



March 25, 2022

Submitted electronically: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=56958>

George Garcia, District Ranger
Safford Ranger District
Coronado National Forest
711 S 14th Ave
Safford, AZ 85546

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Pinaleno Firescape Project

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is a 501c-3 non-profit organization that consists of member, affiliate, and associate groups that reach across the spectrum of hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation, and businesses from across Arizona. Our member groups alone represent more than 16,000 people from Arizona.

AZSFWC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Pinaleno Firescape Project. AZSFWC is on record supporting this project as evidenced with our attached scoping letter from August 30, 2020. AZSFWC also provided funding for the Pinaleno Ecosystem Restoration Project in association with the Arizona Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation beginning in 2016.

AZSFWC and 23 of our member organizations fully support the proposed action, with its combination of prescribed fire, thinning, seeding, herbicide, and watershed stabilization treatments. We likewise support the use of mechanized equipment where needed to meet project and Forest Plan objectives in inventoried roadless areas and the Mount Graham Wilderness Study area.

Finally, we appreciate that design features of the project have been developed in coordination with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, in order to maximize benefits to wildlife and their habitats.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Unmacht", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Unmacht
Executive Director

AZSFWC support of the Pinaleno Firescape Project Draft EA – 3-25-22

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation
PO Box 75731 New River, AZ 85087



AZSFWC Member Organizations Supporting the Pinaleño FireScape Draft Environmental Assessment

AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Bass Federation Nation
AZ Big Game Super Raffle
AZ Chapter of Safari Club International
AZ Council of Trout Unlimited
AZ Deer Association
AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
AZ Elk Society
AZ Flycasters Club
AZ Houndsmen's Association
AZ Outdoor Sports
AZ State Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation
Ben Avery Clay Busters
Christian Hunters of America
Outdoor Experience 4 All
Southern AZ Quail Forever
Southwest Wildlife Foundation
SRT Outdoors
The BASS Federation of AZ
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trust for Public Land
Valley of the Sun Quail Forever
Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club

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