



Proactive Fire Management
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Fire in Ecosystems

- ❖ Fire is an extremely common process across a wide range of ecosystems
- ❖ Where there is combustible vegetation, fire is inevitable
- ❖ Many organisms and ecosystem processes depend on fire
- ❖ These dependencies are variable
- ❖ It is a process which, to some degree, can be manipulated.



What is treating enough?

- Recent research on the Malheur National Forest shows a fire return interval of 12-28 years, even in moist mixed conifer stands.
- Dry forest types account for approximately 405,000 ha on the Malheur and have been on the frequent end of this range.
- Freely extrapolating, this translates to treating 33,589 ha per year in dry forest types alone to approximate the Historic Range of Variability (HRV).
- Currently we average just under 13,000 ha/year between Rx fire and mechanical treatments





