

Santa Barbara County of

RESOLUTION NO. 26-119

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the State of California has identified the protection and restoration of biodiversity as a critical priority, including a statewide goal of conserving at least 30 percent of lands and coastal waters by 2030, recognizing that healthy natural and working landscapes are essential to climate resilience, food security, and human well-being; and

WHEREAS, protecting and enhancing biodiversity is vital to the long-term sustainability of Santa Barbara County because diverse ecosystems and ecological connectivity help reduce wildfire risk, safeguard water quality, and provide natural carbon storage; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is located along California's Central Coast, a unique biogeographic region where northern and southern ecosystems converge, creating exceptional biological richness across oak woodlands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, agricultural lands, wetlands, and riparian corridors that support native, rare, threatened, and endemic species; and

WHEREAS, the County's marine and coastal environments, including kelp forests, rocky intertidal zones, and offshore waters, are among the most productive ecosystems in the world and support marine biodiversity and iconic species such as whales, sea otters, and seabirds; and

WHEREAS, these natural systems provide essential benefits to local communities, including clean air and water, climate regulation, wildfire and erosion protection, agricultural productivity, recreation, and cultural and educational opportunities, reflecting the County's long-standing commitment to environmental stewardship through its plans, policies, and partnerships;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara does hereby recognize and celebrate the extraordinary biodiversity of the region and affirms the importance of continued stewardship of the County's natural and working lands and coastal waters for the benefit of current and future generations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 12th day of May, 2026 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



Maria Nizaset
 ATTEST: Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
 Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
 Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Hartman
 Supervisor - 3rd District

[Signature]
 Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]
 Supervisor - 5th District

