

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSSIONERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: International DarkSky Week is observed in April on the week of the new moon, and

WHEREAS: The experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages stewardship of our shared environment and our magnificent dark skies; and

WHEREAS: Dark skies are an integral aspect of the sustainability of Oregon’s wild ecosystems as a key environmental factor in bird migration, insect pollination, and human sleep patterns; and

WHEREAS: Oregon’s dark skies are a significant natural resource, with seven accredited International Dark Sky Places to date—Sunriver, Prineville Reservoir State Park, Oregon Caves National Monument, City of Antelope, Oregon Outback Sanctuary, Cottonwood Canyon State Park, and City of Sisters; and

WHEREAS: Eastern Oregon holds the world’s largest dark sky sanctuary, and an area of the largest pristine night skies in the contiguous 48 states; and

WHEREAS: Astro-tourism, including star gazing, astronomy star parties, and dark sky photography, is an evolving facet of outdoor recreation with real economic benefits for communities across Oregon, and which promotes the mitigation of light pollution; and

NOW, THEREFORE: The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim

April 13-19, 2026 to be

“International Dark Sky Week”

in Deschutes County, Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2026 by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

Phil Chang, Chair

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

Anthony DeBone, Vice Chair

Patti Adair, Commissioner