



Forest Fire is Idaho's Largest Uncontrolled Tax

How many of you have ever
paid a wildfire bill?



Every single one of us has.

We just don't receive the bill
in the mail.





There are 3 essential components to make fire:

Heat, air (oxygen) and fuel.

- We cannot control the heat.
 - We cannot control the air.
- But we can control the fuel with proper forest management.



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Idaho harvests about 200,000 acres annually



Either we manage it or fire will



Idaho burns, on average, 600,000 acres annually

Every major wildfire
becomes a taxpayer-funded
emergency.



Idaho spends roughly
\$50 million annually
fighting wildfires.

Forest Fire Is Idaho's Largest Uncontrolled Tax



Wildfire is no longer just burning trees.

It is burning taxpayer dollars, school funding, watersheds, wildlife habitat, infrastructure, jobs, and economic stability.

Council, Idaho - home of the annual
Porcupine Races.



1990



Now

Healthy forests build strong
communities

Two Paths for Idaho's Forests

Active Forest Management



One creates value

- **\$2.9 Billion** Annual Economic Impact
- **\$100+ million** for Schools
- Supports Jobs
- Produces Timber
- Creates Infrastructure
- Creates Future Value

Forest Fire



One destroys value

- **\$50 Million** Fire Cost
- Costs Taxpayers
- Destroys Timber Value
- Produces Smoke
- Damages Infrastructure
- Eliminates Future Value

