WHY ARE MEGAFIRES SO COMMON?

More than a century of management practices focused on fire suppression have created millions of forested acres with TOO MANY TREES.

Past forests had larger, older trees and many frequent, small fires. This made forests fire-resilient.

Fire suppression has since created forests that are dense thickets of shade-loving, fire-intolerant trees.

These conditions can lead to MEGAFIRES, wildfires that burn over 100,000 acres.

HOW CAN WE REVERSE THIS?

1. MANAGED WILDFIRES
   Directing naturally-occurring wildfires to thin and reduce fuels.

2. PRESCRIBED BURNS
   Intentional burning to remove extra fuels and leave large trees unharmed.

3. MECHANICAL THINNING
   Removing small trees via harvesting and prescribed fire to create more space between large trees.