

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2—  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT  
AN INTERIM STUDY CONCERNING WILDFIRES)

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Recognizes that forest health and water quality are  
inextricably linked. (BDR R-112)

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—Recognizing that forest  
health and water quality are inextricably linked.

1 WHEREAS, Healthy forests work as filters to keep sediment and  
2 other contaminants out of water, leaves and branches reduce the  
3 erosive power of rainfall, roots secure soil against erosion, and plant  
4 debris improves soil structure and helps absorb nutrients and  
5 sediment; and

6 WHEREAS, Healthy forests operate as natural sponges by  
7 collecting rainfall, filtering out sediment and other pollutants, and  
8 slowly releasing the filtered rainfall into rivers, lakes and streams;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The ability of forests to aid in the filtration of water  
11 provides enormous benefits to both public health and the overall  
12 health of an ecosystem; and

13 WHEREAS, Through this filtration process, forests reduce both  
14 sediment and turbidity in drinking water sources, which results in a  
15 decrease in water treatment costs; and

16 WHEREAS, The loss or degradation of forests in watersheds  
17 diminishes water quality, thereby increasing the costs of water  
18 treatment; and



1 WHEREAS, In addition to filtering water, healthy forests help to  
2 recharge depleted groundwater; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
4 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature  
5 recognizes that forest health and water quality are inextricably  
6 linked; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature  
8 expresses its support for the Federal Government, state agencies and  
9 local governments to work with water purveyors and other  
10 stakeholders to identify watersheds that can be improved by better  
11 forest health measures; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon  
13 passage.