Idaho's Most Expensive Forest Policy Is Deferred Policy



VS



**Manage it
\$1**

**Burn it
\$6**

**The question isn't whether we
pay. The question is when.**

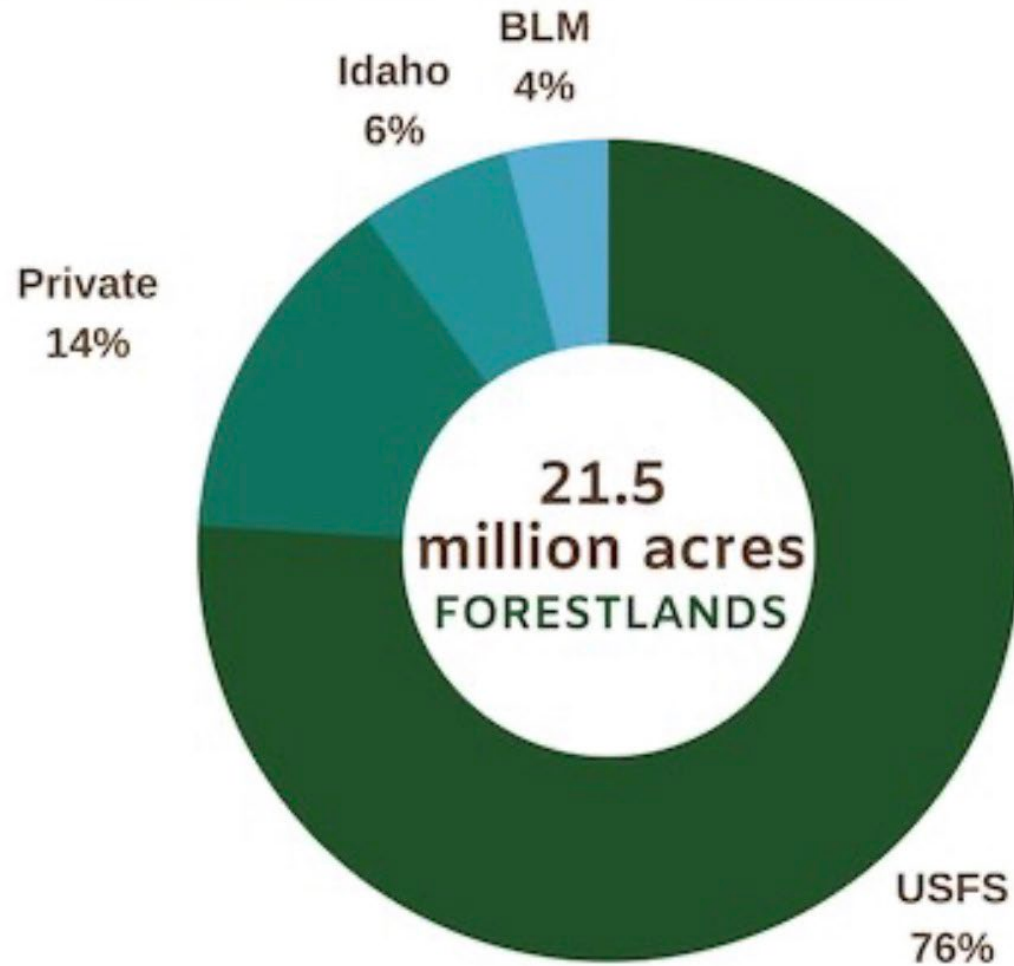
Idaho Forests Are Idaho

Forests are woven into Idaho's identity.



Forest policy is economic policy, education policy, tax policy, infrastructure policy, and public safety policy.

Idaho forest land distribution by forest ownership as reported



The percentage of ownership of
TOTAL FOREST LANDS IN IDAHO

Ownership of Timberland

Private	14%
State	6%
Federal	80%

Share of Idaho Timber Harvest

Private Lands	51%
State Lands	30%
Federal Lands	19%

Federal timberland provides less than one-fifth of the timber harvest, while state and private timberlands produce 80% of Idaho's timber volume.

Stewardship Funds Futures

One loaded
log truck
contains
about \$2,500
in raw timber
value.



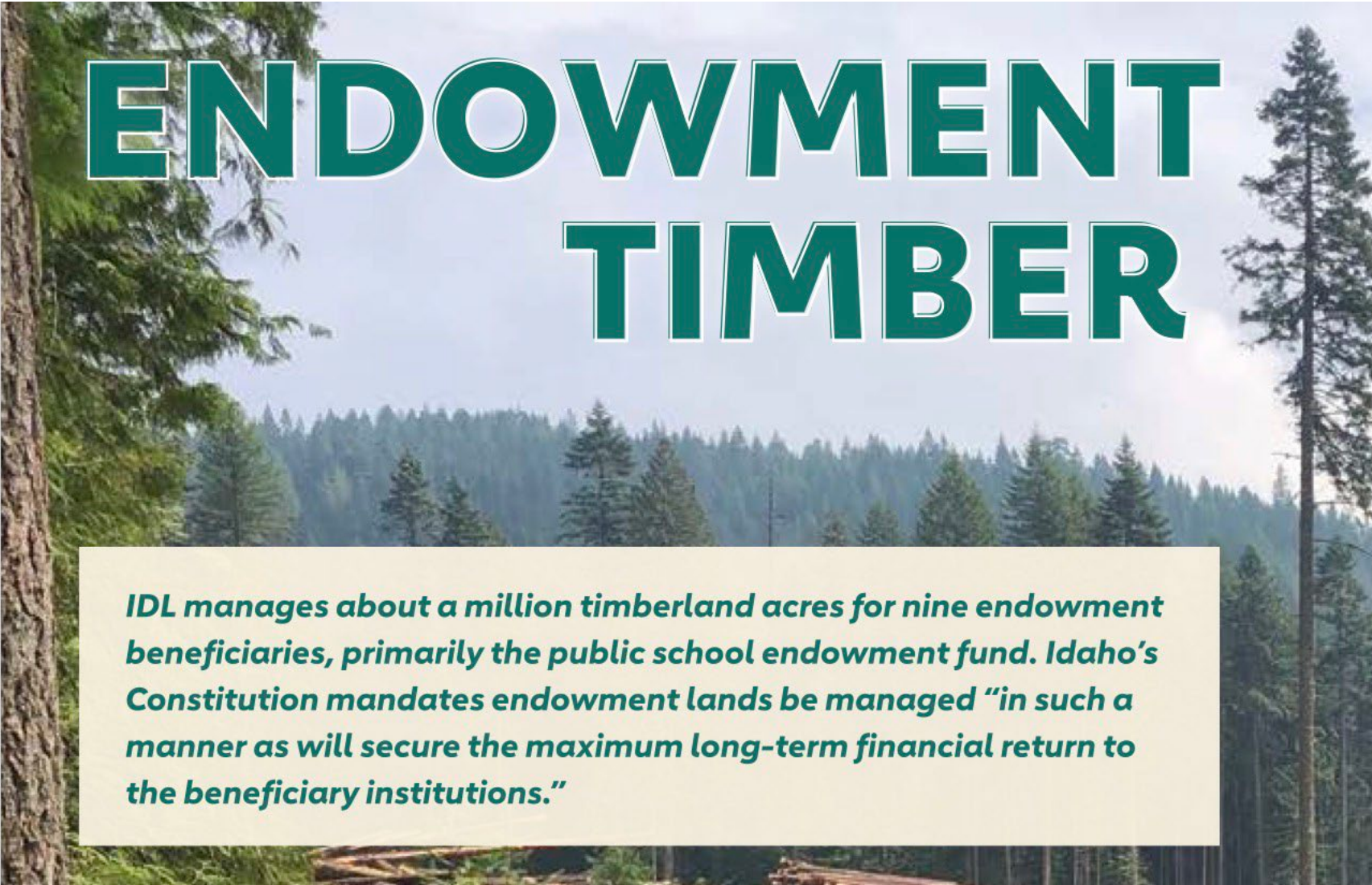
Four loaded log trucks represent roughly one year of public education for an Idaho student.

