

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4—COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
ON PUBLIC LANDS)

FEBRUARY 20, 2013

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Urges the Bureau of Land Management and the  
United States Forest Service to assist the State of  
Nevada with the prevention and suppression of  
wildfires in this State. (BDR R-209)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the Bureau of Land  
Management and the United States Forest Service to  
assist the State of Nevada with the prevention and  
suppression of wildfires in this State.

- 1 WHEREAS, The State of Nevada is one of the states that is  
2 greatly affected by wildfires; and  
3 WHEREAS, The wildfires in Nevada have burned vast areas of  
4 this State, including numerous acres of rangeland and forest located  
5 on public lands managed and controlled by the Bureau of Land  
6 Management and the United States Forest Service; and  
7 WHEREAS, The growth of an invasive, nonnative annual grass  
8 known as cheatgrass has been a significant contributing factor to the  
9 increased extent and frequency of wildfires in this State; and  
10 WHEREAS, Frequent wildfires and the increased presence of  
11 cheatgrass have degraded the ecosystem in this State by inhibiting  
12 the establishment of native plant species; and  
13 WHEREAS, In addition to burning rangeland and forest which  
14 support livestock grazing, the frequent wildfires have damaged



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1 wildlife habitats, including the habitat of the sage grouse, a bird  
2 whose populations have been declining for years, and have caused a  
3 rise in the costs associated with wildfire suppression and the  
4 rehabilitation of those public lands affected by the wildfires; and

5 WHEREAS, In a 1,700-acre study conducted by researchers at the  
6 University of Nevada, Reno, late-season livestock grazing was  
7 shown to reduce the amount of cheatgrass, which could fuel a fire,  
8 from 500 pounds per acre to 25 pounds per acre; and

9 WHEREAS, Among other options to decrease the extent and  
10 frequency of wildfires occurring in Nevada, the Bureau of Land  
11 Management and the United States Forest Service may consider  
12 partnering with the livestock industry to increase livestock grazing  
13 on rangeland and forest located on public lands in this State; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
16 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 77th Session of the  
17 Nevada Legislature hereby urge the Bureau of Land Management  
18 and the United States Forest Service to assist the State of Nevada  
19 with the prevention and suppression of wildfires in this State; and be  
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and  
22 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of the Bureau of  
23 Land Management, the Chief of the United States Forest Service  
24 and the President of the Nevada Cattlemen's Association; and be it  
25 further

26 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon  
27 passage.

