

disaster response teams, and government employees continue to contribute in the war on terrorism as a part of their normal duties;

Whereas each agency has a role in ensuring that the Nation is secure and prosperous despite renewed attention to those agencies which are directly fighting the war on terrorism;

Whereas May 6 through 12, 2002, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week will be celebrated through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends government employees for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation;

(2) salutes their unyielding dedication and spirit for public service;

(3) honors those public servants who have given their lives in service to their country.

(4) calls upon a new generation of workers to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

SENATE RESOLUTION 262—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII WARRIOR MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2002 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEN'S VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 262

Whereas on May 4, 2002, the University of Hawaii Warrior Men's Volleyball Team won the national championship for the first time;

Whereas the University of Hawaii defeated Pepperdine University in 4 games in the championship match, having previously defeated Penn State University in the semifinals;

Whereas this is the first national championship ever for any men's athletic program at the University of Hawaii in 30 years of NCAA Division I competition;

Whereas the victory in the championship game gave Coach Mike Wilton his first career NCAA title and his 200th victory at the University of Hawaii;

Whereas the University of Hawaii Warrior Volleyball fans are the best in the Nation, leading the country in attendance for 7 consecutive seasons;

Whereas 3-time All-American junior outside hitter Costas Theocharidis—

(1) was named the Final Four Most Outstanding Player;

(2) was the 2001 American Volleyball Coaches Association national Player of the Year; and

(3) holds a number of men's volleyball school records;

Whereas 2 University of Hawaii Warrior volleyball players, junior outside hitter Costas Theocharidis and senior middle blocker Dejan Miladinovic, were voted to the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American first team;

Whereas the Hawaii team is representative of Hawaii's celebrated cultural diversity, with players from Hawaii, the United States mainland, Guam, Puerto Rico, Canada, Cuba, Greece, Israel, and Serbia; and

Whereas all of the team's players showed tremendous dedication throughout the sea-

son toward the goal of winning the National Championship: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Hawaii Warrior Men's Volleyball Team for winning the 2002 NCAA Men's Volleyball National Championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the team's players, coaches, and support staff, and invites them to the United States Capitol to be honored;

(3) requests that the President—

(A) recognize the achievements of the University of Hawaii men's volleyball team; and

(B) invite the team to the White House for an appropriate ceremony honoring a national championship team; and

(4) directs the Secretary of the Senate to—

(A) make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the University of Hawaii for appropriate display; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to every coach and member of the 2002 NCAA Men's Volleyball National Championship Team.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 106—TO CORRECT THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3525

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. KYL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 106

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 3525) to enhance the border security of the United States, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) Strike section 205.

(2) In the table of contents of the bill, strike the item relating to section 205.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 107—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES SHOULD FULLY SUPPORT THE WESTERN GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION "COLLABORATIVE 10-YEAR STRATEGY FOR REDUCING WILDLAND FIRE RISKS TO COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT", AS SIGNED AUGUST 2001, TO REDUCE THE OVERABUNDANCE OF FOREST FUELS THAT PLACE NATIONAL RESOURCES AT HIGH RISK OF CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE, AND PREPARE A NATIONAL PRESCRIBED FIRE STRATEGY THAT MINIMIZES RISKS OF ESCAPE

Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. CON. RES. 107

Whereas catastrophic wildfires not only cause environmental damage to forests and other lands but place the lives of firefighters at risk and pose threats to human health, personal property, sustainable ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and air and water quality;

Whereas upon completion of the 2001 wildfire season, 81,681 fires burned 3,555,138 acres, which threatened rural communities nationwide and killed 15 firefighters;

Whereas more than 7,400,000 acres burned during the 2000 wildfire season—equivalent to a six-mile-wide swath from Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles, California—destroying 861 structures, killing 16 firefighters, and costing the Federal Government \$1,300,000,000 in suppression costs;

Whereas an April 1999 General Accounting Office report to the United States House of Representatives, entitled "Western National Forests: A Cohesive Strategy is Needed to Address Catastrophic Wildfire Threats" (GAO/RCED-99-65) states that "The most extensive and serious problem related to the health of national forests in the interior West is the overaccumulation of vegetation, which has caused an increasing number of large, intense, uncontrollable and catastrophically destructive wildfires";

