**Tulelake Republican Women Federated
RESOLUTION to support reform of the ESA**

Tulelake Republican Women Federated on May 11, 2011 voted unanimously to create this resolution to support reform of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Misuse of the ESA is continually used to impede the normal use of our natural resources locally and nationally. After the federal government shut off our irrigation water in 2001 to 1400 Klamath Basin family farms, causing bankruptcies, suicides, heart attacks, massive depression, and mass exodus of our longtime farm workers, the National Academy of Science deemed that the water shutoff was “Unjustified.” The same tactics are being used in thousands of communities by government agencies to confiscate land and water rights. The ESA has been used in our region alone to destroy lives and economies of farmers, ranchers, timber workers, fishermen, and their communities, as well as halt development and destroy existing infrastructure like hydroelectric dams. Environmental groups sue government agencies daily to list more species, create more “habitat” to be untouched by humans, and enforce regulations against resource users. The spotted owl in our area has driven thousands from their jobs and homes, only to learn that another owl is their predator. We learned there are at least tens of thousands of “endangered” suckers in our lakes and reservoirs, yet government agencies will not delist them while they confiscate our land and water rights.

Besides fish, our elected representatives are allowing snails, bugs, mice, and weeds to halt natural resource use and evacuate people from millions of acres of public and private land.

As our country impedes most resource use in the West while importing food, fish, oil, minerals, and timber, our economy is collapsing and our lives are being destroyed. Prices of our products have skyrocketed. Tax dollars are being used to take land and rights from the very people who feed them and pay those taxes.

This misused Act is being used to destroy the foundation of freedom that our country was built on.

Tulelake Republican Women Federated August 12, 2011