

Resolution Of The Board Of Commissioners,  
Saguache County, Colorado  
Requesting No Recreational Fee Be Imposed On Federal Lands  
Under The Recreational Fee Demonstration Program  
In Saguache County

Resolution # G-2001-18

WHEREAS, in 1996 Congress authorized the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, which allows the United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to charge visitors daily and yearly fees for recreation on publicly owned land under their management; and

WHEREAS, SEVERAL Fee Demo programs have actually been implemented in Colorado, including Yankee Boy Basin, Vail Pass, the Gunnison Gorge, Mount Evans, and others; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable to expect that the Fee Demo program will be extended to public lands in Saguache County, which contains numerous popular recreation areas on federally owned land managed by the U. S. Forest Service, BLM, national Park Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, recreational fees constitute double taxation which bears no relationship to the actual cost of recreation such as hiking, picnicking, observing wildlife or scenic driving on county roads; and

WHEREAS, while the original intent of the Fee Demo program was to generate revenue to address maintenance backlogs and enhance visitor services, it has instead limited public access and gathered strong public criticism; and

WHEREAS, while the controversy over Demo Fees continues, the core issue of providing adequate funding for public land maintenance remains unresolved; and

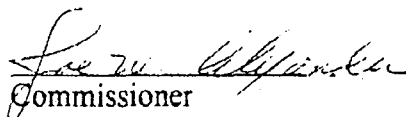
WHEREAS, since the purchase of a Fee Demo pass is counted by the federal land management agencies as support of the program, but no means of expressing opposition is provided except to avoid the fee area, we are concerned that some citizens may be deterred from visiting and enjoying the public lands in Saguache County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saguache County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that no recreational fees be imposed on Federal lands under the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program within the boundaries of Saguache County.

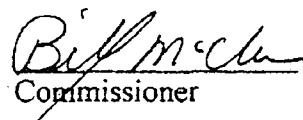
Read, moved and approved this 2nd day of October, 2001.



Chairman



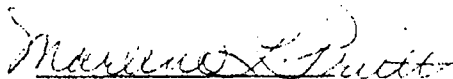
Commissioner



Commissioner



ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board