



*“Voice of the Western Slope since 1953”*  
*A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals*

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**98-9 NR 5**  
**Fire, Role of County Sheriffs in fighting Natural Fires**

**WHEREAS:** County Sheriffs in Colorado are required by law to extinguish natural fires, whether or not it makes good management sense to do so, and

**WHEREAS:** CLUB 20 has previously called attention to this outdated section of state law, thus far to no avail, and

**WHEREAS:** Sheriffs are continually put in a difficult position, because of the conflict between this law and the existing management plans on many BLM and Forest Service lands, which in many cases call for allowing some natural fires to burn, and

**WHEREAS:** CLUB 20 continues to believe fire is an important part of the proper management of public lands, and conflicts between county sheriffs and federal land management goals are counterproductive to both the sheriffs and the federal government,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that CLUB 20 calls for legislation to repeal the state statute placing county sheriffs in charge of extinguishing natural fires.

**Adopted September 25, 1998**