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Update on Arizona Wildfire Prevention

Archived May 29

Dear Friend,

Across Arizona this week four wildfires are burning. The town of [Crown King faced a mandatory evacuation](#). Firefighters and volunteers from across the nation have put their lives on the line to control the blazes. My thoughts and prayers are with the community members, firefighters and emergency personnel who are battling with the fires.

Arizonans will never forget our more recent fires. Our communities were victims to some of the largest forest fires in recorded history.

There are roughly 80 million acres of forests across the West that are overgrown and ripe for catastrophic wildfire. In 2011, the American Southwest saw over a million acres of Forest Service lands, as well as another 600,000 acres of federal, state, and private lands burn.



This week's Sunflower Fire over Matatzal Mountains

Taking Action to Prevent Wildfires



Meeting with U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom

Tidwell

Since coming to Congress, I have taken numerous actions to protect Arizona from these events and to identify ways to minimize the damage caused by future wildfires.

[Introduced](#) legislation that would expedite the removal of hazard, dead and dying trees in the community after the Wallow Fire.

[Urged](#) the Obama Administration to stop delaying forest thinning proposals and support the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) to reduce overgrown vegetation in forests that contributes to wildfires.

[Joined](#) Congressman Ben Ray Luján (D-NM) to introduce the Forest Stewardship and Fire Fuels Reduction Act of 2012 to restore 2.5 million acres of ponderosa pine forests.

Breaking News: Rep. Gosar Applauds Selection of Contractor for Forest Thinning 500 Jobs and Local Wood Products Created

Yesterday it was announced that a contractor has been chosen to begin forest-thinning efforts as a part of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI). Please read my [full statement](#) to see what this means for restoring our state's national forests to healthy and safe condition.

Representative Gosar Files Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Legislation



Visiting the Wallow Fire

This past week I introduced the Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2012 (H.R. 5744) to remove bureaucratic red tape that is restricting forest health. Twenty-seven Republican and Democrat Members of Congress, representing twenty different states, supported this legislation. A mismanaged forest policy has made our land and the people of Arizona victims of avoidable wildfire conditions. [You can read more on my legislation here.](#)

Save the Date

**Good stuff.
Good work.
Goodwill.**



(Job Fair June 11th)

I will be joined by a leading Arizona nonprofit organization, Goodwill of Central Arizona, for a job fair on Monday, June 11th from 12:00pm-4:00pm at the Prescott Resort and Conference Center. Be sure to get there early, bring your resumes, dress professionally and be prepared to talk to hiring managers from numerous companies.

You can also see my video announcement of the job fair [here](#) or by clicking below.



Congressman Gosar and Goodwill of Central Arizona to Host Job Fair

Monday June 11th, 2012

12:00pm-4:00pm

Prescott Resort and Conference Center

1500 State Route 69

Prescott, AZ 86301

Rep Gosar in the News

[Gosar Files Bipartisan 'Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2012'](#)

[Van Jones rips Holder over Operation Fast and Furious: 'We just don't value all life the same'](#)

As always, you can follow everything I am working on in Arizona and Washington, D.C. through my [website](#), on Twitter [@repgosar](#), or on [Facebook](#) at Representative Paul Gosar.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

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