

UW Institute of Forest Resources



An Update for
Senate Natural Resources and Parks
Committee

February 14, 2013

Institute's Mission

In 2011, the Legislature directed the Institute to organize itself to pursue coordinated interdisciplinary research and outreach, covering forestry issues along with emerging issues related to forest and environmental sciences, and to improve the understanding of complex forestry and related issues for stakeholders, policymakers, and other interested parties – including the public.

The Institute

A scenic view of a mountain range with dense evergreen forests under a blue sky with light clouds. The foreground shows rocky terrain with some purple flowers. The middle ground is dominated by a thick forest of tall evergreen trees. In the background, more mountain peaks are visible under a clear sky.

Promotes healthy public dialogue through meetings, workshops and the internet, via websites and social media

Generates and disseminates new scientific information critical to a healthy and sustainable natural resource sector using a web portal

Focus on Issues

- Retention of sustainable working forests
- Forest health including wildfire risks and fuel abatement
- Development of environmental service markets
- Economic health and sustainability of the forest sector
- Enhancement of wildlife habitat and biodiversity
- Biomass utilization for bioenergy and other bio-products

Focus on Issues

- Watershed protection and sustainable management
- Forest productivity, value-added markets and resiliency
- Interrelationships between climate change and natural resources
- Restoration of resilient and sustainable forest ecosystems
- Human dimensions of forest resources including tribal communities

Project Collaborators

- Provide either in-kind contributions or direct funds
- Match federal funds provided by the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program

Project Collaborators

Currently include: Washington Hardwoods Commission; Western Hardwood Association; WDFW; WFPA; forest products companies (Vanport, Sealaska, Port Blakely, EBPA, SEC, Interra, ITC); UW Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability; Greenwood Resources; Wilderness Society; Nature Conservancy; CSU; NAU; U of Montana; Central OR Intergovernmental Council; US Forest Service

Projects Funded by Institute





Assessing the Impact of Trade Policies on the Competitiveness of Wood Exports from Washington State. Ivan Eastin and Indroneil Ganguly. (\$180K)



**Resolution of a Forest Management Dispute. Stanley T. Asah and
E. David Ford. (\$45K)**



Defining Reference Conditions for Restoration of Fire-Prone Forest Ecosystems: Lessons from The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program. Charles Halpern, Lauren Urgenson, Clare Ryan, Ernesto Alvarado, and Jonathan Bakker. (\$165K)

Photo courtesy The Nature Conservancy/John Marshall



Feasibility of a Wolf Economy for Washington. John Marzluff, Stanley Asah, and Aaron Wirsing. (\$175K)



Climate Change and Washington State Biofuels Industry: Impacts and Critical Technical Innovations. Renata Bura, Richard Gustafson, Susan Bolton, Josh Lawler and Luke Rogers. (\$172K)



**Assessing the Status of Washington's Hardwood Resource.
B. Bruce Bare, John Perez-Garcia and Luke Rogers. (\$34K)**

To Increase Capacity



- Increase our McIntire-Stennis fund pool
- Provide non-federal matching funds from the State
- Support for NW Environmental Forum



**School of Environmental
and Forest Sciences**

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

College of the Environment