



The gray and red trees are ones that have died due to disease, insects, and/or fire.



Forest Health

An open dialog with Washington's private forest landowners

Active management:

- Protects forests from catastrophic wildfire
- Helps to eliminate harmful insects
- Reduces disease
- Provides habitat for wildlife
- Improves water quality

Insects, disease and excessive animal damage can be a threat to forest health. Foliage and root diseases can spread among the forest killing trees. Insects, such as bark beetles, attack trees already under stress from some other factor. One way to improve forest health and reduce the risk of wildfire is through active management. One method of active management is thinning. This is the process of tree removal in a stand to reduce tree density and competition. This encourages increased growth of fewer, healthier trees. When thinning is conducted every few years, it helps remove the weaker trees, allowing more room and light for stronger trees to continue growing.

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