



## Fall planting for future forests

November 18, 2013

Day in and day out, foresters and other staff with the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) work to harvest and regenerate trees on one million acres of state endowment forests to make money for Idaho public schools.

The lands were given to Idaho at statehood for the purpose of generating income for schools in perpetuity from the management of the lands.

Active forest management isn't just about harvesting trees to support schools, jobs, and the economy. In keeping with a Constitutional mandate to manage the lands for health and productivity for years to come, the IDL plants millions of tree seedlings on state endowment forests every year.

**Just this fall, the IDL reforested more than 1,700 acres of state endowment forests with 544,000 tree seedlings!**

**Most of the tree seedlings - 332,000 of them - went to replanting 1,000 acres of state endowment forests that burned in the 2012 Sheep Fire near McCall.** The other planting projects took place on harvested areas near **Priest Lake, Pend Oreille Lake, and Coeur d'Alene** in northern Idaho.

The management that takes place on state endowment forests illustrates **the Idaho way of conserving forest health on a landscape level while supporting jobs and making money for schools, too!**



*State forest 10 years after plantation.*



*15 years after plantation.*



*20 years after plantation.*



**Natural regeneration** also occurs. Foresters leave in place trees still capable of dropping their own seeds. The purpose of a "seed tree cut" is to allow the remaining trees to naturally reseed and protect the seedlings. The overstory remains for about 10 years then we remove the overstory to let the new stand grow.

**75 percent of regeneration in state endowment forests comes from natural regeneration.**

## Planting After the Sheep Fire



**IDL uses contractors and its own foresters and staff to plant the seedlings.**



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