

# We've been warned, WDFW's forests are at risk

DNR Prediction: Insects will kill >20% of trees on >25,000 acres of WDFW land by 2021

## Why is this happening?

Widespread fire suppression, past forest practices and subsequent forest succession have allowed most of this.....to turn into.....this.



Doug Kuehn



Richard Tveten

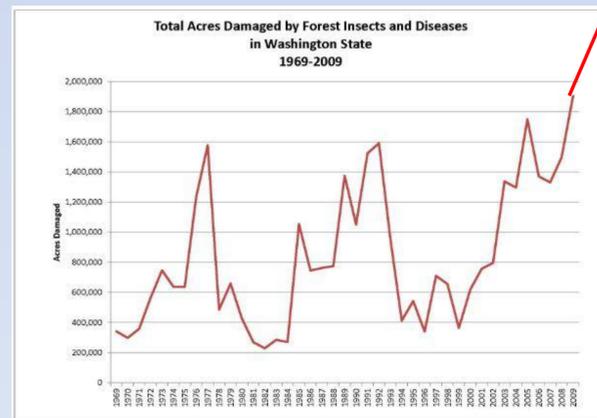
Populations of tree killing insects are increasing exponentially because most forests are overstocked with the wrong tree species and milder winters are favoring more insects.

## Why is this a an issue?

Widespread tree mortality leads to unnaturally intense, uncontrollable wildfires.



Doug Keuhn

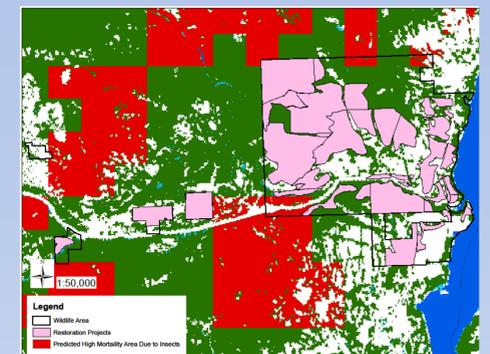


## What can be done?

Restore and manage forests to their historic range of variability so that they are more resilient to increased insect and wildfire-related stressors.

## WDFW has been proactive.

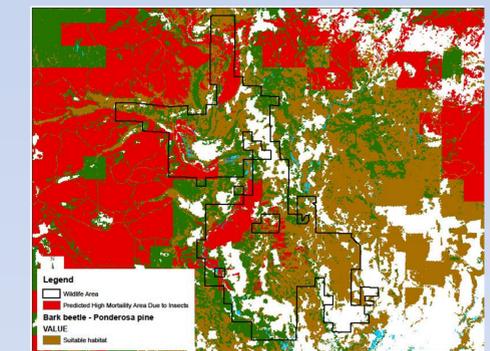
Examples: Sherman Creek, Sinlahekin, Chesaw, Wenas, Methow, Oak Creek, Pogue Mountain, Colockum, L.T. Murray.



## More is needed where major areas of heavy mortality are expected.

Top priorities include:

- Oak creek > 4,000 acres\*
- L.T Murray >4,000 acres
- Klickitat 2,300 acres
- Rustlers Gulch 1,800 acres\*
- Colockum 1,500 acres
- Sinlahekin 1,400 acres
- substantial new acquisitions



Sue VanLeuven