

(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

\$94,400,000,000 in tax revenue for Federal, State, and local governments;

Whereas the slowing of the United States economy and the horrific terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, have had a tremendous negative effect on the tourism industry;

Whereas according to the Travel Industry Association, the travel and tourism industry would suffer a \$43,000,000,000 decrease in spending from domestic and international travelers due to the September 11, 2001, attacks;

Whereas the Department of Commerce has issued preliminary figures indicating that international travel to the United States decreased 11 percent between 2000 and 2001, resulting in a 45 percent decrease in the travel trade surplus (from \$14,000,000,000 to \$7,700,000,000), and that it may take 3 years for international travel to return to the 2000 level;

Whereas decreased spending in 2001 caused the travel and tourism industry to lose an estimated 600,000 jobs, and resulted in an estimated 3 percent decrease in tax revenues from such industry;

Whereas National Tourism Week was established by Congress in 1983, and first celebrated in May 1984, when President Ronald Reagan signed a Presidential Proclamation urging citizens to observe the week "with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

Whereas since 1984, National Tourism Week has been celebrated each May by the Travel Industry Association of America, as well as many States, cities, and other travel industry associations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) designates May 4-12, 2002, as "National Tourism Week; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe National Tourism Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3393. Mr. CLELAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3386 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE to the bill (H.R. 3009) to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3393. Mr. CLELAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3386 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE to the bill (H.R. 3009) to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Section 204(b)(5)(B) of the Andean Trade Preference Act, as amended by section 3102, is amended by inserting the following new clauses:

"(iii) The extent to which the country complies with the Agreement on Agriculture (including Article 4) described in section 101(d)(2) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(2)).

"(iv) The extent to which the country complies with its obligation under the Agreement on the Implementation of Tariffs VII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, described in section 101(d)(8) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(8))."

NOTICES OF HEARINGS MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that three hearings have been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on S.J. Res. 34, a joint resolution approving the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for the development of a repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, pursuant to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

The purpose of the three hearings is to take testimony on S.J. Res. 34, the President's recommendation of the Yucca Mountain site for development of a repository, and the objections of the Governor of Nevada to the President's recommendation.

The hearings will take place on Tuesday, May 14, in SH-216; Thursday, May 16, in SH-216; and Thursday, May 23, room to be announced. Each hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. Those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing should e-mail it to *Amanda.Goldman@energy.senate.gov* or fax it to 202-224-9026.

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler of the committee staff at (202) 224-4971.]

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2002, at 9:30 a.m. in SD-366.

The purpose of this hearing is to review the outlook for this year's wildland fire season as well as assess the Federal land management agencies' state of readiness and preparedness for the wildland fire season.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. to hold a hearing to receive testimony from John P. Suarez, nominee to be Assistant Administrator of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Environmental Protection Agency. The hearing will be held in SD-406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be author-

ized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. to hold a hearing on environmental treaties.

Agenda

Treaties

Treaty Doc. 106-32: An amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Beijing on December 3, 1999, by the Eleventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the "Beijing Amendment").

Treaty Doc. 106-10: An amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the "Montreal Protocol"), adopted at Montreal on September 15-17, 1997, by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

Treaty Doc. 103-5: A Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, done at Kingston on January 18, 1990.

Treaty Doc. 105-32: An agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, done at Apia on June 16, 1993.

Treaty Doc. 105-53: A Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Niue on the Delimitation of a Maritime Boundary.

Treaty Doc. 107-2: A Protocol to Amend the 1949 Convention on the Establishment of an Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, done at Guayaquil, June 11, 1999, and signed by the United States, subject to ratification, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on the same date.

Witnesses

Panel 1: The Honorable John Turner, Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Environmental Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC.

Panel 2: Mr. Thomas Grasso, Director, Marine Conservation Program, World Wildlife Fund, Washington, DC; and Dr. David Read Barker, President, Monitor International, Annapolis, MD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, May 7, 2002, at 9:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "The Role of the Board of Directors in Enron's collapse."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Aging be authorized to meet for a hearing on national Family Caregiver Support