BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION

NO.: 2013- 134

A Resolution to Creating the Kittitas County Public Lands Advisory Committee

WHEREAS: Outdoor Recreation is a key industry to the economic well-being of Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS: Public lands constitute nearly 71% of the total lands area of Kittitas County and those lands are integral to the industry of outdoor recreation and the public's ability to access and recreate on these lands is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS: While government entities have the responsibility of composing and adopting the regulations necessary for the protection, use and advancement of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS: It is understood that Public agency management of these lands can have direct impacts to nearby private lands as well as economic impacts to the county through loss of access, the spread of noxious weeds, wildfire, wildlife depredation, and recreational opportunity, and the local economy; and

WHEREAS: It is the desire of the Board of County Commissioners to work cooperatively with major public lands managers to ensure appropriate access, management of wildlife and natural resources on public lands is consistently available; and

WHEREAS: Citizens and interested groups have expressed the importance of creating and participating in a cooperative, organized and proactive approach to the management of public lands; and

WHEREAS: the federal Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Soil and Resources Conservation Act, Presidential Executive Order 12866, Washington State's Administrative Codes (WACs), and Revised Code of Washington (RCWs), specifically state that local governments are to be included in the decision-making processes,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of County Commissioners creates The Kittitas County Public Lands Advisory Committee which shall be responsible for gathering information and making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners as to plans or actions affecting public access, management of wildlife and recreation on public lands by working in partnership with all public land managers to ensure that Kittitas County is aware of, understands and has input towards approving public lands plans and policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners intend that the Public Lands Advisory Committee shall consist of eleven (11) members that are representative of the broad spectrum of interest and user groups selected by the Board of County Commissioners and one (1) County Commissioner who will serve as a non voting Chair; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that managers of public lands are encouraged to actively communicate plans and actions affecting public access, as well as management of fish, wildlife, and recreation on those public lands in Kittitas County to the Public Lands Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation of actions to the Board of County Commissioners of Kittitas County .

ADOPTED this 18th **day of** November **2013.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Obie O'Brien, Chairman

Paul Jewell, Vice-Chairman

Gary Berndt, Commissioner

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SEAL KITTITAS COUNTY WASHINGTON

ATTEST:
CLERK OF THE BOARD

Julie A. Kjorsvik