



Advocate Newsletter

*Keep the spirit
of the SNRA alive.
Protect the herd.*



Sagebrush Soirée Silver Jubilee



What a wonderful Sagebrush Soirée Silver Jubilee! Thanks to you, the event was a financial success and a reunion of people who love the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Together we raised over \$260,000 to preserve and protect the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.



Ross Fork Fire Aftermath

The Ross Fork fire started August 12, 2022 and burned 38,648 acres including 48 miles of perennial streams. Burn severity was mostly low or moderate. Less than 2000 acres burned at a high intensity. Grasses are predicted to recover in 1 - 3 years, and conifers within 10 - 30 years. The October 3 Burned Area Emergency Response report (BAER) by the USFS SNRA indicates three “very high risk” threats from the fire.

First, human safety is at risk given post-fire watershed conditions which can trap storm runoff, create erosion, and activate floods in smaller tributaries. Second, native plant communities on hundreds of burned acres are at risk of noxious plant encroachment. Third, suitable habitat for threatened Canada Lynx is at risk post-fire due to not only loss of forage for snowshoe hare (their main prey) but also Lynx denning habitat. While there is not a current known population of Lynx on the SNRA, it is important to maintain suitable habitat. Given the threats outlined in the BAER report, several treatment objectives are recommended.

Treatment objectives include reducing threats to personal injury on roads, trails, and campgrounds; controlling invasive weeds; minimizing damage to roads and trails; inspecting roads for erosion immediately during heavy rain or spring melt; and posting hazard signs in the burned areas.



2022 Trail Maintenance Synopsis

Thank you Society Trail Crew!



Foothills School of Arts and Sciences students participated in the Austin Kraal Volunteer program in May. They helped carry and spread-out branches from hundreds of trimmed trees to increase visibility along Alturas Lake Road.

In the Media 2022



Sawtooth Society Executive Director, Kathryn Grohusky, joined KTVB's Melissa Paul live on Idaho Today July 14 to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Sawtooth Society and offer Idahoans the opportunity to work together to preserve and protect the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

[Watch Here](#)

As part of an SNRA 50th Anniversary series published by the Idaho Statesman, the work completed by Sawtooth Society Trail Crew and dedicated volunteers was highlighted. In the article, USFS officials express the value of partnering with volunteer trail programs such as the Society's.



"Sawtooth Society Trail Crew photographed by the Idaho Statesman. 8/20/22"

[Click here to read the web article!](#)



In July, Kathryn participated in a panel of Sawtooth NRA leaders convened by the Community Library in Ketchum. The panel, titled "50 Years of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area: Looking Back, Looking Ahead" discussed the history and future of the SNRA. The panel provide the opportunity to recognize the NRA's impact on our community as we step into the next 50 years. Panelists represented decades of Sawtooth NRA history and land management as well as current non-profit partner leadership.



[Watch Here](#)

SNRA Next 50 Years

Looking to the future, there is a great need for all of us...and everyone who loves the SNRA or who loves public land...to work together. We need to collaborate and support each other so the next 50 years of the SNRA is not threatened. We need to leverage support like we are protecting our family.

As Monica Church said during the Andrus Center Sawtooth NRA at 50 seminar, "I'm really hopeful these conversations will continue, and we will find ways to partner and collaborate that are good for the earth, the indigenous communities, and also the fish and wildlife."

Let us all take actions toward a future where salmon are abundant and people who love the SNRA collaborate to leverage future preservation and protection of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

You can make a difference in the SNRA's next 50 years by donating to the Sawtooth Society today!



[Check out the Andrus Center Discussion, here.](#)

Champion of The Sawtooth Award

Presented to Congressman Mike Simpson



Since his election to the Idaho state legislature in 1984 and subsequent election to Congress in 1998, Mike Simpson of Idaho has played an extraordinary role in shaping the future of the SNRA. Most significantly, Congressman Simpson brought together disparate constituencies to support the 2015 Sawtooth NRA & Jerry Peak Wilderness Addition Act. Now, he is proposing a comprehensive plan to restore Salmon to the Sawtooth Valley. He deserves our grateful recognition.



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