



RESOLUTION 2011-856

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, SUPPORTING THE "SAVE ARIZONA'S FOREST ENVIRONMENT" (SAFE) PLAN

Whereas, Arizona's National Forests are an invaluable resource to the State and its citizens, offering recreational opportunities, timberlands, wildlife habitat, and livestock forage; and

Whereas, in recent years, burdensome rules and regulations, forest management practices, and time-consuming, costly litigation have drastically reduced timber harvest, resulting in a 3.9 billion board-feet increase in forest fuel loads, which in turn, have resulted in ever larger and more destructive forest fires; and

Whereas, recent "mega fires" alone, notable Rodeo-Chedisky Fire, Wallow Fire, Horseshoe Fire, Murphy Complex Fire, Monument Fire, Arlene Fire, and the Bull Fire, have collectively burned in excess of 1,346,000 acres destroying wildlife habitat, timberland, livestock forage, recreational lands and private property; and

Whereas, in those Arizona counties where Forest Service lands are used for livestock production, cattle populations have fallen from 300,000 in 1993 to 203,000 in 2010 with 55,000 of that decline estimated to have resulted from Forest Service regulatory policies and management practices; and

Whereas, these losses have had dire economic consequences throughout the State of Arizona, and particularly in those resource based communities located in the vicinity of the National Forests; and

Whereas, the decline of resource based communities is leading to the deterioration and potential extinction of the vocational and physical infrastructure necessary for the future viability of resource based businesses; and

Whereas, the "Save Arizona's Forest Environment" (SAFE) Plan as proposed by the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association identifies specific policy, regulatory, and managerial changes which, if adopted, would promote forest health, restore viable levels of timber and livestock production, and stimulate economic activity statewide in the resource based communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA HEREBY SUPPORTS THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE "SAVE ARIZONA'S FOREST ENVIRONMENT" (SAFE) PLAN AS AUTHORED BY THE ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION AND URGES PROMPT CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS SET FORTH IN THE SAFE PLAN.

PASSED AND APPROVED by majority vote of the Mayor and Common Council at the Regular Session of October 5, 2011.

[Signature of Bob Burnside]
Mayor Bob Burnside

10-5-11
Date

ATTEST:

[Signature of Deborah Barber]
Deborah Barber, Town Clerk/Date 10-12-11

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
[Signature of William J. Sims] 10/7/11
William J. Sims, Town Attorney/Date