

**CITY OF KETCHUM
RESOLUTION NO. 25-008**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHUM, BLAINE COUNTY, STATE OF IDAHO, CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT OF ALL SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST EMPLOYEES.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ketchum, Blaine County, State of Idaho:

- A. The current presidential administration has undertaken summary termination of federal workers, including employees within the U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service.
- B. These actions have led to the termination of multiple employees working within the Sawtooth National Forest.
- C. The Sawtooth National Forest, in particular, the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, is an invaluable state asset, providing significant wildlife and natural resources, scenery, and recreational activities that define our culture and attract significant tourism, helping to sustain the economy of many Idaho communities, including the City of Ketchum.
- D. The termination of Sawtooth National Forest employees creates vacancies and operational gaps in everything from trail maintenance and visitor services to public safety and support. These actions could impair the missions of the Sawtooth National Forest, cause permanent harm to this important resource, weaken our community's ability to respond to wildfires and other significant natural disasters, and negatively impact Idaho communities that rely on this area.
- E. The Wood River Valley and its municipalities, including Ketchum, are a recreational hub of south-central Idaho and the gateway to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. These areas attract significant tourism to the state of Idaho. Decreased Sawtooth National Forest staffing could impact tourism in this region, lowering tax revenue, hurting small businesses, and affecting the quality of life for residents in the region and state.
- F. Idaho's natural public places are invaluable and irreplaceable. The knowledge and skills of Forest Service employees are equally invaluable and irreplaceable. Unless reinstated immediately, terminated employees may be forced to leave Idaho's rural communities, along with their years of experience and expertise in land management. Immediate reinstatement of their positions is critical to protecting federal lands.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHUM:

1. The City calls for the reinstatement of Sawtooth National Forest employees to ensure the appropriate provision of services for Idaho's communities and visitors.

2. The City hereby calls on Idaho’s Senators Crapo and Risch, and Representatives Simpson and Fulcher, to review and protect Idaho communities and employees by exercising appropriate legislative review and oversight.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Ketchum this third day of March, 2025.

Neil Bradshaw, Mayor

ATTEST

Trent Donat, City Clerk