

Urge Leadership to Advance the Fix Our Forests Act (S. 1462) to the Floor

Mitigate wildfires, improve forest health, and protect local communities

CURRENT STATUS:

Passed the House (279-141), introduced in the Senate and advanced out of Ag Committee.



Given the urgent wildfire risk this year, we ask you to urge Senate leadership to bring the Fix Our Forests Act to the floor without delay, and to support its passage when it is considered.

Wildfires raise insurance costs, household energy bills, and smoke in one state can blanket an entire region with dangerously poor air quality. The increasing severity of wildfires poses unprecedented threats to our public safety, health, and economy. **However, this is a problem we can address — if Congress acts with urgency.**

An Urgent and Growing Threat

Wildfires are a growing crisis, impacting nearly every state. A historically warm winter and ongoing snow drought across much of the country have created dangerously dry conditions, increasing the likelihood of a severe and prolonged wildfire season. Reduced snowpack and earlier melt are already leaving forests more vulnerable to ignition, threatening communities, infrastructure, and public health in the months ahead.

Strong Bipartisan Support

The Fix Our Forests Act is bipartisan and broadly supported. **It passed the House by a vote of 279–141**, and its Senate companion (S. 1462) was introduced by Senators Curtis, Hickenlooper, Sheehy, and Padilla before **advancing out of the Senate Agriculture Committee with a bipartisan 18–5 vote.**

Support S. 1462 the Bipartisan Fix Our Forests Act



Key Provisions

- ✔ **Extend existing categorical exclusions from 3,000 to 10,000 acres**, thus expediting the most critical wildfire management projects.
- ✔ Enable prompt action by **prioritizing the highest-risk forests**.
- ✔ **Revitalize rural economies** by strengthening tools such as Good Neighbor Authority.
- ✔ Protect communities in the **wildland-urban interface**.
- ✔ **Increase collaboration** between federal, state, tribal, and local agencies by creating a new Fireshed Center and codifying the Shared Stewardship initiative.
- ✔ **Harden utility rights-of-way** against wildfire.

Why This Legislation Works

Red tape has delayed critical wildfire-prevention projects for too long. This legislation rectifies that, ensuring well-researched forest management practices move forward promptly while maintaining important environmental and community protections.

This, combined with adequate funding and staffing for the US Forest Service, will enable us to save forests, wildlife, and people.

We ask you to urge Senate leadership to bring the Fix Our Forests Act to the floor without delay, and to support its passage when it is considered.

Contact: Jennifer Tyler
CCL VP of Government Affairs

jennifer.tyler@citizensclimatelobby.org