

Our Part

We need to value our Idaho forests; that is why each of us should be doing our part. Our forests are a valuable resource, and so are the animals in it. We need to protect Idaho's forests and everything in it. Two ways to do this are proper cutting and taking care of the animals in the forest with controlled hunting.

Proper cutting is very important. For example, when a forest is clearcut, which means to cut all the trees down in a selected area, it does take some habitat away. However, certain tree species such as western larch, lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine and western white pine grow poorly in shade and need full sunlight as seedlings to successfully compete with other trees and plants. Since some older cutting techniques can damage forest life, Idaho made a law that said every tree cut down needed to have another planted. Clearcutting is used to renew areas with tree species that grow best in full sunlight as well as places where there is damage by insects, disease, wind-storms or fire.

Idaho's forests are home to a diverse amount of animals and big game. They have animals such as black bears, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, pronghorn, and many others. We need to protect them while they are living in our forests. It is not right to hunt these animals to extinction, so we need to hunt properly. Controlled hunting, such as seasonal licenses, is important. If we don't hunt these creatures at all, their population will get out of control. If there are no hunting restrictions, then we will hunt

them to extinction. We need to closely monitor the amount of each animal in our forests to achieve balance.

Our journey led us through proper cutting techniques, proper hunting techniques, and why they are important. We walked through clearcutting. Our forests are an available resource that we need to protect . From now on when you look at a forest, do all you can to safeguard it for future generations.

WORK CITED

Idaho Fish & Game, <https://idfg.idaho.gov/>

“Trees, A Rooted History” by Piotr Socha and Wojciech Grajkowski pg 38-39

IDAHO forest products commission <https://www.idahoforests.org/>