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Comments: As a local in this area I frequent all of the area within this treatment and am in full support of this project getting off the ground and going. It has been many years in the making and unfortunately held up many times usually due to red tape and litigation. It is time to manage these areas. 3 years ago the wildlife biologist did a fantastic presentation about elk food sources, bedding, security areas etc and it truly made a lot of sense. Many of our deer and elk are literally leaving these public lands for private lands that are managed similar to what this project is proposing. Similarly the catastrophic wildfire risk in this area is also quite significant due to the limitations on prescribed burns, logging and thinning in the area in recent years. Something has to be done or it could end up like many other areas of Oregon in the recent years up in smoke in a catastrophic way not a natural way. This is an opportunity to manage the forest for timber, wildfire fuels, wildlife, horticulture, range, streams and soils as evidenced by the supporting documentation. As an avid outdoorsman that uses this area for foraging, wood cutting, fishing, hunting, hiking, and wildlife viewing as well as a local businessman in the town of Heppner I am truly hopeful this project can finally get underway. It will benefit our forest health and vigor, and has the potential to add a much needed boost our local economy. This project will help myself, my children, and my children's children enjoy this public land for generations to come. You have my full support and if you need anything please reach out. If anyone has questions or concerns about the local area I encourage you to call and talk to someone at the local Forest Service office about this project. Or call or email me about it and I will gladly take you on a tour if you would like to actually see this area. Thank you for your time and consideration on this topic.

GET THE ELLIS PROJECT OFF THE GROUND!

Regards,

Tim Dickenson