



**MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCLAMATION
OF APPRECIATION FOR STEVE NELSON**

WHEREAS, Steve Nelson has served as the Field Manager of the Bureau of Land Management’s Bishop Office since 2013; and

WHEREAS, Steve started his career with the BLM in 1987 and has lived in the Bishop area since 1988; his prior positions with the BLM included wildlife biologist, geographic information systems technical specialist, supervisory wildlife biologist, supervisory natural resource specialist, and manager of the Bio-Physical Resources Division of the Bishop Field Office; and

WHEREAS, the Bishop Field Office manages over 750,000 acres of public land surface and about 2 million acres of subsurface mineral estate in the Eastern Sierra, including Mono County; and

WHEREAS, Steve proved to be a collaborative agency partner, providing guidance and support to Mono County on a number of projects and issues, including general plan coordination with the BLM resource management plan, geothermal and mineral resource planning and permitting, community expansions and land tenure adjustments, emergency access routes, environmental analysis on development projects with public land implications, hazard planning, transmission corridor planning, transportation and rights of way, and grazing policy; and

WHEREAS, no species has benefitted more from Steve’s leadership than the Bi-State Sage Grouse; Steve has been the heart and soul of the Bi-State sage-grouse conservation effort and has helped nurture the movement from just a few agency biologists to an extraordinary public-private collaboration that is touted as a national model for conservation; Steve was known to sleep out overnight in the snow to count leks pre-dawn, well before it was trendy to do so; and

WHEREAS, Steve’s low-key demeanor—accompanied by a ready smile—belies the significant positive influence he has had on our region; and

WHEREAS, Steve will retire from the BLM in December 2021; through his work there and in his many roles, he is recognized as a truly collaborative leader for whom the public interest is always paramount.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mono County Board of Supervisors proclaims its sincere appreciation for Steve Nelson and his work at the Bureau of Land Management.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of December 2021, by the Mono County Board of Supervisors.

Jennifer Kreitz, Supervisor District #1

Rhonda Duggan, Supervisor District #2

Bob Gardner, Supervisor District #3

John Peters, Supervisor District #4

Stacy Corless, Supervisor District #5