

October 29, 2018

Raymond Suazo Arizona State Director Bureau of Land Management 1 North Central Ave, Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Cal Joyner Regional Forester, Southwestern Region U.S. Forest Service 333 Broadway SE Albuquerque, NM 87102

## RE: Support for Proposed BLM and Forest Service Acquisition of Cross F Ranch, Graham County, Arizona

Dear Mr. Suazo and Mr. Joyner:

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate and inform sportsmen, wildlife conservation organizations through the state, and the public at large on important issues related to wildlife and wildlife habitat, and to provide via grants or other sources, funding to conserve Arizona's wildlife populations through habitat enhancement initiatives.

AZSFWC is comprised of 42 Member, Affiliate and Associate organizations that reach across the spectrum of wildlife conservation, hunting, angling, shooting, outdoor recreation groups and business from all across Arizona. Our member organizations represent more than 10,000 sportsmen and women across Arizona.

Among many other initiatives, AZSFWC has been an advocate for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) since protection of public lands, particularly for wildlife habitat and recreational access to those lands, is an important issue for many of our members and constituents.

AZSFWC and 26 of our member organizations strongly support the efforts of BLM and the Coronado National Forest to purchase the Cross F Ranch in Graham County with funds through the LWCF. We believe this is critical not only for the habitat, but also for the additional access points to Aravaipa Canyon area and the

AZSFWC letter supporting Cross F acquisition with LWCF funding - 10-29-2018

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation PO Box 75731 New River, AZ 85087 Santa Teresa Mountains, which is very important to sportsmen and women in Arizona.

A list of our Member groups supporting the effort is attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Yours in Conservation,

Jim Unmacht Executive Director

Cc: Scott Feldhausen, BLM Gila District Manager Scott Cook, BLM Safford Field Office Manager Kerwin Dewberry, Coronado National Forest Supervisor Ty Gray, Director, Arizona Game and Fish

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## AZSFWC Member Organizations Supporting the Cross F Ranch Acquisition with LWCF Funding

Anglers United **AZ Antelope Foundation AZ Backcountry Hunters & Anglers AZ Bass Federation Nation** AZ Big Game Super Raffle **AZ Bowhunters Association** AZ Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation AZ Council of Trout Unlimited AZ Deer Association AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society **AZ Flycasters Club** AZ Houndsmen **AZ Outdoor Sports** AZ Shooting Sports Education Foundation AZ Taxidermy Association Christian Hunters of America Coconino Sportsmen Mohave Sportsman Club **Outdoor Experience 4 All** South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club SRT Outdoors The BASS Federation Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Valley of the Sun Quail Forever **Xtreme Predator Callers** 1.2.3.Go...

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