

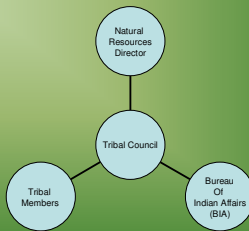
## How should we manage forests?



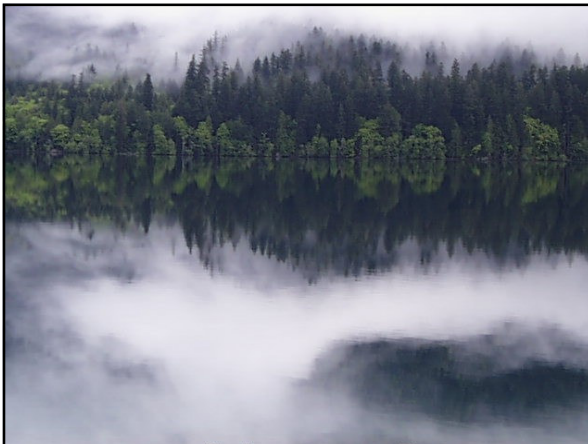
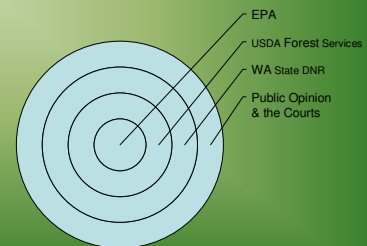
## Tribal Forest Practices and Government Forest Practices

A Comparative Look

## General Tribal Forestry Organization



## General Government Forestry Organization



## Tribal Forestry History

- Prior to White contact, PNW Indians (Nisqually)
  - Used downed cedar trees to carve canoes
  - Selectively stripped cedar bark for their clothes, cooking utensils, and summer homes
  - Used cedar planks to construct their winter homes
- On Reservations (1855 – 1970s)
  - Forests were managed by the BIA and/or U.S. Forest Service
  - Indians were not allowed to harvest any timber on their reservations
- On Reservations (1970s – Present)
  - Individual tribes, inter-tribal, and confederations of tribes manage their own natural resources
  - Some tribes' natural resources are managed cooperatively with DNR or BIA



## Government Forestry History

- **Pre-forestry:** White settlers cut trees to depletion in many areas of the PNW
- **Forestry Stage 1 (1880s-1920s):** Administration forestry fails to conserve or sustain natural resources
- **Forestry Stage 2 (1920s-70s):** Ecologically based practices sustain production of timber and other forest products
- **Forestry Stage 3 (1970s-present):** Social forestry is ecologically, economically, and socially based practices to sustain resources

\*Adapted from Kimmins, J.P. (2004). *Forest Ecology*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

## Current Tribal Forest Practices

- Practices are Tribe specific
- Decisions are made locally, by Tribal members
- Conform to federal EPA laws
- Colville Confederated Tribes
  - Mandated to restore the forests to pre-colonial conditions
  - Smaller cuts targeting different aged trees
  - Cut boundaries are not straight; allows for individual selection of trees
  - Pro-active thinning for disease and to reduce fire fuel



## Current DNR Forest Practices

- Forest Practices Act (RCW 76.09.010)
  - To protect, promote, and foster timber growth
  - Utilize reasonable methods of technology in forest practices
  - Recognize the public and private interest in profitable timber harvest
  - Regulate forest practices
  - Comply with all applicable federal and state laws
  - And more.....
- Forest Practices Rules (Timber Harvesting WAC 222-30)
 

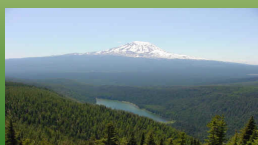
**36 pages of specific rules, including:**

  - Riparian management zones (RMZ)
  - Even-aged harvest
  - Stream bank integrity
  - Shade requirements in RMZ
  - Felling and bucking
  - Landing cleanup
  - And more....

## A Comparison



- Virginia Lake fires of 2001 – “As soon as it hit the reservation line, it dropped to the ground and stopped...We manage a heck of a lot better than anybody else.” John St. Pierre, Colville Confederated Tribes’ natural resources director (Hagengruber, 2004)



- “(Tribes) do a lot of things I wish we were doing on our federal forest lands if we weren’t all knotted up in litigation. We aren’t managing forest lands anymore.” James Peterson, the Evergreen Foundation’s exec. Dir. (Hagengruber, 2004)

## For more information check out...

- Internet Resources
  - DNR @ [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov)
  - Intertribal Timber Council @ [www.ittcnet.org](http://www.ittcnet.org)
  - Northwest Forest Plan @ [www.reo.gov](http://www.reo.gov)
  - Northwest Indian Fisheries @ [www.nwifc.wa.gov](http://www.nwifc.wa.gov)
  - USDA Forest Service @ [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)
- Telephone Resources
  - DNR: Olympia Office – Forest Practices 902-1400
  - DNR: Pacific Cascade Region – 360-577-2025

## References

- Carpenter, C.S. (1986). *Fort Nisqually: A documented history of Indian and British interaction*. Tacoma, WA: Tahoma Resource Service.
- Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Trust Services, Division of Forestry. (2005). *Indian Forestry status report to Congress: Fiscal year 2004*. Retrieved on July 18, 2006 from <http://www.itcnet.org/resources.html>
- Hagengruber, J. (2004). Tribes say forest programs flourishing. In *The Spokesman-Review* newspaper on December 26, 2004. Retrieved on July 18, 2006 from <http://www.itcnet.org/resources.html>
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Forest Practices Division. Retrieved on July 18, 2006 from <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/forestpractices.html>