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Organization: California Cattlemen's Foundation

Title: Public Policy Advocate

Comments: Region 5 USFS / Hazardous Tree Removal

Siskiyou County Cattlemen Association

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Jennifer Eberlien Regional Forrester USFS

Siskiyou County in Northern California has been hit hard by wildfires. Many of our members are permittees that have been directly effected by these catastrophic fires.

Siskiyou County Cattlemen support the effort to remove and capture the quickly fading value of this timber and support the request for (ESD) emergency situation determination.

Historically the response to fires has been to restrict grazing for three years after such a fire. That effort is quite damaging to the ranges in our area. Our area could be described as high desert, with a minimal amount of rainfall.

By completely restricting grazing, that restriction only allows for the establishment of undesirable forages and the establishment of an over abundant culture of weeds and brush. Such as cheat and manzanita. Effectively out competing desirable tree growth as well as desirable forages.

Siskiyou County Cattlemen would request that specialized and specific short term grazing be implemented rather than a complete exclusion. We would request that this specialized grazing be part of the requested (ESD).

By grazing and controlling these undesirable forages we provide the desirable plant community a chance to reestablish their pre-fire community level. Preventing a dominating culture of brush and weeds that is the historical result of completely eliminating grazing for lengthy periods.

Sincerely

Sam Jackson

President

Siskiyou County Cattlemen