



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Issues Executive Order Re-establishing the Forest Health Council

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer has signed an executive order to re-establish the Forest Health Council, emphasizing the importance of ensuring the health of Arizona’s forests.

“Arizona’s forests are part of our heritage, and it is imperative that we do what we can to protect their well-being,” said Governor Brewer. “We are in the midst of another fire season, and we are reminded of the devastation left behind by past severe forest fires. The Forest Health Council will play an instrumental role in fighting this devastation, which threatens communities, wildlife and our natural resources.”

The order, superseding Executive Order 2007-17, calls upon the Forest Health Council to implement strategies identified in the *Statewide Strategy for Restoring Arizona’s Forests* and to accelerate on-the-ground action across the state. In addition, the Council will advise the Governor on forest restoration, community protection and fire management, as well as provide a forum for tracking forest projects across the state stemming from stimulus funds associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

“The environmental, economic and recreational benefits of Arizona’s forests are appreciated by all of our citizens,” said Governor Brewer. “It will be beneficial to have the Council advise me on strategies and policies to protect our forests. I will count on the Council to take a leadership role in developing forest restoration strategies for our state and to collaborate with the United States Forest Service regarding Arizona’s forest plan revisions.”

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