

Native Forest Resolution

Whereas; Less than 5 % of our nation's native forest cover remains as representative of the pre European settlement forest cover, and,

Whereas; Most of this remaining native forest cover is part of our National Forest System, and,

Whereas; A century of management by the National Forest Service catering to the timber and ranching interests through policies which include fire suppression, clearcutting, road construction, stand simplification and overgrazing has brought much of our national forest system to a perilous ecological state as illustrated by the increasingly catastrophic nature of forest fires, and,

Whereas; Less than 3 % of the nation's timber supply comes from our national forests, the loss of which could clearly be offset by conservation and more efficient use of forest products from private forest land, and,

Whereas; Heavily subsidized timber sales from national forests depresses the price private timber owners can get for their timber, while costing taxpayers up to a billion dollars annually, and,

Whereas; It is evident that saving the repository of genetic diversity and ecological wisdom as expressed in the remaining representative stands of our nation's natural forest cover is consistent with Green values, and,

Whereas; The only apparent remedy which will effect this result is the immediate cessation of the commercial logging program on our national forests in conjunction with the implementation of a comprehensive ecological restoration program, and,

Whereas; The advancement of the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act, HR 1396 , while still recognizing and honoring all existing treaties is consistent with these objectives, Therefore be it resolved that the Green Party of New Mexico does hereby endorse and support the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act, HR 1396, and the National Forest Protection Alliance, the mission of which is to advance this legislation.

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To support this work contact: Peter Neils Native Forest Network Albuquerque, NM 505-877-6737 "Forests precede civilizations, deserts follow..." Chateaubriand Protect Native Forests www.nativeforest.org