



**CITY OF REDMOND**  
Office of the Mayor

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To the Oregon Smoke Management Review Committee:

On behalf of the City of Redmond, we support the increased use of safe and effective prescribed burning in Central Oregon's forests. Prescribed burning, under controlled conditions, in the spring and fall allows the Forest Service to reduce the risk of larger uncontrolled fires during the heat of the summer.

The 2017 Milli Fire near Sisters demonstrated the efficacy of thinning followed by prescribed fire as an effective tool to reduce wildfire risk to our communities and the people that live, work, and play in our forests. Forests that are the backbone of Central Oregon's economy and way of life.

We are aware that increased use of prescribed fires requires meaningful reforms to Oregon's smoke management rules. The recommendations outlined in the Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project represent a viable and holistic strategy. This strategy is built around a greater use of prescribed fire to counter the trend towards larger and increasingly severe wildfires, and the serious social, economic, and ecological impacts those wildfires cause in our forests and communities.

While we recognize increased prescribed fire may lead to an increase in short-term smoke impacts in our communities, we also recognize the need to fight out-of-control wildfires before they happen. There is no smoke-free option to living in Central Oregon.

We ask you carefully consider strategies to increase the use of prescribed fire while protecting air quality and the health of our communities in the long run.

Sincerely;

George Endicott  
Mayor  
Redmond, Oregon