

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to conservation camps; authorizing the State Forester Firewarden of the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to determine the amount of wages that must be paid to offenders who participate in conservation camps and who perform work relating to fire fighting and other work projects of conservation camps; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 209.231 is hereby amended to read as follows:

209.231 1. Any money received from the operation of any conservation camp established under this chapter or from the assignment of any crew of a conservation camp to the extent that the money is not used for salaries, overhead or operating expenses of any camp or crew ~~is~~ must be placed in the Division of Forestry Account.

2. The State Forester Firewarden, as Executive Head of the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, may:

(a) Expend the money received pursuant to subsection 1 for:

(1) The renovation, repair or improvement of buildings and real property for any conservation camp.

(2) The acquisition of special clothing, tools and equipment , and payment of expenses directly related to work projects performed by a crew of a conservation camp such as, but not limited to, the costs of utilities and operation of equipment.

(b) Direct all activities in connection with any renovation, repair or improvement of buildings and real property for any conservation camp or work project of a conservation camp.

3. *The State Forester Firewarden shall determine the amount of wages that must be paid to offenders who participate in conservation camps as provided in NRS 472.040.*

Sec. 2. NRS 472.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

472.040 1. The State Forester Firewarden shall:

(a) Supervise or coordinate all forestry and watershed work on state-owned and privately owned lands, including fire control, in Nevada, working with federal agencies, private associations, counties, towns, cities or private persons.

(b) Administer all fire control laws and all forestry laws in Nevada outside of townsite boundaries, and perform any other

duties designated by the Director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or by state law.

(c) Assist and encourage county or local fire protection districts to create legally constituted fire protection districts where they are needed and offer guidance and advice in their operation.

(d) Designate the boundaries of each area of the State where the construction of buildings on forested lands creates such a fire hazard as to require the regulation of roofing materials.

(e) Adopt and enforce regulations relating to standards for fire retardant roofing materials to be used in the construction, alteration, change or repair of buildings located within the boundaries of fire hazardous forested areas.

(f) Purchase communication equipment which can use the microwave channels of the state communications system and store this equipment in regional locations for use in emergencies.

(g) Administer money appropriated and grants awarded for fire prevention, fire control and the education of firemen and award grants of money for those purposes to fire departments and educational institutions in this state.

(h) Determine the amount of wages that must be paid to offenders who participate in conservation camps and who perform work relating to fire fighting and other work projects of conservation camps.

2. The State Forester Firewarden in carrying out the provisions of this chapter may:

(a) Appoint paid foresters and firewardens to enforce the provisions of the laws of this state respecting forest and watershed management or the protection of forests and other lands from fire, subject to the approval of the board of county commissioners of each county concerned.

(b) Appoint suitable citizen-wardens. Citizen-wardens serve voluntarily except that they may receive compensation when an emergency is declared by the State Forester Firewarden.

(c) Appoint, upon the recommendation of the appropriate federal officials, resident officers of the United States Forest Service and the United States Bureau of Land Management as voluntary firewardens. Voluntary firewardens are not entitled to compensation for their services.

(d) Appoint certain paid foresters or firewardens to be arson investigators.

(e) Employ, with the consent of the Director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, clerical assistance, county and district coordinators, patrolmen, firefighters, and other employees as needed, and expend such sums as may be necessarily incurred for this purpose.

(f) Purchase, or acquire by donation, supplies, material, equipment and improvements necessary to fire protection and forest and watershed management.

(g) With the approval of the Director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the State Board of Examiners, purchase or accept the donation of real property to be used for lookout sites and for other administrative, experimental or demonstration purposes. No real property may be purchased or accepted unless an examination of the title shows the property to be free from encumbrances, with title vested in the grantor. The title to the real property must be examined and approved by the Attorney General.

(h) Expend any money appropriated by the State to the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for paying expenses incurred in fighting fires or in emergencies which threaten human life.

3. The State Forester Firewarden, in carrying out the powers and duties granted in this section, is subject to administrative supervision by the Director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.