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**THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES THE IMPACTS OF  
FEDERAL POLICY AFFECTING PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT AND ITS  
IMPACTS TO SHERIFFS AND THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE**

**WHEREAS**, America's Sheriffs are uniquely impacted by policy decisions affecting public lands managed by federal agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the economies of counties across the United States have a long history of dependence on revenue generated from natural resources extracted from public lands; and

**WHEREAS**, policy decisions in the past 30 years have adversely impacted the economies of counties and have a direct and noticeable impact on the level of public safety services available; and

**WHEREAS**, there are millions of acres of forest land across the U.S. with most contained in the western U.S. that are managed by federal agencies. As the population grows, so too does the wildland urban interface. Cooperation between federal land managers within the Biden administration is critical to public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, to enhance the safety of persons utilizing public lands, it is paramount that we have strong professional relationships with federal land managers. These relationships are critical to improve public safety response to Search and Rescue, wildfire, and overall general law enforcement functions; and

**WHEREAS**, strong professional relationships with federal policy makers as well as regional representatives will improve communications in the areas of contract negotiation, development of memorandums of understanding and coordination of agencies involved in major incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, public lands users are innovative in finding new ways to access areas of public lands seldom accessed in the past. The challenges of fire suppression, evacuation, and Search and Rescue are impacted by decisions related to travel management, road closures and forest management and deserves a coordinated effort by federal land managers and local leaders including Sheriffs; and

**WHEREAS**, America's Sheriffs are a strong conduit between the citizens we serve and the federal agencies managing our public lands, and policy decisions must be made with concern for impacts to both public safety and the economic impacts to counties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the National Sheriffs' Association supports consensus of America's Sheriffs and supports a strong, professional, and open dialogue with the federal government and specifically, those responsible for the management of our Nation's public lands.