Whereas an April 2000 United States Forest Service report, entitled "Protecting People and Sustaining Resources in Fire-Adapted Ecosystems: A Cohesive Strategy", in response to the 1999 General Accounting Office report, confirms the previous report's conclusion and further warns that "Without increased restoration treatments..., wildfire suppression costs, natural resource losses, private property losses, and environmental damage are certain to escalate as fuels continue to accumulate and more acres become high-risk";

Whereas the July 2001 General Accounting Office testimony entitled "The National Fire Plan: Federal Agencies Are Not Organized to Effectively and Efficiently Implement the Plan" (GAO-01-1022T) before the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health reported that "The Federal Government's decades-old policy of suppressing all wildland fires, including naturally occurring ones, have resulted in dangerous accumulations of hazardous fuels on Federal lands. As a result, conditions on 211,000,000 acres, or almost one-third of all Federal lands, continue to deteriorate" and "[t]he list of at-risk communities ballooned to over 22,000";

Whereas the escaped prescribed burn that created the Cerro Grande Fire in May 2000, that consumed 48,000 acres and destroyed 400 homes with losses exceeding \$1,000,000,000 in Los Alamos, New Mexico, and the escaped prescribed burn that created the Lowden Fire in 1999 that destroyed 23 homes in Lewiston, California, highlight the unacceptable risks of using prescribed burning as the sole forest fuel reduction practice by Federal land management agencies;

Whereas similar catastrophic wildfire resolutions were passed by the California Legislature (AJR 69) and Western Legislative Forestry Task Force (R00-1) in 2000 and Oregon (HJM 22), Idaho (SJM 104) and Montana (HJ 22) in 2001;

Whereas the Western Governors Association's "Collaborative 10-year Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment" was signed in 2001; and

Whereas in 2000, the United States Congress provided an unprecedented \$2,900,000,000 in funding for the United States Departments of Agriculture and Interior wildfire fire fighting agencies to prepare for future fire-suppression efforts and take proactive steps to reduce wildfire risk on all Federal lands: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) in the interest of protecting the integrity and posterity of United States forests and wildlands, wildlife habitats, watersheds, air quality, human health and safety, and private property, the Forest Service and other Federal land management agencies should—

(A) fully implement the Western Governors Association's "Collaborative 10-year Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment", as signed August 2001, to reduce the overabundance of forest fuels that place these resources at high risk of catastrophic wildfire;

(B) use an appropriate mix of fire prevention activities and management practices, including forest restoration, thinning of at-risk forest stands, grazing, selective tree removal, and other measures to control insects and pathogens, removal of excessive ground fuels, and small-scale prescribed burns;

(C) increase the role for private, local, and State contracts for fuel reduction treatments on Federal forest lands and adjoining private properties; and

(D) pursue more effective fire suppression on Federal forest lands through increased funding of mutual aid agreements with professional State and local public fire fighting agencies;

(2) in the interest of forest protection and public safety, the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior should immediately prepare for public review a national prescribed fire strategy for public lands that creates a process for evaluation of worst-case scenarios for risk of escape and identifies alternatives that will achieve land management objectives while minimizing the risk associated with prescribed fire; and

(3) a national prescribed fire strategy for public lands as described in paragraph (2) should be incorporated into any regulatory land use planning programs that propose the use of prescribed fire as a management practice.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I am pleased to support my colleague, Senator CRAIG on this concurrent resolution on protecting our Western forests from catastrophic fire.

It could not be more timely.

Unfortunately, this year is shaping up to be one of the worst fire years on record for many States in the West and for southern California in particular.

The fire season usually begins in California in early summer and can last all the way up to November.

A few years ago it became clear to me that we had a potential disaster on our hand beginning every June.

In the 106th Congress Senator DOMENICI, several of our colleagues and I worked to greatly increase funding for fire prevention.

That included millions of dollars for the removal of dead and dying and small diameter trees and thick underbrush that have accumulated in our national forests, dramatically increasing the likelihood of serious and highly destructive forest fires.