52 log trucks generate enough timber value to fund education for one Idaho student from kindergarten through high school graduation.



A child's education and a healthy forest have something in common.

Neither happens by accident. Both require stewardship.



ENDOWMENT TIMBER

IDL manages about a million timberland acres for nine endowment beneficiaries, primarily the public school endowment fund. Idaho's Constitution mandates endowment lands be managed "in such a manner as will secure the maximum long-term financial return to the beneficiary institutions."



A 2,000 sq. ft. home
requires about 3 loaded
log trucks of timber.



That's enough
lumber to frame a
home for an Idaho
family.

1 tree = 390 boxes



One loaded log truck contains enough wood fiber to produce thousands of cardboard shipping boxes.



A healthy forest is a treasure.

A managed forest is a treasure box.



**Stewardship is the key that
unlocks it.**



One grows Idaho's future.
One burns it.

The difference is stewardship.

The next generation will live with the
consequences of the **choices** we make
today.

Infrastructure Follows Certainty

When there is certainty:

- Mills invest \$millions
- Contractors buy equipment
- Family wage jobs are created
- Schools are supported
- Communities grow



When there is uncertainty:

- Investment stops
- Mills close
- Jobs disappear
- Families leave
- Schools lose enrollment
- Communities decline



Certainty creates investment.
Investment creates opportunity.

The most valuable thing government can provide isn't a subsidy—it is certainty.

Idaho's Window of Opportunity



Current Federal Direction

- Increased Domestic Timber Production
- Streamlined NEPA Processes
- Expanded Active Forest Management
- Faster Project Implementation
- USFS Leadership Moving West to Salt Lake City
- National Interagency Fire Center Expanding in Boise
- Idaho's own Tom Schultz leads the USFS
- Stronger State & Local Partnerships

**Now is the time to turn forest policy
into forest action.**

Forests Are Our Future



We do not inherit our forests from
our parents. We borrow them from
our children.

Support is passive. Advocacy is action.



Be a Voice for Idaho's Forests

Don't just support forest
management.

Advocate for it.