



City of Ketchum

September 6, 2022

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors  
City of Ketchum  
Ketchum, Idaho

Mayor Bradshaw and City Councilors:

**Recommendation to approve Financial Contribution to National Forest Foundation related to Bald Mountain Stewardship Project**

Recommendation and Summary

Staff is recommending a \$10,000 one-time contribution for the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project through the National Forest Foundation.

**"I move to approve a \$10,000 contribution to the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project"**

The reasons for the recommendation are as follows:

- The city's contribution will leverage a ten to one funding match (see attachment)
- The project seeks to reduce wildfire risk through fuels reduction which directly relates to the city's public safety mission
- Bald Mountain is a major economic driver for the town; protecting its future aligns with the city's economic development duties

Sustainability Impact

The project seeks to improve the health of the forest through fuels reduction.

Financial Requirement/Impact

One-time contribution of \$10,000 can be supported within the existing approved General Fund Budget.

Attachments

Fundraising details

Project scope – National Forest Foundation

Purchase Order 22128

## **BIGWOOD BREAD**

### **\$1,000,000 TO HELP SAVE BALD MOUNTAIN**

**Bigwood Bread and its employees** are contributing to, and leading an ambitious community fundraising effort to raise **\$1,000,000** to help save the most important asset in our community - **“BALDY”**.

**Bigwood Bread, along with its employees and key community leaders, will match 1-1 the first \$75,000 in donations from the community. So if you donate \$100 it will be matched 1-1 with \$100 from Bigwood Bread funds and then matched 1-5 with other funds from the Bald Mountain Stewardship fund. So your \$100 donation will be matched 1-10 and end up being \$1,000 in assistance for Baldy. A very exciting way to help contribute to a great cause.**

**Please join us in this effort to raise funds to assist in the restoration of Bald Mountain.**

The money will be used in a multi-year effort to remove existing standing dead and downed trees from the bark beetle infestation, deter new insect infestations, remove existing fuels to help prevent fires, and replant thousands of new trees to increase diversity.

We are planning to raise \$167,000 from the community to go towards this project. The National Forest Foundation will match community donations **1 to 5** with other private and federal funds they have aggregated in the Bald Mountain Stewardship Fund. So if we can raise the \$167,000 from the community to support Bald Mountain, our donations will be matched by an additional \$835,000 for the project. That means **One Million Dollars** going to improve the health of Baldy and our collective lifestyles here in the valley.

Donations should be made out to the **National Forest Foundation** and include **“Bald Mountain Stewardship Project”** in the subject line. The National Forest Foundation is a qualified 501(c)3 that manages the Bald Mountain Stewardship Fund and can guarantee the match.

Please either drop your contribution off at Bigwood Bread and stay to enjoy a casual summer meal with us. Or mail your donation to **Bigwood Bread** at PO BOX 6332, Ketchum 83340.

# The Bald Mountain Stewardship Project

**The purpose of the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project is to reduce fuels and associated fire risk, improve forest health, and preserve the recreational experience on and around Bald Mountain, home of the Sun Valley Ski Resort. This world-renowned recreational destination drives central Idaho's economy and is the primary viewshed for the communities of Ketchum and Sun Valley.**

## The Wood River Valley's Forests

Forested lands in Central Idaho's Blaine County have seen a significant increase in forest decline over the last two decades due to insect and disease mortality. This has led to an uncharacteristic fire risk and contributed to the incidence of two large area wildfires (2007, 2013) that threatened homes and infrastructure in Wood River Valley. The area has also experienced an exponential increase in noxious weed presence that threatens critical wildlife habitat.

In 2019 a community effort convened and facilitated by the National Forest Foundation and aptly named the Bald Mountain workgroup, came together to address concerns around forest health, fire risk, and insect outbreak issues on and around Bald Mountain (Baldy). To date, more than 60 individuals and organizations have engaged through the workgroup collectively contributing more than 500 hours toward project planning and volunteerism. The product of this effort is the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project.

The Bald Mountain Stewardship Project is a landscape level effort that involves targeted thinning of forests to retain healthy trees, removal of dead and dying trees, placement of insect deterrent, and forest replanting efforts. The intended outcome is to produce strategic management actions across ownership boundaries that will result in a positive impact on forest health, economic stability, and human safety.

Alongside contributions from the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Sun Valley Company, the National Forest Foundation has been able to raise and contribute private funds and organize volunteer efforts to support the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project. This past winter, students and community members gathered on skis to place MCH packets throughout Baldy's Forests (which deter Douglas fir bark beetles from attacking the trees). In 2020, Sun Valley Company and the Forest Service worked with the National Forest Foundation to supply two large truckloads of logs from Bald Mountain's Restoration effort to the Shoshone Paiute Tribe at the Duck Valley Reservation. The wood was used for home heating through the winter months.

## The National Forest Foundation

The National Forest Foundation is the leading organization inspiring personal and meaningful connections to our National Forests, the centerpiece of America's public lands. Our mission is to bring people together to restore and enhance our National Forests and Grasslands. For more information or to contribute to the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project please contact:



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**(208) 720-0957**





**CITY OF KETCHUM**  
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 Administration 208-726-3841 (fax) 208-726-8234

**PURCHASE ORDER**  
 BUDGETED ITEM?  Yes  No

**PURCHASE ORDER - NUMBER: 22128**

<b>To:</b> 5888 NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION BLDG 27 STE 3 FORT MISSOULA RD MISSOULA MT 59804	<b>Ship to:</b> CITY OF KETCHUM PO BOX 2315 KETCHUM ID 83340
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P. O. Date	Created By	Requested By	Department	Req Number	Terms
08/31/2022	bancona	bancona		0	

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total
1.00	BALD MOUNTAIN STEWARDSHIP PROJECT 01-4193-9930	10,000.00	10,000.00
	SHIPPING & HANDLING		0.00
	TOTAL PO AMOUNT		10,000.00

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 Authorized Signature