

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

### A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA IN SUPPORT OF ACCELERATED LANDSCAPE-SCALE, CONSENSUS-BASED, INDUSTRY-SUPPORTED COMMUNITY PROTECTION, FOREST RESTORATION, AND FIRE MANAGEMENT ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona has experienced degraded forest and watershed health conditions over the past several decades, most significantly represented by large, unnaturally severe fires in fire-adapted forests throughout the county and WHEREAS, the *Statewide Strategy for Restoring Arizona's Forests* has developed social consensus across the state regarding the need for landscape-scale, scientifically informed community protection, restoration, fire management, and sustainable economic development strategies for the next 20 years and,

WHEREAS, the *Analysis of Small-Diameter Wood Supply in Northern Arizona* recently clarified consensus among a wide variety of stakeholders regarding the type and location of ecologically appropriate, science-informed forest thinning treatments across northern Arizona and,

WHEREAS, accelerated landscape-scale, consensus-based, industry-supported community protection, forest restoration, and fire management activities will enhance the ecological and economic health of northern Arizona's forests and provide innumerable benefits to northern Arizona's communities, including protection from unnaturally severe wildfires, as well as jobs and sustained economic revenue

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Supervisors Association of Arizona requests that the U.S. Forest Service and the Office of the Governor:

- 1) Validate and institutionalize the consensus agreement reached in the *Statewide Strategy* and the *Analysis of Small-Diameter Wood Supply in Northern Arizona* in any and all relevant forest planning processes.
- 2) Establish landscape-scale planning, implementation, and monitoring mechanisms that allow the Forest Health Council and other relevant collaboratives the opportunity to continue building and translating social agreement within the context of accelerated treatments across northern Arizona.
- 3) Aggressively pursue the development of long-term stewardship contracts and/or agreements (beyond those already in place) that support an additional annual 30,000 acres of mechanical thinning over a 20-year period, as prescribed by the *Supply Study* consensus agreement parameters.
- 4) Identify, bolster partnerships with, and direct contracts towards those industries with a proven collaborative record, and with the ability to substantially offset planning, administration, preparation, and treatment costs in the process of meeting the ecological goals identified within the *Supply Study*.
- 5) Clearly identify additional federal appropriations needed to support acceleration of consensus-supported and scientifically informed forest restoration treatments across northern Arizona, and support Arizona's congressional delegation in its efforts to secure those appropriations.

ALSO, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Supervisors Association of Arizona calls upon Arizona's congressional delegation to work to secure federal authorizations and appropriations needed to support the acceleration of consensus-supported forest restoration treatments across northern Arizona.