RESOLUTION NO. 2010-144
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS TO CONTAIN THE MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

WHEREAS, the mountain pine beetle epidemic has damaged approximately 400,000 acres of forest in the Black Hills since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the beauty of the Black Hills is adversely affected by thousands of dead trees; and

WHEREAS, the presence of hundreds of thousands of dead trees will create a safety hazard for forest users, will affect tourism, forest management, grazing, and wildlife management, and will increase the risk of catastrophic forest fires which could further affect the beauty of the Black Hills and the quality of municipal water for Rapid City; and

WHEREAS, the mountain pine beetle epidemic is moving toward Mt. Rushmore National Monument.

NOW,THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Rapid City encourage and strongly support efforts by the US Forest Service, the US National Park Service, the State of South Dakota, and private landowners to contain the spread of the mountain pine beetle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Rapid City urge the Governor of South Dakota and the South Dakota Congressional delegation to support requests for needed resources for the Black Hills National Forest, Mt. Rushmore National Monument, and private landowners to aggressively address the mountain pine beetle epidemic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Governor of South Dakota, to South Dakota's Congressional Delegation, to the Forest Supervisor of the Black Hills National Forest, and to the Superintendent of Mt. Rushmore National Monument.

DATED this 18 day of October, 2010.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Mayor

ATTEST:

Finance Officer

(SEAL)