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Comments: History is one of the best examples of the results of forest management. The oldest examples of is that there are very few trees that are over 500 years old on the forested lands of the northwest. The glaciers covered the whole of Washington state about 10,000 years ago yet the oldest trees are less than 500 years of age. Trees are living organisms and have a lifespan.

I have been a forest manager (logger) for 60 years. Trees are put on this earth for the good of all creatures -- including man. Without civilization using this resource nature will rotate the resource. Fires, windstorms wind events and natural mortality are the tools. The use of the resource is just another piece of nature's wonderful complex plan. Man is just another of nature's tools.

I personally have seen fires destroy many thousands of acres of forest--then seen man replant those acres--then I have helped enhance the replanted acres through thinning practices then harvested the same acres and replanted again. The cycle goes on as nature would provide.

Management helps prevent such catastrophes like wildfire.

The adage that "if you always do what you always did you will always get what you always got."

We have all the tools and knowledge to help nature work for us. We have the foresight and ability to manage for all of us creatures as nature provided. We are creatures too.

Bill Hermann