

Wheeler County Fire Services PO Box 447 Fossil, OR 97830

USDA – Brandon Houck Diane Shirley, Heppner Ranger District PO Box 7 Heppner OR 97836

I am writing to express my support for the West End Farm Bill Categorical Exclusion Project (West End) located 28 miles southwest of Heppner, Oregon in Wheeler County.

I strongly agree with the need to increase the resilience of our forests by reducing the risk and extent of the current insect and disease infestations and reducing the fuel build up from dead and dying trees to prevent further damage from fires.

I fully support the efforts of the Forest Service in Wheeler County.

Sincerely,

Rick Shaffer

Wheeler County Fire Services Coordinator

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