



POLLING



# FORESTS VALUES

Clean Water, Clean Air, Fish & Wildlife Habitat, Renewable Wood for Housing & Jobs



**86% OF VOTERS  
SUPPORT MANAGED  
FORESTS**

Seattle DMA voters, August 2024



## SUSTAINABLE HARVESTING

Managing forests refers to practices used by the forest products industry of sustainably harvesting forest lands for wood products and to keep forests healthy, including replanting 3 trees for everyone harvested to start the new forest growing again.

## FORESTS & FISH LAW

Private forest landowners protect fish and water quality by setting aside 764,000 acres of forest buffers along fish and non-fish streams. Water quality in forested streams ensures salmon-safe temperatures and all fish passage barriers have been removed, restoring habitat.



**64% BELIEVE PRIVATE  
FOREST LANDOWNERS  
PROTECT WATER  
QUALITY ON THEIR LAND**

**71% OF VOTERS BELIEVE WA STATE  
TRUSTLANDS SHOULD BE ACTIVELY  
MANAGED FOR BENEFICIARIES**

At Statehood, Congress granted Washington millions of acres of forestland to be managed as state trust lands, with revenues from these lands—such as timber harvests—used to support public schools, fire districts, hospitals, county roads, among other local beneficiaries.



# ECOLOGY'S NON-FISH BUFFER RULES

**63% of voters oppose Ecology's non-fish stream rules.**

Scientists, environmentalists, and Washington's legislature recognize that growing trees in our managed forests provides a natural solution to climate change by helping to store carbon from the atmosphere. The forest products industry plants 52 million carbon-absorbing trees each year in Washington State. The new restrictions on forest management activities will result in fewer carbon-storing trees, less wood production, and more carbon in the atmosphere.

## WILDFIRE IS TOP CONCERN IN WA'S FORESTS

**Wildfire is the number one forest-related concern among all voters.**

**Democratic women 66%,  
Democrats age 18-54  
57%. King County and  
Yakima 51%**

## THE RISK OF WILDFIRE IS THE NUMBER ONE CONCERN OF VOTERS.

Managed working forests reduce wildfire risk by ensuring stands are not overcrowded. Overstocked stands cause trees to become weakened, creating conditions where many trees are dying and rotting, being attacked by insects, and can burn in wildfires. Managed forests absorb more carbon than unmanaged forests. They provide a greater climate benefit by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere nearly 2x as fast per acre as unmanaged forests.



**Washington Forest Protection Association**

A professional forestry association since 1908.

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Learn more at: [www.waforestcarbon.com](http://www.waforestcarbon.com)