



## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-10

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY SUPPORTING WILDERNESS, WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS, NATIONAL MONUMENTS, NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE ADDITIONS IN THE CALIFORNIA DESERT**

WHEREAS, Senator Dianne Feinstein has introduced the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act 2015 to ensure that certain unique, undeveloped, ecologically and geologically significant, culturally important, and scenic areas of public land within the California Desert Conservation Area are preserved as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, national monuments, and National Park and Preserve additions; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Tree National Park, Death Valley National Park, Mojave National Preserve and BLM administered wilderness and natural areas in the California desert are an important component of our community's and region's historic, cultural, economic, and social identity, and generate substantial economic benefit for surrounding area businesses through local employment, tax revenues, and visitor spending on meals, lodging, and supplies; and

WHEREAS, national monuments, national park and wilderness designation have been shown to increase tourism and attract new residents, thereby generating substantial economic benefits for nearby communities through local employment and tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, the proposed designation will contribute to our region's superior desert and mountain vistas, air quality, water quality, peaceful soundscapes, and dark night skies; and

WHEREAS, protected public lands will provide local residents and visitors with opportunities for many recreational activities including hiking, horseback riding, rock climbing, photography, camping, off-roading, wildlife viewing, scientific research, and nature study; and

WHEREAS, protecting wild places and national park lands would ensure that future generations can enjoy them tomorrow as we do today; and

WHEREAS, preserving these areas would protect landscapes that encompass steep mountains, winding canyons, free flowing rivers, and rugged desert landscapes, including the proposed Sand to Snow and Mojave Trails national monuments; the proposed Golden Valley, Kingston Range, Indian Pass, Palo Verde wilderness additions; the Great Falls Basin, Avawatz Mountains, Soda Mountains, Buzzards Peak, Milpitas Wash wilderness areas; additions to Joshua Tree National Park; the Castle Mountains addition to the Mojave National Preserve; wilderness additions to Death Valley National Park; the Amargosa, Deep Creek, Whitewater, and Surprise Canyon wild and scenic rivers; the Flat Top Mesa and Black Buttes Area of Critical Environmental Concern; and the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Apple Valley endorses and supports the designation of wilderness, the designation of wild and scenic rivers, the National Park and Preserve wilderness additions within the California Desert Conservation Area, and the Sand to Snow National Monument and the Mojave Trails National Monument.

AND FURTHERMORE the Town of Apple Valley will transmit this signed resolution to the office of Senator Dianne Feinstein and to Congressman Paul Cook who represent us in Congress.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

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Larry Cusack, Mayor

ATTEST:

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La Vonda M-Pearson, Town Clerk