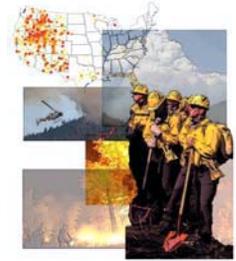


National Fire Plan

Reduction of Hazardous Fuels and Economic Opportunities



Oregon and Washington - On the Starkey Experimental Forest in the Wallowa Whitman National Forest in Washington State, researchers have initiated a study to use small diameter trees more efficiently. Funded by the National Fire Plan, this research benefits the forest by reducing risk of wildland fire and also stimulates the local economy. Currently, there is an overabundance of small diameter trees and dense thickets of vegetation, which create staggered levels of flammable material called fuel ladders.

These conditions can lead to severe wildland fires. By removing the small diameter trees and thickets, the risk of fire is reduced and overall forest health improves. The small diameter trees are chipped and used to fuel electrical generation. Sawmills can use the small diameter trees.

Not only is this a National Fire Plan funded project, it's also part of the restoration efforts on the Blue Mountain Demo area, one of 12 in the nation.



Forest Research Station



Wallowa Whitman National Forest



Wallowa Whitman National Forest

For additional information on the National Fire Plan, visit www.fireplan.gov