

## **Resolution of Support for the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights**

**Whereas**, California Watchable Wildlife recognizes the significant concern about youth detachment from the outdoors, lack of physical exercise and the increased health risks associated with childhood obesity; and

**Whereas**, California Watchable Wildlife recognizes that unstructured play in the great outdoors can be a wonderful experience for people of all ages, and especially for our youth; and

**Whereas**, participating in outdoor activities is not only enjoyable, but also develops an appreciation of California's unique environment; and

**Whereas**, the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism, a volunteer consortium of public and private organizations has created the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights; and

**Whereas**, the Bill of Rights provides that youth between the ages of four and fourteen should have the opportunity to:

1. Play in a safe place
2. Explore nature
3. Learn to swim
4. Go fishing
5. Follow a trail
6. Camp under the stars
7. Ride a bike
8. Go boating
9. Connect with the past
10. Plant a seed

**Whereas**, numerous studies document that children who participate in these outdoor recreation activities are healthier, do better in school, have better social skills and self image, and lead more fulfilled lives; and

**Whereas**, California Watchable Wildlife is committed to these goals;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved that** California Watchable Wildlife supports and endorses the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights as a guideline for parents, guardians, parks, communities, health professionals, private enterprises and other entities to encourage children to experience each of the activities listed by the completion of their 14<sup>th</sup> year.

Scott Springer  
Chair, California Watchable Wildlife Committee

November 7, 2012