RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2003 AS SALMON AND STEELHEAD AWARENESS MONTH IN THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

WHEREAS, California salmon and steelhead are an indicator of the quality of life in this state. They provide evidence of our water quality and watershed well-being and provide a substantial benefit to local economies, which rely on tourism and outdoor recreation; and

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WHEREAS, Native Americans depended upon salmon and steelhead for sustenance and these fish became the foundation for tribal culture, ritual, communion, and trade; and

WHEREAS, the journey of an anadromous fish depends on sufficient stream flow, clean water, predator prey balance, riparian buffers for shade, and good inland conditions to rebound from warm oceans. Pollution, over fishing, degradation of riparian habitat, and interbreeding threaten the wild salmon and steelhead populations; and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) listed steelhead as "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act in the Evolutionarily Significant Unit from the Santa Maria River to Malibu Creek on August 18, 1997 and extended the range to the U.S.-Mexico Border on May 1, 2002.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY ORDERED that the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors, State of California, proclaims October 2003 as Salmon and Steelhead Awareness Month, to support the County's participation on the Tri-County F.I.S.H. Team with a mission to improve salmonid habitat conditions and to implement restoration work that promotes long-term recovery of naturally-spawned salmonid populations in Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 14th day of October, 2003, by unanimous vote of all members present.