



TEXAS SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS

Border Wall Resolution

11 Feb 2017

WHEREAS, the Texas Society of Mammalogists is a professional organization of scientists, professors, educators, and students from five states who specialize in the biology of mammals; and,

WHEREAS, the construction and completion of a border wall, fence or similar structure along the U.S.-Mexico border, if built has the potential to sever population connectivity of numerous mammalian species, including species of mammals currently threatened or at risk in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, fragmentation of mammalian populations over the landscape can lead to decreased genetic diversity, demographic decline and increased threats to population survival,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas Society of Mammalogists, during their 35th Annual Meeting on 11 February 2017, strongly opposes further extension and/or completion of a border wall, fence construction, or any other human-designed barrier that would restrict existing landscape permeability for mammalian populations including demographic and genetic exchange sufficient to maintain population viability. We further urge the establishment of environmental reviews and assessments by appropriate federal agencies that would identify significant threats to the landscape ecology and persistence of mammalian populations.