

Oregon's forest workers are at the front line of preventing and fighting wildfires.

Because they work in the forest, they can be the first to respond when a fire starts. They also help prevent wildfires by taking special precautions during fire season.

Private forest landowners, loggers and timber company employees work with firefighters to prevent and fight fires. Together, they are helping keep Oregon green.

Now, that's a good reason to be Forest Proud.





From left: Forest landowners cooperate with firefighters on controlling wildfires. Thinning out smaller trees and clearing dry brush reduces the fuel for future fires. Prescribed burns can improve a forest's fire-resiliency.

## Living with fire

## Fire in Oregon's forests

Wildfire has always been part of forest ecosystems in Oregon. Fires naturally thin out forests. They also clear away dead brush and foster regrowth of trees and plants.

But since people started putting out most wildfires 100 years ago, many forests have grown unnaturally dense. This is fueling bigger, more destructive fires.

## Fighting fire with fire

To combat this problem, public and private forest managers plan forest restoration projects. These involve thinning trees, mowing dry brush and prescribing controlled, low-intensity burns. The aim is to improve forest health by mimicking the natural role of fire. Leaving less fuel on the ground and more space between trees also limits the spread of a future wildfire.

## Be proud

Learn more at **OregonForests.org/ForestProud**, or join the Forest Proud community at **Facebook.com/ForestProudOregon**.



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