

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 18, 2022

Randy Moore  
Chief, Forest Service  
U.S Department of Agriculture  
201 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20227

Tracy Stone-Manning  
Director, Bureau of Land Management  
U.S. Department of Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20227

Dear Chief Moore and Director Stone-Manning:

As you work to implement the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, we are writing to urge you to prioritize funding for the mitigation and treatment of Sudden Oak Death.

The IJA provides your agencies with \$200 million for the detection, prevention, and eradication of invasive species, like Sudden Oak Death. Sudden Oak Death poses a significant threat to a multitude of ecosystems and plant species and has already killed millions of tanoaks and coastal live oaks in southern Oregon and northern California.

The disease has been in Curry County since 2001, but a new site was recently identified outside of the quarantine area. The State of Oregon has increased its investment in SOD treatments, but more funding is needed to treat the area currently infected. Without treatment, SOD would have serious economic impacts, including job losses, declines timber harvest, and other significant economic and cultural impacts.

We urge you to allocate funding provided in the IJA to address the growing problem of Sudden Oak Death in Sothern Oregon.

Sincerely,



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Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator