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### Challenges And Improvements Of The Forest

Katrina Mayer once said, "Time spent amongst trees is never wasted time." And there is no time to waste. Forests face many challenges. Idaho forests face wildfires, climate change, and insects, but these can be changed too.

First, wildfires are a challenge that Idaho forests face. Wildfires are burning up trees, habitats, and homes. According to [apnews.com](http://apnews.com), 78% of fires each year are started by humans and only 22% are started by lightning! Most of these fires can be prevented. People can extinguish fires by pouring water onto campfires. Also, everyone should make sure that metal isn't dragging on cars or that they don't throw out lit cigarettes. Clearly, wildfires are a big problem for Idaho forests and there are simple ways to keep them from happening.

Second, climate change is another challenge for Idaho forests. Climate change is destroying forests and wildlife. "Climate change ...can reduce forest productivity and change the distribution of tree species," cites the EPA. To help prevent climate changes, everyone must reduce their use of fossil fuels. Fossil fuels heat up the Earth's atmosphere and cause climate change. Climate change is obviously something that everyone can help prevent to keep forests standing.

Lastly, Idaho forests face invasive insects. When people import things into the U.S, invasive insects sometimes are carried on the goods. These invasive species destroy the environment by infecting the trees because the trees aren't immune to them. Many trees die each year to these pesky insects. People could simply follow the law and not smuggle in fruit from foreign countries. This could keep destructive insects out and prevent killing trees.

There are many challenges that Idaho forests face. People should take simple steps to keep invasive insects out, prevent wildfires, and slow climate change, to keep forests healthy. With a little effort, this is possible.

## Works Cited

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