Recently, the Forest Service identified 24 million acres of land in the Continental U.S. as being at the absolute highest level of catastrophic fire risk.

Almost a full one third of this area, 7.8 million acres, lies in California; this is more than any other State.

It includes the entire Sierra Nevada mountain range, the newly designated Sequoia National Monument, it also includes the Plumas and Lassen Forests in and around the Quincy area, where forest fires in the past have destroyed homes and businesses and spotted owl habitat.

And it includes the Lake Tahoe Basin, where one-quarter of the trees are either dead or dying.

And the probability of major fire conflagration remains and grows each year. Such a fire around Lake Tahoe for instance could permanently destroy the water quality of one of the most pristine lakes in the world.

Not to mention a potential loss of life, habitat and property that could be devastating.

Each year, the Forest Service spends hundreds of millions of dollars putting out fires.

This money would be much better spent preventing fires in the first place rather than cleaning up after the fact.

And that is what our resolution seeks to address.

How did things get this way?

Well through the turn of the 20th century, the U.S. population was predominantly spread out and agrarian.

Forest fires burned naturally at fairly predictable intervals and they burned hot enough to restrict encroaching vegetation and prevent fuel from loading up on the ground, but not hot enough to kill old growths.

Forests in the U.S. survived in this fashion for literally thousands of years.

By the middle of the twentieth century, however an increasing population began to occupy new urban-wildland interface zones on what had once been forests.

Suddenly, forest fires had to be put out or suppressed in order to protect the surrounding communities.

It seemed intuitive to simply continue fighting fires as they arose and leave the forests otherwise, untouched.

So nothing was done to groom the forests, to remove the dead and dying, to reduce undergrowth, and to prevent subsequent conflagrations.

What is called fuel load has grown to astronomical proportions in many of our national forests.

Dead and dying trees which were no longer consumed by fire, lingered while brush began to build up at ground level.

Newer, different species of trees, no longer stifled by natural fire, began to crowd out some of the older growth trees.

Forests became crowded and severely fire-prone.

Newer, different species of trees, no longer stifled by natural fire, began to crowd out some of the older growth trees.

In the meantime, what we learned was that one-size does not fit all when it comes to managing our forests.

Each forest is distinct. Differences in topography, geography, flora and fauna, elevation, and climate dictate how a particular forest should be managed.

A forest in the California Sierras is different from a forest in Alaska or Pennsylvania or Idaho.

It is imperative that the Forest Service use all available tools to clean up the forests and reduce fire risks.

This includes removing dead and dying trees, thinning overgrowth, and using mechanical treatment and controlled burning.

It should also include the fuel breaks demonstrated by the Quincy Library Group Project.

If we don't use all these tools, incidents of serious fire will only continue to increase.

In California, fire susceptible Douglas and White firs have grown underneath old growth ponderosa pines.

The newer firs which are not resistant to fire, create potential fuel ladders that permit a fire to reach the tops, or crowns of old growths for the first time.

For most of recent history an old growth pine was impervious to fire since rarely did a fire reach all the way up to its crown.

Now with these relatively new fuel ladders, fire threats to old growths are very real.

Drought periods have further stressed the forest, predisposing it to insect infestations, disease and of course, severe wildfire.

California forests provide homes for dozens of endangered and threatened species including the Marbled Murrelet and the Spotted owl.

It is an understatement to say that today, the risk of fire is the most serious threat to our forests and these species.

It may be the most immediate short-term environmental threat that our western forests face.

That is why this policy of fire prevention and this resolution are so important.

And I urge my colleagues to support the Craig-Feinstein resolution.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 108—TO DESIGNATE MAY 4-12, 2002, AS "NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK"

Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 108

Whereas travel and tourism has a major impact on the economy of the United States as the third largest retail sales industry in the Nation;

Whereas 1 out of every 7 people employed in the United States civilian labor force is employed in the travel and tourism industry;

Whereas international travel to the United States is the largest service export, having generated a trade surplus for 13 consecutive years;

Whereas domestic and international travel generated an estimated \$545,000,000,000 in expenditures in 2001, supporting more than 7,800,000 jobs, and creating more than