



August 15, 2025

Michelle Zagumny, District Ranger
Cumberland Ranger District
Daniel Boone National Forest
2375 KY 801 S
Morehead, KY 40351

Re: Cumberland District Prescribed Fire

Dear District Ranger Zagumny,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, I write to express our support for the Cumberland District Prescribed Fire proposal to improve wildlife habitat and timber stand conditions on the Daniel Boone National Forest. The proposed project would improve access for sportsmen and women and support Kentucky's sporting traditions.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

We support the proposed use of prescribed fire across the Cumberland Ranger District to improve habitat diversity for wildlife and support the regeneration of oak species, which are critical for several species important to Kentucky's hunters, including, among others, black bear, ruffed grouse, white-tailed deer, and wild turkey. The prescribed fire prescription would help move the project area towards the desired future conditions set forth in the 2004 Land and Resource Management Plan for the Daniel Boone National Forest.

CSF represents the interests of Kentucky's sportsmen and women, the primary funders of state-based conservation efforts and significant contributors to Kentucky's economy, that depend on access to the Daniel Boone National Forest to pursue their outdoor pastimes. As reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 2025, Kentucky's sportsmen and women generated over \$55.4

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million for state-based conservation through hunting and fishing license sales and matching Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program funds.¹ Hunters in Kentucky support 17,100 jobs, \$481 million in salaries and wages, \$76 million in state and local taxes, with a total economic effect of \$1.642 billion.²

Thank you for considering our comments, and we look forward to project implementation.

Sincerely,



John Culclasure
Senior Director, Forest Policy
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
jculclasure@congressionalsportsmen.org

¹ <https://s3.amazonaws.com/cdn.congressionalsportsmen.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/10143849/Montana-ASCF-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

² "Economic Impacts of Hunting and Target Shooting – Technical Report." Southwick Associates, produced for the Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation. December 2021. <https://sportsmensalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2020-Economic-Impact-of-Hunting-and-Shooting-Technical-Report-V2.pdf>

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