

Q&A

AFTER THE FLAMES: POST WILDFIRE WEBINAR SERIES

<u>American Forests</u>: Scaling Resilient Reforestation Through Partnerships

Q: What species would you recommend for reforestation in an area battling drought and heavy beetle kill? We've got mixed oak and ponderosa, folks are wanting to replant but the ponderosa are dying at breakneck speed due to drought pressure and beetle kill. Once a fire comes through it leaves a mess of dead pine and we are leaning towards an oak system, but some folks insist on replanting A: It depends on values, the science, and the local partnerships. Also, what is incentivizing those landowners to continue with those species? Is it economic? Aesthetic? Sentimental? Better understanding that first and being able to speak to that, will help with communication efforts to gear toward perhaps better management decisions.

Q: Many plantations planted in fire scars over the past 30 years are not maintained (Specifically this is Wasco County, Oregon). How did you convince leaders to buy into this commitment?

A: I think for many, it was already established partnerships and seeing the devastation of wildfires, and the need to be more strategic. It came from their values, and their desires, and we helped provide the support and the science to create the strategy reflecting those.

Q: Are the burned forests harvested after they have been burned before restoration is started?

A: It depends on the landowner and different regulations, values, etc. On one project, for example, any snags over 16" DBH were left for ecological values.

Q: Where can I find out more about the Landowner Aggregation Project and would it be beneficial for private landowners?

A: Not sure which one you're referring to specifically, but SNW worked on one. Forest Stewards Guild's Landowner Assistance in Post-Fire Natural Resource Recovery: Lessons Learned from Oregon and Sustainable Northwest's Forest Landowner Post-Fire Assistance Program. I can put you in touch with the right contacts if you'd like more information. You can reach me at qmver@americanforests.org.

Q: Could you compare how leaders should be considering restoration work (and funding) versus needs for fuels and maintenance of remaining forests? How do we determine priorities for limited resources?

A: This is a great question and I think again would come back to local circumstances, what can be done, what is there funding for, what are the priorities locally on the ground.

Q: Who can we contact for more info about the arborist/climbing cone collection training to share it with our contractor base?

A: Reforestation Pipeline Partnership - American Forests, or you could reach out to Shelley Villaboos, svillalobos@americanforests.org

Q: Are you doing any work in the no Sierras/so Cascades in the Dixie Fire area? I would love to talk more to develop a similar approach in this region.

A: Yes, here is a contact link to add more information to what you are seeking and they can reach out to you or help connect you.

Data story on the PNW reforestation assessment: https://datastories.americanforests.org/pnw-reforestation/#part1

