

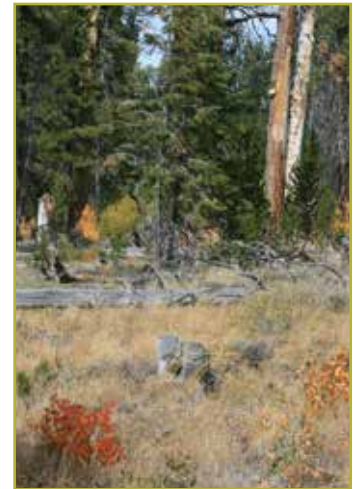


Northwest Forest Plan Amendment - Adapting to Changing Conditions

Ecosystem Resilience and Adaptation Goals

Adapting to Changing Conditions

- Includes strategies to address vulnerabilities in ecosystems and infrastructure, such as:
 - Increasing resilience of recreation sites and transportation networks to environmental stressors.
 - Strengthening connectivity between habitats to support species migration.
 - Restoring watersheds and improving beaver management to enhance hydrological stability.
- Encourages use of vulnerability assessments and related resources to inform adaptive management.



Ecosystem Integrity and Disturbance Management

- Recognizes the cascading effects of environmental changes, including increased wildfire risk and altered hydrological systems.
- Differentiates management goals for dry forests (fire-resilience, carbon stabilization, and ecosystem integrity) and moist forests (carbon storage and habitat integrity).

Carbon Stewardship

- Aligns forest carbon management with ecosystem health:
 - Moist forests: Prioritize long-term carbon storage.
 - Dry forests: Focus on stabilizing carbon stocks and reducing vulnerability to disturbances.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Recognizes that evolving environmental factors, such as increased disturbances and shifting weather patterns, are central to forest stewardship.
- Incorporates adaptation strategies into project planning to enhance forest and ecosystem resilience.
- Promotes different management approaches for moist and dry forests, stabilizing and optimizing carbon stocks.

Spotlight on Alternatives

Alternative B (Proposed Action):

- Encourages thriving native plant and animal communities supported by healthy ecosystem functions.
- Promotes collaboration with State and local governments, Tribes, and communities to enhance adaptation and resilience projects.

Alternative C:

- Limits the use of thinning as a restoration tool, relying instead on natural processes and reducing ground-disturbing activities.
- Focus on maximizing carbon stocks, though with risk of loss due to greater wildfire vulnerability.

Alternative D:

- Expands upon Alternative B, with higher acreage goals for reforestation and additional adaptation strategies.
- Encourages greater use of wildland fire to restore ecosystems and build resilience

How Does This Amendment Address Changing Conditions?

- **Forward-Looking Management:** Prioritizes adaptation to current and anticipated environmental stressors.
- **Collaboration and Inclusion:** Builds partnerships to align ecological goals with community and tribal priorities.
- **Strategic Carbon Goals:** Balances carbon storage and stabilization needs across diverse forest landscapes.

Learn More About Adapting to Changing Conditions in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

For more detailed insights, explore the following Draft Environmental Impact Statement sections:

1. **Volume 1: Chapter 3 – Resilience and Changing Conditions**
 - Discusses the effects of environmental stressors and management strategies.
2. **Volume 2: Appendix A1 – Ecosystem and Infrastructure Resilience**
 - Details adaptation goals for ecosystems, infrastructure, and forest carbon.
3. **Volume 2: Appendix E – Environmental Justice**
 - Examines the intersection of resilience planning with underserved communities.
4. **Volume 2: Appendix C – Climate and Carbon Management**
 - Provides guidelines for managing carbon stocks and stabilizing forest ecosystems.

How to Get Involved

Your feedback is vital in shaping forest resilience strategies under the Northwest Forest Plan. Submit your comments by visiting: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r6/nwfp.

For more information about the Northwest Forest Plan & Amendment, including how to comment, scan the QR code or visit: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r6/nwfp

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