



**A Resolution to Designate Saturday, March 1, 2008
as Buffelgrass Eradication Day**

Whereas, buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*) has established itself as a persistent and expanding invasive plant in central and southern Arizona and displaces native vegetation forming dense, single-species stands, and is prone to fire and the destruction of native plants; and

Whereas, on March 29, 2007, this Regional Council adopted a Resolution recognizing that a long-term and coordinated program of buffelgrass control will be required to confront this invasive weed species, and encouraged each member jurisdiction to evaluate the extent that buffelgrass is present within their communities and to pursue buffelgrass removal or treatment; and

Whereas, on or about April 26, 2007, the U.S. Forest Service's Southwest Coordinating Center (SWCC) issued a Fuel and Fire Advisory regarding the threat posed by buffelgrass, specifically including reference to areas in the metropolitan Tucson region as being affected; and

Whereas, buffelgrass has the potential to cause severe disruption to the natural environment of the Sonoran Desert and alter viewsapes by replacing native plant species with extensive stands of fire-prone buffelgrass; and

Whereas, extensive public, private and volunteer efforts are required to combat the spread of buffelgrass and that a concerted effort on a single day is a useful tool to garner public awareness, support and involvement; and

Whereas, National Invasive Weed Awareness Week will commence on Sunday, February 24, 2008 and conclude on Saturday, March 1, 2008.

In Consideration Thereof the PAG Regional Council:

Declares that Saturday, March 1, 2008, shall be designated Buffelgrass Eradication Day.

Encourages its member jurisdictions to adopt similar declarations and to mobilize community support to engage in a concerted effort to remove buffelgrass on Buffelgrass Eradication Day.

Directs PAG staff to lend support and to coordinate regional efforts to promote Buffelgrass Eradication Day.