

Brown signs order to reduce wildfire danger

By Associated Press

Gov. Jerry Brown signed an executive order on Thursday that aims to reduce the dangers of wildfires following some of the deadliest and most destructive blazes in state history.

The order calls for accelerating forest management procedures such as cutting back dense stands of trees and setting controlled fires to burn out thick brush. Brown wants to double the forest area managed by such practices to 500,000 acres (781 square miles) within five years.

Brown's order also calls for streamlining the process of allowing private landowners to thin trees and encouraging the building industry to use more innovative wood products.

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