

We Can Reduce the Severity of Wildfires in Our Forests

Forest management provides the tools to keep our forests healthy and resilient

"Without active management to reduce risks, we never really put fire out, we just delay it. We can keep kicking the can down the road, but sooner or later a stand-replacing fire will come that we can't put out. Then the fires are enormous." -John Baily, Oregon State University ([source](#))

- **Forest management offers the tools to reduce the risks of unnaturally severe wildfires.** Overstocked forests with heavy fuel loads are more vulnerable to severe wildfires that produce heavy smoke and threaten people, wildlife, watersheds and other values. By utilizing science-based forest management tools, we can reduce excess vegetation, lower tree mortality, and provide firefighters better and safer opportunities to contain wildfires and protect our communities.

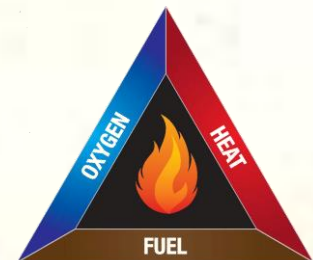


- **Resilient forests and safe communities are bipartisan priorities.** It is possible to improve forest health and reduce severe fire risks while supporting jobs in rural Washington. For example, the Washington DNR's [20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan](#) shows how these objectives can be met.
- **Wildfire knows no boundaries.** Wildfires impact both public lands and Washington's working forests. Together, we can work across boundaries and [take actions](#) to mitigate risks to our lands and natural resources. Washington's forest sector are active partners with our public agencies, and we offer land management expertise and technology to help keep all lands healthy and safe.
- **Active forest management is a climate solution.** Forest management tools help reduce carbon emissions from severe wildfires. These tools are also used to help our forests adapt to climate change and its impacts and help maximize the ability of our forests to sequester carbon. Forest management also provides renewable and sustainable wood products that store carbon for life and require far fewer fossil fuels to manufacture.

Forests dominate the landscape in the Pacific Northwest

Forested landscapes across the Pacific Northwest include parks and recreation areas; rainforests and wilderness; as well as the private and public actively-managed working forests that produce the majority of the lumber for our residential housing market across the United States.

Three elements a fire needs to ignite



A fire can be prevented or extinguished by removing any one of the elements.



AFRC represents manufacturers of lumber, plywood & producers of logs, pilings, poles, pulpwood, chips & other forest products in 5 western states.

www.amforest.org

WFPA represents 4 million acres of private forest landowners responsible for nearly 70% of WA's timber harvest.

www.wfpa.org