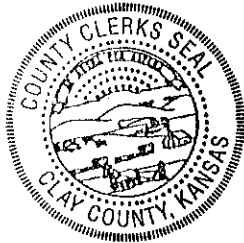
**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 14008 at Sec. 216(a) directs the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with other relevant federal agencies to "submit a report to the Task Force within 90 days of the date of this order recommending steps that the United States should take, working with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, agricultural and forest landowners, fishermen, and other key stakeholders, to achieve the goal of conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030"

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, Kansas the following:

1. The Board opposes the 30 X 30 program, including its objective of permanently preserving 30 percent of the Nation's lands in its natural state by 2030, or any similar program that will set aside and prevent the productive use of millions of acres of our lands.
2. The Board further opposes the designation of public lands in Clay County as wilderness, wilderness study areas, wildlife preserves, open space, or other conservation land, thereby restricting public access to such lands and preventing the development and productive use of the resources on or within such lands.

3. The Board supports the continues management of the pubic lands and the national forests under principles of multiple use and sustained yield, recognizing the Nation's need for domestic sources of minerals, energy, timber, food, and fiber, and in careful coordination with local entities to ensure consistency with County land use plans and land management policies, as required by law.
4. The Board supports maintaining and enhancing public access to public lands and national forests and opposes road closures, road decommissioning, moratoria on road construction, and other limitations on public access for the purpose of fulfilling the 30 X 30 program's objectives.
5. The Board recognizes and supports the State of Kansas' water rights system, including the doctrine of prior appropriation and other state laws and programs governing water rights and water use, and opposes any federal designation of waters and watercourses within the Count and the State that would impair or restrict water diversions and uses authorized under Kansas law.
6. The Board supports reasonable national, regional, and global greenhouse gas emissions policies and goals that are comprehensive, practical, cost-effective, and do not unnecessarily single out specific industries or activities, but opposes the use of global climate change as an excuse to set aside large tracts of land as preserves or open space to fulfill the 30 X 30 program's objectives.
7. The Board also maintains that any non-federal lands or other rights that are acquired to fulfill the 30 X 30 program's objectives should be acquired only from willing landowners and for the payment full and fair market value for all rights and interests acquired, and not through regulatory compulsion, and only after analyzing and considering the impacts of such land acquisitions on the well-being, health, safety, welfare, economy, and culture of Clay County, its businesses and its citizens.
8. The Board shall send a copy of this Resolution to the Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture, and all other relevant Federal and State Agencies.

**PASSED THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2021 BY THE CLAY COUNTY, KANSAS COMMISSIONERS:**



*Eric A. Carlson*

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

*Jerry F. Mayo*

Jerry F. Mayo, Member

*David M. Thurlow*

David M. Thurlow, Member

ATTEST:

*Kayla Wang*

Kayla Wang, Clay County Clerk