

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
SEPTEMBER 26 – OCTOBER 2, 2010
AS "SEA OTTER AWARENESS WEEK"
IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Defenders of Wildlife developed Sea Otter Awareness Week in 2003 as a natural extension of Defenders' Bear and Wolf Awareness Weeks, providing the opportunity to broadly educate the public about sea otters, their natural history and the conservation issues they are facing; and

WHEREAS, the sea otter is the largest member of the weasel family and the second smallest marine animal. Sea otters live in shallow coastal waters off the northern Pacific, spending much of their lives in the water; and

WHEREAS, the sea otter is an integral part of California's natural ecosystem, and serves as an indicator for the overall health of California's nearshore marine ecosystem; and

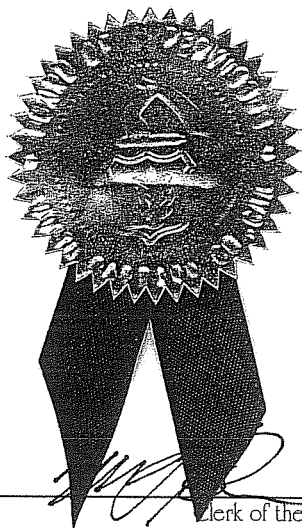
WHEREAS, a growing awareness of the benefits of maintaining the health of the northshore marine ecosystem has raised public interest in the sea otter; and

WHEREAS, disease from a variety of sources, including land based biological pathogens, accounts for approximately 40% mortality for California sea otters in a given year; and

WHEREAS, the survival of the sea otter in California remains dependent upon continued public support and increased understanding of the essential role sea otters play in nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims September 26 – October 2, 2010 as "Sea Otter Awareness Week" in the County of Santa Barbara.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 10th day of August, 2010 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

 Supervisor - 1st District

 Supervisor - 2nd District

 Supervisor - 3rd District

 Supervisor - 4th District

 Supervisor - 5th District