

## RESOLUTION 2003 – 546

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE MORTALITY OF INSECT AND DISEASE INFESTED, DROUGHT IMPACTED, AND FIRE DAMAGED TREES IN THE TOWN'S FORESTS, WOODLANDS AND ASSOCIATED RANGELANDS LOCATED ON PRIVATE, STATE, FEDERAL AND TRIBAL LANDS**

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Town of Camp Verde to protect the health, safety, and/or welfare of its natural environment, communities, residents, businesses, and visitors, pursuant to Title 11, Arizona Revised Statutes and the Town's adopted Plan; and,

**WHEREAS**, the physical and ecological condition of the forests, woodlands, and associated rangelands of the Town of Camp Verde impact the health, safety, and/or welfare of its natural environment, communities, residents, businesses and visitors. These forests, woodlands, and associated rangelands are located on private, State, Federal and Tribal lands; and,

**WHEREAS**, the forests, woodlands, and associated rangeland of the Town of Camp Verde are experiencing widespread tree mortality due to unnatural tree stand densities, insects, disease, drought, and/or catastrophic wildfire. These forest conditions have exponentially increased an already extreme wildfire hazard and risk condition that will threaten the Town of Camp Verde with the very real potential for more devastating wildfires in 2003 like the Rodeo/Chediski fire, continued deterioration of Arizona's major watersheds, and the loss of wildfire habitat; and,

**WHEREAS**, the recreation and tourism industry of Town of Camp Verde has been severely impacted due to forest closures caused by wildfire, decreased scenic beauty due to wildfire, drought and insect infestations that are killing entire stands of trees, and a public perception of our forests as unsafe or unsightly. In addition, our local forest products businesses have been devastated by a lack of available or affordable raw material (for an example of economic impacts see Thomas, Warren, and Associates, **"Employment and Sales Tax Revenue Impacts of the Rodeo/Chediski Fire"**); and,

**WHEREAS**, there are scientific, technological, and management alternatives that are proven or can be tested under emergency conditions for their ability to slow or reverse the trend of epidemic insect, drought, and disease mortality in the (Spruce-Fir, Mixed Conifer, Ponderosa Pine, Pinyon-Juniper, and Oak-Juniper forests of the Town of Camp Verde, protect the economic value of affected trees, improve scenic beauty, improve public confidence in the safety of our forests, and provide safer and healthier wildlife habitat (for an example of a sound insect treatment alternative, see USDA Forest Service, **Spruce Beetle Activity, Pinaleno Mts., Safford RD, Coronado National Forest**. For an example of a forest collaborative management approach that works, see **Executive Summary: National Forest County Partnership Restoration Program**).

**NOW THEREFORE THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

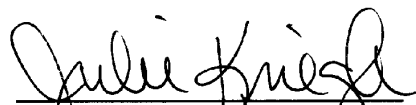
- 1) To declare a state of emergency to exist in its forests located on private, state, federal, and tribal lands in the Town of Camp Verde.
- 2) That the Town of Camp Verde calls upon the President of the United States, Arizona's Governor, and appropriate State, Federal and Tribal agencies and offices to enact those emergency regulations, rules and processes, and provide sufficient funds, technical assistance, and other resources necessary to alleviate this state of emergency in the forests, woodlands, and associated rangelands of the Town of Camp Verde.
- 3) That the Town of Camp Verde urges the United States of Congress to pass and the President to sign legislation that fully implements the National Fire Plan and the President's Healthy Forests Initiative, insures that projects critical to planning and implementation of insect epidemic controls, dead tree removal and watershed restoration are allowed to move forward without unnecessary appeals or litigation, and provides sufficient funds to accelerate forest treatments under the National Fire Plan and the National Forest County Partnership restoration Program, and relieve the economic distress of our forest communities.

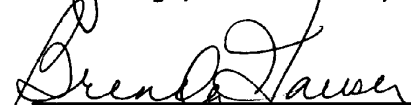
**PASSED AND APPROVED** by a majority vote of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, this 5 day of February 2003

Approved as to Form:

Date: 2-6-03

Attest:

  
Julie Kriegh, Town Attorney

  
Brenda Hauser, Mayor

  
Deborah Barber, Town Clerk