

FOREST FIRE

A BRIEF GUIDE
TO FIRE & HOW
TO LIVE WITH IT

BROUGHT TO YOU BY BARK, DEFENDERS OF MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST IN COLLABORATION WITH PSU STUDENTS

FIRE IS ESSENTIAL FOR A HEALTHY FOREST



Fire is natural & restorative to forests. Ceanothus, lodgepole pines, and many other species of trees need fire in order to reproduce.

Plants and wildlife depend on fire to create habitat & nutrients.

WE CAN'T STOP ALL WILDFIRES

Currently, government policies call for trying to put out all wildfires. But a century of fire exclusion has only worsened the impact of fire.

Suppressing natural fires leads to hotter, larger fires, driven by weather conditions and drought. These policies waste money and sometimes lives.

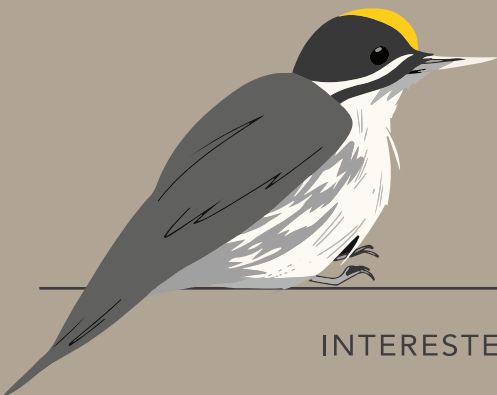
Forest scientists and ecologists agree that we need to allow more fires to burn to restore the forest.



SO HOW DO WE LEARN TO LIVE WITH FIRE?

We need to thoughtfully reintroduce fires back into the forests & learn to work with fire to reap its ecological benefits.

Investing in making communities more fire resilient, lighting more prescribed fires, and allowing natural fires to burn, when it can be done safely, are effective ways of reintroducing fire.



INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE? VISIT [BARK-OUT.ORG/FIRE-POLICY](https://bark-out.org/fire-policy)