



## Northwest California's **MOUNTAINS & RIVERS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Quotes: Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act**

#### **TRINITY COUNTY**

**Leslie Ajari**, Fishing guide (seasonal lodging in Weaverville)

“The Trinity River is one of those special steelhead fisheries where you can have multiple fish days. It’s kind of unique in that way. Rivers like this can provide a really good quality of life. We have to think in bigger terms about how to keep watersheds like the Trinity productive as habitat and as places where fishing helps support local economies. I’m very pleased Rep. Huffman’s bill will do this for the Trinity and other important streams in one of the last great steelhead strongholds in North America.”

**Kenneth Baldwin**, Registered Professional Forester

“The integration of restoration and fire management in this legislation is critical to the health and safety of our forests in Trinity County. By encouraging management prescriptions such as roadside shaded fuel breaks in his legislation, Congressman Huffman is helping our communities and firefighter safety.”

**Herb and Patty Burton**, Trinity Fish Shop owner and guide

“This comprehensive bill ensures more opportunities for people to enjoy the many outdoor activities available in the region. Fishing our beautiful lakes and rivers is a way of life for us, the backbone of our 36 yr. family business, and, undoubtedly, there is no better way for people to unwind from the daily rigors and become well acquainted with the beauty and wonders of the outdoors.”

**Michael Caranci**, Outfitters Manager, The Fly Shop (Redding)

President, Shasta Trinity Cascades Chapter, Trout Unlimited

“Congressman Huffman, being an experienced angler himself, knows better than most the importance of good water quality and healthy forests for our salmon and steelhead fisheries. That understanding is baked into this legislation, which strikes a good balance between resource protection, wildfire prevention, and improving recreational opportunities. We can’t be passive about protecting our real wealth here – our scenic wild country and legendary fishing waters.

Hats off to Rep. Huffman for doing it right and working with local stakeholders to ensure these amazing places are protected for generations to come.”

**Kent Collard**, Director, Bar 717 Ranch

“In this modern age of smartphones and social media, young people need experiences in our natural world. These opportunities are a rare and irreplaceable part of their lives. The Pattison roadless area, Hayfork Creek and the surrounding wilderness are not only the backdrop for these experiences at our Camp Trinity, they are the palate with which our campers paint the canvas of their self-image and confidence for their future lives. Our alumni are spread across the country and around the world. They carry the legacy of these wild and special places close to their hearts.”

**Greg Kennedy**, owner/guide, Fish Kennedy Brothers Guide Service (Redding)

“My clients hail from all over the world and are drawn to this area for our dramatic scenery, emerald-green rivers, and especially for our fly fishing. I depend on local rivers like the Trinity, Mattole and Eel to connect my clients with steelhead and salmon, and the economies of communities like mine have long depended on fishing. Rep. Huffman’s bill will help keep our streams running clean and cold, and good for fish and fishing.”

**Susan Molyneux**, President, Trinity Trails Alliance

“I am thrilled that Congressman Huffman's legislation includes a Feasibility Study for a Trail around Trinity Lake. This project has the potential to increase recreation tourism in our county for all trail users and directly benefit the local economy.”

## **HUMBOLDT COUNTY**

**Gregg Foster**, Executive Director, Redwood Regional Economic Development Commission (RREDC)

“At RREDC, we recognize that well-managed public lands are critical to our regional economy. We appreciate Congressman Huffman's broad approach to environmental protection, restoration of our watersheds, and economic development. Our public lands have many different needs and require a multi-faceted approach to protect our environment and grow our economy.”

**Julie Fulkerson**, Fulkerson and Associates

“Our community has many unique and entrepreneurial businesses largely because people find creative ways to be able to live in this spectacular area. We directly benefit from living in a place that is still wild.”

**Mourad Gabriel, Ph.d**, Executive Director, Integral Ecology Research Center

“Cultivation of marijuana on our public lands has an egregious impact on our federal natural resources. Therefore focused attention with invested stakeholders put forward in this bill is a primary step to resolving this tragedy of our commons.”

**Aaron Ostrom**, Co-owner, Pacific Outfitters

“As a local business owner, I am glad to see the introduction of the Northern California Wilderness, Recreation and Working Forests Act. My dad started our business in 1968 and my brother and I have continued the family tradition of helping people get the gear they need to explore, camp, fish, and hunt across our beautiful region. These beautiful places support all of our local businesses, since people come to the area to explore and shop while they are here.”

**Ryan Sundberg**, Humboldt County Supervisor

“Protecting our public lands is essential because these natural landscapes are investments in the well-being of our communities. Northwest California’s public lands are critical to our community’s quality of life and to our local economy. This legislation will help ensure that this legacy is protected for future generations.”

## **MENDOCINO COUNTY**

**Randal MacDonald**, Volunteer Firefighter

“As a volunteer firefighter, I’m grateful that Congressman Huffman’s public lands bill will help reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires by improving fire management on federal protected lands.”

**Kendall Smith**, former Mendocino County Supervisor

“People come to our region for its recreational opportunities as well as its stunning landscapes. I applaud Congressman Huffman’s comprehensive vision for practical solutions that protect our natural resources and enhance our regional recreation economy.”

## **DEL NORTE COUNTY**

**Robert Weir**

“The time I have spent in the headwaters and river canyons of the Smith River has shaped my view that the Siskiyou Wilderness is essential to safeguarding our river. Additional conservation of eligible land right next to the wilderness is one part of Congressman Huffman’s public land bill – I support all the parts including the proposed trail improvements, visitor facilities and the strategic addition of select land in the Smith headwaters to the Siskiyou Wilderness.”

## **OTHER**

**Christine Young**, Demand Planner, CamelBak Products

“The Trinity Alps Wilderness is of particular importance to me because my close college friend owns a cabin on the Mad River. Every year, for 12 years, our close group of college friends gathers to swim, fish and generally catch up on each other’s lives while enjoying the gorgeous and peaceful wilderness around us. It’s such a special region, removed from most of society and completely silent. The wildlife we see is so diverse – we’ve set up a “cabin cam” that captures all

of the bear, deer and even otter that stroll past the cabin. This area will always have a special place in my heart and I look forward to many more peaceful summers there with my friends enjoying the beautiful scenery.”