

## Management Guide for Abiotic Diseases

Abiotic tree diseases are caused by non-living agents that do not multiply and spread from tree to tree.

**Host:**  
**All species**

### Topics

Abiotic damages 1

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### Damage

Whereas most insects and biotic diseases affect a particular tree species, or group of tree species, abiotic diseases will often affect various tree, shrub, and herbaceous species sharing the same or adjacent space.

However, different species and trees of different ages and vigor often vary in their susceptibility to damage.

### Identification

Identification of abiotic diseases often requires learning the history of the site, comparing injury between trees and other plants of the same and different species, looking for patterns across a site, and ruling out damage from other agents such as insects and diseases. Factors causing these diseases may operate for only a brief period (frost), for most of the growing season (prolonged summer drought), or accumulate over a series of years (air pollution).

#### Forest Health Protection and State Forestry Organizations

Assistance on State  
And Private Lands

Montana: (406) 542-4300

Idaho: (208) 769-1525

Utah: (801) 538-5211

Nevada: (775) 684-2513

Wyoming: (307) 777-5659

N.Dakota: (701) 228-5422

Assistance on  
Federal Lands

Region One  
Missoula: (406) 329-3605  
Coeur d'Alene (208) 765-7342

Region Four  
Ogden (801) 476-9720  
Boise (208) 373-4227

