Asserting Tribal Influence on the Landscape

ITC Symposium
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America’s Forests Are In Trouble

DEFINE "DEEP DOO-DOO"...
Insects and Disease
Wildfires Increasing in Size & Intensity
Forest Product Markets
Wood Processing Facility Closures 1989-2003
Absolute full time job losses since 2005 in all wood sectors (294,000 jobs lost)
State of Emergency

• Depressed timber-dependent communities
• Forests at risk of loss from wildfire, insects, and disease
• Ecological functions in jeopardy
• Land ownership in flux
• Harvesting, transportation, processing, and management infrastructure rapidly disappearing
Hard To Fix
Call for Action

- Tribal Community
  - Intertribal Timber Council
  - National Congress of American Indians
  - Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
- National Association of State Foresters
- Western Governor’s Association
- Secretary Vilsack’s “All Hands, All Lands” vision
without the means to attain it, will only be a DREAM
Tribal Forests

- Respect ≠ Neglect
- Care ≈ “Manage”
- Use, not abuse
- Permanence
- Stewardship Ethic
- Processing Facilities
- Management Capacity
Tribes and Their Forests Stand Out
Mary Wood
University of Oregon School of Law

Tribal Sovereignty
+ Treaty Rights
+ Fiduciary Responsibilities and Obligations
+ Co-Tenancy (Public Trust Doctrine)

= Possible Recipe For Change?
At A Crossroads
Which Way To Go?
Bystander

“Hey, it’s not my problem”
Frustrated Witness
Hapless Victim?
Or Leader?
Distinguished Panelists

- Phil Rigdon, President ITC
- Jim Hubbard, USFS Deputy Chief S&PF
- Ann Walker, WGA
- Chris Maisch, Alaska State Forester
- Faline Haven, Acting Chief Forester, BIA
- Al Murray, Forestry Director, FCPotawatami
- Vinnie Corrao, NW Management
- Marc Brinkmeyer, Idaho Forest Group
- Jim Petersen, Evergreen Foundation
Please Join Us