

PRACTICING RESPONSIBLE FORESTRY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) was founded in 1908 as a firefighting organization. Today, WFPA promotes responsible forest management as a preferred land use. Private forest landowners must manage the complex interaction of forest productivity, replanting, biodiversity, and fish and wildlife habitat along with the social and cultural values that are important to everyone. For more information on how WFPA promotes balanced forest policies that set a high environmental standard while encouraging sound forest management practices, visit www.wfpa.org.



Washington Forest Protection Association
We're managing private forests so they work for all of us.®

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WHEN WE PROTECT THE WATER,
WE PROTECT SO MUCH MORE.



COOL, CLEAN WATER

The Forests & Fish Law made a sweeping set of improvements to forest practices to protect salmon habitat and water quality on private forestlands in Washington State. The major changes are:

- **Buffer zones**—Widening tree buffers along streams helps keep water temperatures cool, protecting salmon habitat and water quality.
- **Steep slopes**—Harvesting on steep and potentially unstable slopes is restricted or not allowed in order to minimize erosion.
- **Road improvements**—Improving construction and maintenance standards on forest roads protects water quality.
- **Culverts**—Upgrading culvert size and placement improves fish passage.



The law protects 60,000 miles of streams on 8 million acres of private forestland and is based on the best available science for protecting aquatic habitat. The law mandates that water quality be monitored. If peer-reviewed science finds that additional protections are needed, the law can be modified through a process called adaptive management.



LANDMARK ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

This landmark legislation meets the requirements of both the federal Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act. It earned further federal endorsement through inclusion of a 50-year Habitat Conservation Plan. State and federal regulators enforce the law to ensure compliance and monitor the effects on fish and water quality.

State and federal regulators, biologists, private forest landowners and Native American tribes collaborated to develop the law. The Washington Legislature passed the law in 1999 with bipartisan support. This action revised virtually all sections of the state's forest practices regulations.

Washington State has among the strictest regulations for private forestland management in the country.



A goal of the Forests & Fish Law is to protect fish habitat by requiring buffers along streams. Two approaches are depicted here.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

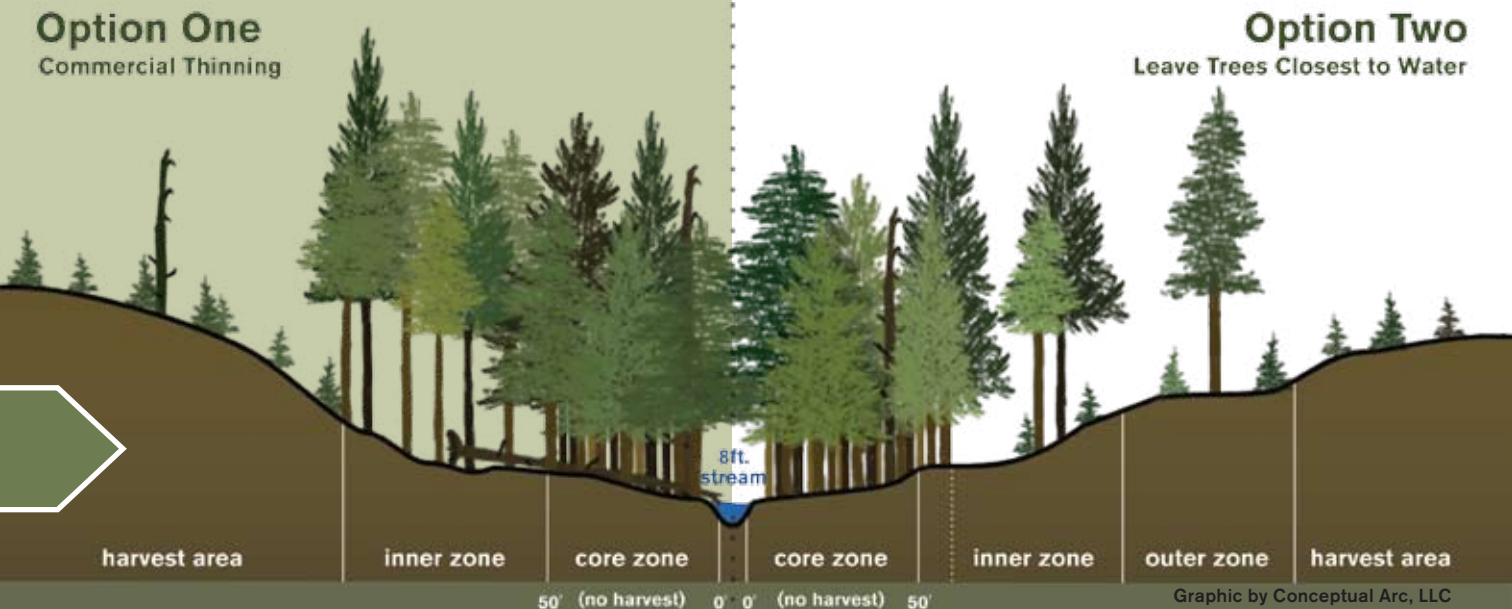
Cooler, cleaner water. Shaded streams with reduced siltation. Larger streamside buffers—with more trees left next to streams. Protected wetlands. These are a few of the benefits resulting from the Forests & Fish Law, making a difference every day for fish and wildlife.

Landowners are actively working to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat by improving forest roads. Progress includes:

- 1,819 fish passage blockages removed
- Nearly 1,000 miles of stream habitat opened
- 9,950 road maintenance plans completed
- 59,220 miles of roads analyzed and improved

To meet conditions set forth in the law, landowners must further improve forest roads by 2016. Plans are in place to do just that.

Option One Commercial Thinning



A LIVING LEGACY

Since 1908, the Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) has been working to promote sustainable forestry. Today its members proudly implement the Forests & Fish Law to ensure cool, clean water.

WFPA is made up of large and small timber companies, families and individuals that own more than 4 million acres of private forestland in Washington. The association is committed to advancing sustainable forestry in the state.

WFPA members provide forest products and environmental benefits for the public by working for balanced forest policies. These policies encourage investment in forestland and protection of fish, water and wildlife, and promote responsible forest management as a preferred land use.

Learn more about the Forests & Fish Law or WFPA by visiting www.forestsandfish.com.