

For Recording Stamp Only

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

**PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas**, the experience of looking up at a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe; 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 healthy human sleep patterns; and

**Whereas**, Oregon's dark skies are a significant natural resource, with three accredited Dark Sky Places to date—Sunriver, Prineville Reservoir State Park, and the newly certified Oregon Outback International Dark Sky Sanctuary; and

**Whereas**, the largest area of pristine night skies in the contiguous 48 states is located right here in Oregon; and

**Whereas**, astro-tourism—including star gazing, astronomy star parties, and dark sky photography—is a growing facet of outdoor recreation with real economic benefits for communities across Oregon, and amplifies the importance of preventing and mitigating light pollution to preserve the beauty of our nighttime environment; and

**Whereas**, International Dark Sky Week is observed each April during the week of the new moon;

**Now, therefore**, the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the week of April 2 – 8, 2024 to be

***“International Dark Sky Week”***

in Deschutes County, and encourages stewardship of our shared natural wonders and magnificent dark skies.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patti Adair, Chair

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Anthony DeBone, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

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Phil Chang, Commissioner