

RESOLUTION NUMBER 42-2004
OF
MONTROSE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TO
STATE THE BOARD'S OPPOSITION TO H.R. 3283
AND TO ANY EXTENSION OF THE RECREATIONAL FEE
DEMONSTRATION
PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in 1996, the United States 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, H.R. 3283, which is pending before Congress, could provide authorization for federal land managers to impose a generalized fee that would restrict the use of federal public land in Montrose County, Colorado and would authorize the imposition of fees for access to unimproved federal public lands through the extension of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program and through the "America the Beautiful" pass concept; and

WHEREAS, tourism is an important industry to Montrose County and recreational and access fees that could result from the extension of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program and/or through H.R. 3283 would have a negative impact on local business and tourism; and

WHEREAS, given funding already received from recreational fees and tax funding, United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management should demonstrate more accountability for the expenditure of such funds before imposing additional and increased fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners for Montrose County, Colorado hereby resolves:

1. That the Board opposes any extension of Recreational Fee Demonstration Program.
2. That the Board opposes H.R. 3283 and recommends that congress not adopt that legislation.
3. The Board requests that no recreational user or access fees be imposed on Federal Lands under the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program or the "America the Beautiful" pass concept or otherwise within the boundariones of Montrose County, Colorado.

Adopted this 29th day of September, 2004.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
David A. Ubell, Chairman
Leo M. Large, Commissioner
Mike McCracken, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Francine Tipton Long, Deputy Clerk