

# What is the Forest Action Plan?

## Setting the course for healthy forests in the Evergreen State

Washington's Forest Action Plan is a comprehensive review of forests across all lands — public, private, rural and urban — that offers proactive solutions to conserve, protect and enhance the trees and forests that people and wildlife depend on.

Using the best available science, Forest Action Plans have three primary steps:

1. Identify and evaluate forest threats.
2. Create strategies to address threats.
3. Build partnerships and plans to help carry out those strategies to conserve and protect our forests.

### WHEN IS THIS HAPPENING?

In 2008, Congress tasked each state with developing a Forest Action Plan. The first Washington State Forest Action Plan was published in 2010 and a revision was released in 2017. The updated Forest Action Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service for review in June 2020.

### WHY IT MATTERS

More than 22 million acres of Washington — half of the state — is forested, affecting clean air and water and our quality of life.

The Forest Action Plan lets the state receive funding from the USDA Forest Service's state and private forestry programs. During the 2018 fiscal year, these programs provided more than \$12.8 million to conserve and protect our state's forests.

In Washington, more than 215,000 small forestland owners collectively manage 6.5 million acres of land. There are 12 million acres of private land under state fire protection, and Washington has 558 rural fire departments. These partners, among others, benefit directly from the Forest Action Plan.

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



What should our priorities be for the Forest Action Plan? Take our survey: [bit.ly/ForestPlanSurvey](https://bit.ly/ForestPlanSurvey)



Snoqualmie Pass area

### WHAT CHALLENGES DO OUR FORESTS FACE?

- Conversion through development or other uses
- Effects of climate change
- Catastrophic wildfire
- Insects and disease
- Invasive species

### THE FOREST ACTION PLAN WILL HELP US:

- Restore and maintain resilient landscapes
- Protect and enhance the value of natural resources and their benefits
- Encourage community wildfire preparedness and resilience
- Manage trees and forest in rural and urban settings
- Conserve working forests
- Sustain a viable, diverse forest products industry
- Incorporate and expand upon the state's 20-Year forest health and 10-year wildfire strategies

### MORE INFORMATION

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North Cascade Mountains in Washington