

# **Exhibit F**

**Public Correspondence Received as of  
July 21, 2021**



July 10, 2021

Testimony to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife concerning the purchase of the Minam property acquisition.

Director Melcher and Commissioners, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

My name is Kevin Martin, and I live in Pendleton, Oregon. I am the President of the Oregon Chapter Foundation for North American Wild Sheep and I am writing today on OR FNAWS membership's behalf.

Established in November 1998, the purpose of the OR FNAWS is to promote and enhance populations of indigenous wild sheep and Rocky Mountain goat and their habitat in Oregon and across North America. OR FNAWS supports scientific solutions to resource management challenges, and we heavily invest the funds we raise in disease research, bighorn sheep transplants, habitat management, population management, predator management, and conservation education. We are a proud partner of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

We know the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and ODFW have been working on an exciting land acquisition opportunity in Northeast Oregon. The project will acquire 15,573 acres of critical fish and wildlife habitat and establish the Minam River Wildlife Area to be managed by ODFW. We urge the Commission to support this acquisition.

OR FNAWS strongly supports the purchase of these 15,573 acres. The Minam River State Wildlife Area Acquisition will link wildlife habitat from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (WWNF) to the Minam State Recreation Area. This acquisition will assure permanent protection of crucial habitat along a migration corridor for bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, and other wildlife and will conserve approximately 160 miles of streams, including a significant stretch of the Minam River.

Acquisition of this property will secure public recreational access, improve access to adjacent WWNF and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Multiple recreational interests will have access to a remote, rugged, amazing landscape.

I want to thank ODFW for their work on this important acquisition. We look forward to the Minam Wildlife Area providing habitat for fish and wildlife, and recreation opportunities for the citizens of Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for the Minam River Acquisition.

Respectfully,



Kevin Martin, President, OR FNAWS

**President**

**Kevin Martin**

[Kevinmartin63@gmail.com](mailto:Kevinmartin63@gmail.com)

541-969-6744

**Past President**

**Walter Chuck**

[The4chucks@aol.com](mailto:The4chucks@aol.com)

541-574-9078

**1st Vice President**

**Tom Peterson**

[Tompeterson@oregonfnaws.org](mailto:Tompeterson@oregonfnaws.org)

**2nd Vice President**

**Dave Geelan**

[David.j.geelan@boeing.com](mailto:David.j.geelan@boeing.com)

503-949-1211

**Secretary**

**Robert Welsh**

[Secretary@Oregonfnaws.org](mailto:Secretary@Oregonfnaws.org)

541-963-6317

**Treasurer**

**Zack Peterson**

[Zmpeterson86@gmail.com](mailto:Zmpeterson86@gmail.com)

503-706-2674

**Board Members**

**Ray Wurdinger**

**Vic Coggins**

**Walt Van Dyke**

**Shane Byerly**

**Brent Tannock**

**Craig Foster**

**Scott Peckham**

**Don South**

**Nick Berg**

**Brian Hoge**

**Jeremy Thompson**

**Marcus Gores**

**Alan Day**

**Larry Jacobs**

**David O'Connor**

**Website**

[www.oregonfnaws.org](http://www.oregonfnaws.org)

[www.facebook.com/orfnaws](https://www.facebook.com/orfnaws)

"Putting Wild Sheep  
on the Mountain"  
2020