

Executive Order 2009-06
Restoring Arizona's Forests
(Superseding Executive Order 2007-17)

WHEREAS, Arizona's forests are a critically important part of our state's natural heritage, and vital to the state's environmental and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, Arizona's forests are in a degraded condition most compellingly demonstrated by large, unnaturally severe fires burning through lower intensity fire-adapted ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, large unnaturally severe fires and other symptoms of degraded forest health can threaten communities, rural economies, watersheds, wildlife and fish habitats, recreational resources, and other natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Forest Health Council (the "Forest Health Council") has built substantial agreement regarding ecologically, economically, and socially viable landscape-scale forest restoration strategies, as exemplified by the *Statewide Strategy for Restoring Arizona's Forests*; and

WHEREAS, agreement reached must now translate into accelerated on-the-ground restoration, community protection, and fire management action; and

WHEREAS, such accelerated action will provide immense environmental benefit, as well as creating much-needed jobs and revenue for rural communities and economies through partnerships with appropriately-scaled industry; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Health Council still serves as a diverse, representative, and open convening body capable of assisting in the acceleration of science-based forest restoration, community protection, and fire management across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janice K. Brewer, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Arizona, do hereby reestablish the Forest Health Council. I further hereby order as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint members of the Forest Health Council who shall serve without compensation at the pleasure of the Governor.
2. The Forest Health Council shall have at least 15 members and no more than 30 members.
3. All Forest Health Council members shall have expertise in forest management science or policy and, to the extent practicable, the Forest Health Council shall include representatives from each of the following:
 - A county supervisor from a county with a significant forested community;
 - A mayor from a forested community;
 - Representatives of the Native American community;
 - Representatives of conservation organizations with interest in protecting forests;

- Representatives from Arizona's business and ranching communities, including
 - One or more representatives of forest-based industry;
 - A representative with rangeland management expertise;
 - A representative from an organization with interest in rural economic development;
 - A representative from a utility responsible for management of a forested transmission corridor;
 - A representative from a citizen-based organization focused on Community Wildfire Protection Plan implementation;
 - A representative from a municipal fire department;
 - A representative from a rural fire district;
 - Representatives from federal land management agencies with interest in forest management;
 - One representative from each university in Arizona;
 - A representative of the insurance industry;
 - A representative of the real estate industry;
 - A representative from the Arizona Game and Fish Department;
 - A representative from the Arizona Department of Commerce;
 - The Arizona State Forester who will represent the Governor's Office.
 - One ex officio member from the Natural Resource Committee of the Arizona Senate;
 - One ex officio member from the Natural Resource Committee of the Arizona House of Representatives;
 - One ex officio member of the Arizona House representing a rural forested district;
 - One ex officio member of the Arizona Senate representing a rural forested district.
4. Members of the Forest Health Council may, with the Governor's permission, send designees to serve on the Council; provided, however, that such designees shall have been delegated by the member with full authority to vote and otherwise act on behalf of the member.
5. The Forest Health Council shall:
- Work to translate strategies identified in the *Statewide Strategy for Restoring Arizona's Forests* into accelerated on-the-ground action across the state.

- Work with the U.S. Forest Service to assume a leadership role in supporting a landscape scale forest restoration initiative for northern Arizona.
- Work with Arizona State Forestry to provide feedback and/or collaboration regarding a Statewide Assessment of forest resource conditions and a long-term forest resource Strategy for Arizona.
- Continue to identify viable utilization strategies for restoration by-products that create jobs and revenue for rural communities across the state.
- Provide a forum for ongoing discussions and/or collaboration regarding U.S. Forest Service forest plan revisions across the state.
- Provide a forum for tracking forest projects across the state stemming from federal stimulus dollars associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- Provide a forum to stay current with and advise the Governor about climate change adaptation and mitigation challenges, opportunities, and strategies relating to forest management within the state.
- Provide stakeholder oversight for the creation and continuation of the Statewide Strategy Scorecard.
- Advise the Governor on matters of forest restoration, community protection, and fire management.
- Perform such other tasks as the Governor may suggest.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have to set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



Jacqui K. Brewer
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on the 15 of June in the year Two Thousand and Nine and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-Fourth.

ATTEST:

Kim Blumett

SECRETARY OF STATE