

Monongahela National Forest (N.F.), Forest Plan Revision: Environmental Impact Statement

The Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) ended clearcutting of old-growth forest on federal land across western Washington, Oregon, and California in the early 1990s. We provide a test of how this dramatic change affected bird populations—a commonly used biodiversity indicator. Although the NWFP greatly reduced losses of older forests to logging, losses to wildfire have increased, and declines in birds associated with older forests have amplified. Forest management is the process of planning and implementing practices for the stewardship and use of forests and other wooded land targeted at specific environmental, economic, social and cultural objectives. Forest management planning is a fundamental component of SFM, and it may be required at various scales, from local to national; this module focuses on the local (or forest management unit) scale. The role of forest management planning is to determine and express the objectives of forest management in a specified area of forest and to set out the steps to be taken to achieve those objectives. As a forest burns, large amounts of smoke are released into the atmosphere. These smoke particles are typically small and made up of gases and water vapor. Air pollution from fires has the potential to travel great distances and oftentimes may pose a threat to human health. Unlike many natural disasters, most wildfires can be prevented. The environmental and economical costs of wildfires have an impact that lasts for many years. Through using caution, taking preventative measures, and monitoring fires responsibly, we can lower the threats associated with these devastating tragedies. [Learn More About Wildfires.](#)