

## HR 2696

Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Jul 10, 2003

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 108-317.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 108-317. (Oct 5, 2004)

**Law:** 108-317 (Enacted Oct 5, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2696>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Renzi, Rick [R-AZ-1]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** AZ • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Hayworth, J. D. [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. Kolbe, Jim [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. McClinnis, Scott [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Jul 10, 2003
Rep. Udall, Mark [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jul 16, 2003

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 16, 2003
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 29, 2004
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Sep 24, 2003

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 460	Related bill	<b>Feb 13, 2003:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.

**(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the House on February 24, 2004. The summary of that version is repeated here.)**

Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004 - (Sec. 5) Directs the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to: (1) establish Institutes to promote the use of adaptive ecosystem management to reduce the risk of wildfires and restore the health of forest and woodland ecosystems in the interior West (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah); and (2) assist the Institutes in promoting the use of collaborative processes and adaptive ecosystems management. Requires, initially, the establishment of three Institutes, with: (1) one in Arizona, at Northern Arizona University; (2) one in New Mexico, at New Mexico Highlands University, while engaging the full resources of the consortium of universities represented in the Institute of Natural Resource Analysis and Management; and (3) one in Colorado.

Defines the term "adaptive ecosystem management" to mean a natural resource management process under which planning, implementation, monitoring, research, evaluation, and incorporation of new knowledge are combined into a management approach that: (1) is based on scientific findings and the needs of society; (2) treats management actions as experiments; (3) acknowledges the complexity of these systems and scientific uncertainty; and (4) uses the resulting new knowledge to modify future management methods and policy. Prohibits the definition of such term for the purposes of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.

Requires each Institute to: (1) develop, conduct research on, transfer, promote, and monitor restoration-based hazardous fuel reduction treatments to reduce the risk of severe wildfires and improve the health of dry forest and woodland ecosystems in the interior West; (2) synthesize and adapt scientific findings from conventional research to implement such fuel reduction treatments on a landscape scale using an adaptive ecosystem management framework; (3) translate for and transfer to affected entities (land managers, stakeholders, concerned citizens, and States of the interior West) any scientific and interdisciplinary knowledge about such fuel reduction treatments; (4) assist affected entities with the design of adaptive management approaches (including monitoring) for the implementation of such fuel reduction treatments; and (5) provide peer-reviewed annual reports.

Requires each Institute to: (1) develop and demonstrate capabilities in the natural, physical, social, and policy sciences, and explicitly integrate those disciplines in the performance of such duties; and (2) develop an annual work plan for review by the Secretary.

Authorizes the Secretary to establish one institute in each of the other interior West States, if after two years, the Secretary finds that the Institute model would be constructive for those States.

(Sec. 6) Provides for cooperation between the Institutes and Federal programs. Encourages cooperation and coordination between Federal programs relating to ecological restoration, wildfire risk reduction, and wildfire management technologies.

(Sec. 7) Requires the Secretary to evaluate and report to specified congressional committees every five years on the programs and activities of each Institute.

(Sec. 8) Authorizes appropriations.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Oct 5, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 5, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 5, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-317.
- **Oct 5, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-317.
- **Sep 24, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 24, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 16, 2004:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 15, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S9326)
- **Sep 15, 2004:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S9326)
- **Mar 29, 2004:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici without amendment. With written report No. 108-252.
- **Mar 29, 2004:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici without amendment. With written report No. 108-252.
- **Mar 29, 2004:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 469.
- **Mar 10, 2004:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Feb 25, 2004:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Feb 24, 2004:** Mr. Renzi moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 24, 2004:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H523-526)
- **Feb 24, 2004:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2696.
- **Feb 24, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H523-525)
- **Feb 24, 2004:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H523-525)
- **Feb 24, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-397, Part I.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-397, Part I.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** House Committee on Agriculture Granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than Nov. 21, 2003.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Committee on Agriculture discharged.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Committee on Agriculture discharged.
- **Nov 21, 2003:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 228.
- **Sep 24, 2003:** Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health Discharged.
- **Sep 24, 2003:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 24, 2003:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jul 16, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health.
- **Jul 16, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.
- **Jul 10, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 10, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 10, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 10, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 10, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.