



C O U N T Y O F

Inyo

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF INYO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DESIGNATION OF DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, October 31, 2019 marks 25 years since the creation of Death Valley National Park through the signing of the California Desert Protection Act in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Death Valley National Park is today one of the largest protected desert wilderness areas in America at 3.4 million acres; and

WHEREAS, this vast and varied desert landscape is a much treasured resource and a land of superlatives: home of the lowest point in the Western hemisphere and some of the hottest temperatures on Earth; and

WHEREAS, Death Valley National Park's harsh climate is but one of its many claims to fame – among them, its jaw-dropping geological wonders, stunning scenery, colorful history, ecologically diverse flora and fauna, brilliant night skies, otherworldly atmosphere, and primitive character; and

WHEREAS, these protected lands also boast a history rich with indigenous culture, including that of the Timbisha people who have inhabited and thrived in the Death Valley region for over a thousand years; and

WHEREAS, the California Desert Protection Act helped bring economic prosperity to the desert communities of Death Valley and surrounding areas as visitation to the National Park steadily increased; and

WHEREAS, Death Valley National Park welcomed a record 1.7 million visitors in 2018 who spent over \$140 million in our region; and

WHEREAS, the County of Inyo relies on recreation tourism as a leading contributor to the local economy, and recognizes that maintaining and protecting this precious desert as a multi-use resource is both ecologically and economically beneficial; and

WHEREAS, the need for conservation is as important as ever, for the sake of Death Valley's landscape, plants, and wildlife; for the people whose history and culture is indelibly linked to the land; and for the communities reliant upon tourism; and

WHEREAS, Death Valley National Park – and its Park Service stewards – are an undeniable asset to Inyo County; and

WHEREAS, the 25th anniversary of Death Valley as a National Park is both an opportunity for gratitude and an occasion worth celebrating.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, this 15th day of October 2019, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors does hereby commemorate the 25th anniversary of the creation of Death Valley National Park through the California Desert Protection Act, and encourages residents and visitors to take part in celebratory events scheduled inside and outside of the Park in honor of this special occasion.

Dan Totheroh, District 1 Supervisor

Jeff Griffiths, District 2 Supervisor

Mark Tillemans, District 4 Supervisor

Rick Pucci, Chairperson, District 3

Matt Kingsley, District 5 Supervisor

