



Blue Mountain Native Tree List

- Douglas fir



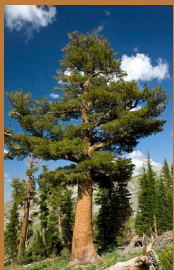
- Ponderosa pine



- Western larch



- Western white pine



Wildlife-Friendly Fuels Reduction in Dry Forests of the Pacific Northwest

Due to increased risk of high intensity fire or insect and disease outbreaks, many landowners and land managers are conducting fuels reduction treatments across their lands.

These projects include thinning (pre-commercial and commercial) trees, mowing or masticating shrubs, pruning trees to remove ladder fuels, removing standing and down dead wood, and sometimes, slash pile burning and prescribed burning.

The good news is that we don't have to choose one or the other. We don't have to sacrifice all wildlife habitat for the sake of fuels reduction, or vice versa.

The objectives of reducing the risk of stand replacing, or highly destructive fire, while maintaining and enhancing wildlife habitat values are compatible with the implementation of a few simple techniques as a part of Fuels Reduction prescriptions.



Widespread fuels reduction efforts that all do the same thing everywhere can reduce wildlife habitat diversity and complexity. An evenly spaced stand, with much of the understory shrubs and small diameter trees removed, results in reduced cover and available forage. Habitat complexity elements in the mid to understory are critical for many forest wildlife species. For example, small clumps of trees provide a place for deer and elk to hide from predators and provide shelter from inclement weather. Shrub clumps provide nesting and hiding cover for ground nesting birds and many small mammals that rely on that shrub layer. Deer and elk forage routinely on these same shrubs and hide their fawns in dense shrub thickets. Remember, you don't need to eradicate all fuels on your property to reduce your risk of high intensity fire; you do need to break up the continuity of fuels to create a suitable fuel break. These fuel breaks will reduce the chance of a fire spreading throughout your property. You can create a diverse landscape that is more resistant to high intensity fire, looks more natural, mimics historic fire patterns, increases individual tree vigor and forest health, and provides high quality wildlife habitat.



https://woodlandfishandwildlife.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Wildlife-Friendly-Fuels-Reduction-in-Dry-Forests-of-the-Pacific-Northwest_reduced.pdf

Tree List Cont.

- Lodgepole pine



- Engelmann spruce



- Quaking aspen



- Subalpine fir



- Grand fir



How thinning affects tree growth

Effects on tree growth and environment

Removing some of the trees that compete for limited water and soil nutrients makes more water and nutrients available for the remaining trees. Thinning also opens the stand's crown canopy, providing more light to the remaining trees.

The increased water, nutrients, and light that result from thinning increases photosynthesis in the remaining trees. More food is produced, making more carbohydrates available for growth. The increased volume growth of individual trees normally occurs as diameter rather than height growth. With a wide range of tree density per acre, height growth is relatively constant for a given species and site. The primary effect of thinning, therefore, is to increase diameter growth of the remaining trees. Effective thinning will stimulate this growth within a few years.



How thinning affects stand growth

Thinning applies to stands of trees rather than to individual trees. The fact that thinning ordinarily increases the growth of individual remaining trees does not necessarily mean that total stand growth is increased. Productivity is split between fewer trees in a thinned stand, and overthinning can cause stress that reduces overall growth. The effects of thinning on stand growth are best predicted when by accounting for species composition, age and site characteristics.

When to thin

To get the biggest increase in usable fiber, begin thinning early, usually when trees are 10 to 20 years old. Actually, the density of the stand and size of trees—rather than stand age—dictate when thinning is effective. Thinning before competition begins accomplishes little but thinning when the crowns of adjacent trees begin to touch will reduce competition. In stands with 4 to 12-inch diameters (diameter at breast height, or dbh), thin before the crown ratios drop below 40 per-cent. If crowns have receded beyond this point, thin lightly to prevent thinning shock. Thin early (which is likely to be precommercial thinning) to shorten the time until you can harvest merchantable logs and to keep stands vigorous and healthy. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw184>

Forestland Stewardship Program

- Program is open to all Asotin County landowners with forested parcels.
- Forestland Agricultural Stewardship Plan (*Provided at no-cost to landowners by ACCD technical staff*): Includes comprehensive statement of landowner goals and timber management objectives, parcel maps, stand descriptions, vegetation inventory data, identification of resource concerns, and recommended conservation/maintenance/treatment activities to improve forest health.



Interested in participating?

Contact Lacy Ausman-Ditto to schedule your Forestland Stewardship assessment:

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