

POLICY STATEMENT

addressing the IFOA objective to:

“educate the public and forest landowners about the economic and environmental benefits of sound forest management”



 The advantages of private ownership comes with many demands, not the least of which is stewarding one’s financial assets in such a way as to maintain the possibility of continued ownership.



There are as many different reasons for owning private forest land as there are private forest owners. Common to all is the increasing cost for the opportunity to engage in these various uses of forest land.

As Idaho’s human population continues to expand both in quantity and spatially across the landscape, the pressure for “highest and best” use valuations of real estate escalates at a similar rate.

A number of economic and environmental benefits accrue to forest owners and their neighbors and communities. Direct economic return can promote continued affordable ownership without resulting in subdivision or conversion to development. Economic benefit to communities comes from the board foot-to-jobs multiplier effect to which each public or private natural resource product sale contributes. Well managed forests directly reduce fire danger and forest insect and disease problems across the landscape, as well as improve water quality by minimizing erosion, filtering runoff, reducing air pollution by producing oxygen, and cleansing both natural and man-made sulfur, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide from all across the air-shed.

Forest economic opportunities range from the traditional to the imaginatively exotic, but allow concerned and creative owners the means to provide all the environmental services that only properly maintained forest lands can.

IFOA advocates for education and expansion of ideas and opportunities for forest owners to keep the resource in affordable private ownership. “Private forests do the public good” and should be supported by public policies that make it possible.



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... for further information please contact ...

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