

ACHIEVING ECOLOGICALLY RESPONSIBLE FIRE SAFETY

Educational Resources - Updated 11/10/25

* Video of Oct. 29, 2025, Methow Forest Forum event in Winthrop

<https://youtu.be/Zr2SZJAasJA?si=lbRA7Qoq3yjS-4i>

* Viewpoints of David Lukas, a Methow Valley Naturalist

<https://www.methownaturenotes.com/october-26-november-1-2025/> includes a description of the recent tour of the Twisp and Midnight Project areas by the Methow Forest Forum in conjunction with the visit of fire ecologist Dr. Chad Hanson (see below).

<https://www.methownaturenotes.com/special-issue-midnight-logging-project/> Useful

background on the Midnight Project from 2023. The Project was recently revised in response to a court order, and a new deadline for "objections" has been set during the first week of December, 2025. Note that some details are different now in the new FONSI ("Finding of No Significant Impact")

<https://www.lukasguides.com/springtails-and-snow-fleas/> This "Lukas Guides" connects the role of tiny insects in the soil called springtails (first appearing 400 million years ago) and mycorrhizal fungi (the springtail's predators) in providing nitrogen to trees. In view of such information, consider whether our forest management practices are really improving upon the natural systems that have developed over millions of years.

* Sierra Club Grassroots Network

<https://www.sierraclub.org/grassroots-network/stop-clearcutting-ca/resources>

This network focuses upon the Western US and the whole USA. **Available:** Numerous past Forest Protection Forum videos, scientific studies, fact sheets, opinion pieces, timber harvest plans, and much more. A video recording of the 10/27/25 Forest Protection Forum "*Extreme Climate and Extreme Active Management Interact to Drive Unprecedented Forest Degradation*" (featuring Dr. Dominick DellaSala) is now on this website under "Forest Protection Forums > Past Forums."

* The John Muir Project: A project of Earth Island Institute

<https://johnmuirproject.org/>

Director: Dr. Chad Hanson. Earth Island institute is a nonprofit environmental organization founded by David Brower in 1982 to develop and support projects that counteract threats to the biological and cultural diversity that sustains the environment. The John Muir Project is dedicated to achieving full protection of our federal public forestlands. **Available on this site:** Scientific research past and present, current and previous litigation, scientific publications, and much more.

* Recommended Books

Mixed severity fires: Nature's Phoenix (2nd edition, 2024) (Editors: Dominick DellaSala, Chad Hanson): Focuses upon wildfire as a keystone ecological process that has shaped plant and animal communities for over 400 million years. The book describes the renewal process that follows wildfires in forests and chaparral ecosystems. *USFS review:* "If, in the end, the book stimulates a deeper conversation about the ecological value of severely burned areas and potential ways to sustain those values, that would be a valuable contribution."

Smokescreen, by Chad Hanson (2021) - *Smokescreen* cuts through years of misunderstanding and misdirection to make an impassioned, evidence-based argument for a new era of forest management for the sake of the planet and the human race.

***The Big Burn*, by Timothy Egan (2009)** Egan is an award-winning author and historian. Beware that once you start reading this book, it's nearly impossible to stop! It's the human and historic record of the Great Fire of 1910 (3 million acres in Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Canada) which burned intensely for 2 days killing 87 people (most of them firefighters) and is rivaled in acreage only by the North and South Carolina wildfire complex of 1898 (also 3 million acres). The US Forest service was only 5 years old and poorly funded in 1910. As you read, pay close attention to dates, to what elements caused the fires of 1910, and how these causes compare with the causes of wildfire today. This fire led to doubling the Forest Service budget and a period of total fire suppression lasting for decades.