



November 21, 2025

Lana Cruz, District Ranger
High Cascades Ranger District
Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
47201 Highway 62
Prospect, OR 97536

Re: Snowy Butte Landscape Restoration Project

Dear District Ranger Cruz,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, I write to express our support for the Snowy Butte Landscape Restoration Project to increase forest resiliency to wildfire, improve wildlife habitat, and improve forest and watershed health on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. The Alternative 2 – Proposed Action will improve access and enhance hunting and fishing opportunities for Oregon's sportsmen and women.

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.

CSF supports the proposed silvicultural treatments to improve forest composition and structural diversity and increase resiliency to wildfires and other forest stressors. The thinning treatments, meadow restorations, and gap creations will increase early seral habitat for popular game species, like deer and elk, as well as for nongame species ranging from songbirds to pollinators. We also support the hardwoods restoration work, removal of nonnative species, and prescribed fire treatments to increase habitat diversity for wildlife. The riparian area thinnings, culvert replacements, and beaver habitat work will improve watershed health. Additionally, we support the decision not to decommission roads. Roads provide access for hunters and anglers, and keeping roads on the system is important for fire suppression and forest management capabilities.

Your Inside Connection to Outdoor Legislation

CSF represents the interests of Oregon's sportsmen and women, the primary funders of state-based conservation efforts and significant contributors to Oregon's economy, that depend on access to the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest to pursue their outdoor pastimes. As reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for 2025, Oregon's sportsmen and women generated over \$93.3 million for state-based conservation through hunting and fishing license sales and matching Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program funds.¹ Hunters in Oregon support 3,700 jobs, \$144 million in salaries and wages, and \$16 million in state and local taxes, with a total economic effect of \$448 million.²

The Alternative 2 – Proposed Action would help move the project area towards the desired future conditions set forth in the 1990 Rogue River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended by the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, and we appreciate the U.S. Forest Service's proactive work through this project to improve forest health and wildlife habitat while reducing wildfire risk and protecting water resources for nearby communities.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,



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

¹ <https://congressionalsportsmen.org/reports/oregon-american-system-of-conservation-funding-fact-sheet/>

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>

Your Inside Connection to Outdoor Legislation
