



USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region **SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST**



Sawtooth Forest Supervisor



Jake Strohmeyer is the Forest Supervisor on the Sawtooth National Forest. Strohmeyer started his career with the Forest Service in 1994 as a firefighter on the Boise National Forest, and he has held a variety of positions on several national forests in Idaho. Before coming to the Sawtooth in September 2022, Jake served as the District Ranger for the Cascade Ranger District of the Boise National Forest, a position he held since 2016.

ABOUT THE FOREST

Encompassing 1.8 million acres of south-central Idaho, the Sawtooth National Forest is known for its primitive and semi-primitive settings, resort-based recreation, eco-tourism, and motorized and nonmotorized winter activities.

Several major rivers — including the Salmon, South Fork of the Boise, South Fork of the Payette, and Wood rivers — wind through the Forest, and 1,100 lakes dot its landscape. Designated areas that highlight the Forest's unique resources include the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Sawtooth Wilderness, Hemingway-Boulders Wilderness, Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness, Sawtooth Scenic Byway, Salmon River Scenic Byway, and Idaho Centennial Trail. Trails, campgrounds, wilderness areas, rivers, and scenic drives give visitors plenty of opportunities to connect with this special land.

The Sawtooth National Forest is home for deer, elk, mountain goats, and bighorn sheep. Gray wolves, wolverines, black bears, salmon, and many species of birds also thrive here. One species of bird, the Cassia Crossbill, can only be found on the Minidoka Ranger District in the South Hills and Albion Mountains.

The Sawtooth National Forest has very active rangeland and vegetation management programs. Rangeland managers on the Sawtooth administer more than 100 livestock allotments. Sawtooth employees also work hard to maintain healthy forest stands, support local economies with forest products, and reduce the risk of wildland fire by reducing dense, overgrown pockets of fuel.



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ABOUT THE FOREST (Continued)

The Forest landscape has two distinct geographic units separated by the Snake River Plain. The southern reaches of the Forest host sagebrush and juniper that blend into aspen, lodgepole pine, and fir at the higher elevations. Two-thirds of the Forest lies north of the Snake River, where towering granite mountains are sliced by rushing river.



The Sawtooth National Forest executed 94 percent of its budget in fiscal year 2022 and increased funds leveraged through grants and agreements by 30 percent.



In 2022, the Sawtooth Avalanche Center received a Regional Forester Safety Award for improving the consistency and availability of national avalanche forecasting.



In 2022, the Forest and its partners provided 700 cords worth of firewood to the National Forest Foundation's Wood for Life Program, which donates underused timber products to heat homes in tribal communities.



Sawtooth National Forest Range employees work with permittees to administer 113 allotments on National Forest System land:

- 26 on Fairfield RD
- 15 on Ketchum RD
- 56 on Minidoka RD, and
- 16 on the SNRA.



The Sawtooth National Forest completed fuels reduction work on 11,171 acres in 2022.



In 2022, 273 volunteers completed 16,403 hours of work valued at \$446,162.



The Sawtooth National Forest administers three wilderness areas totalling 492,753 acres.



The Sawtooth National Forest features five winter sports resort operations.