

Washington's Working Forests Newsletter October 2021

What are "Working Forests?"

A Working Forest is professionally managed to provide a continuous supply of renewable, sustainable wood products for building materials -- with a focus on protecting fish, water and wildlife. Using scientific practices and adhering to comprehensive state forestry laws, Washington's working forests work to give back to our entire state. Growing working forests absorb carbon, wood products store carbon, and the forest sector taken as a whole currently operates with a negative carbon footprint that supports greenhouse gas reduction goals and rural economies across Washington, a fact that is recognized in state law.

The Good News From the Woods

Decade-long research study shows streamside buffers protect cool water temperatures for salmon

When we let science take the lead, more responsible and effective policies are the result.

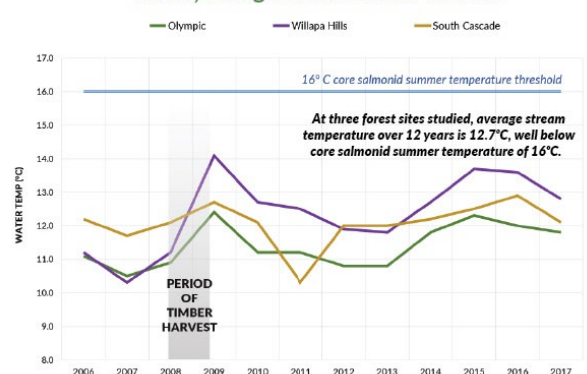
A recently released decade-long study under Washington's Adaptive Management Program looked at water quality in working forests, focusing on temperature and sediment. The conclusion was that streamside Forests & Fish buffers of trees keep the water cool for fish.

The study (informally known as "Hardrock") measured temperatures in non-fish bearing waters that flow downstream into fish-bearing waters – during the two years before timber harvest and for nine years after timber harvest, the part of the forest cycle when forests are replanted and start to regrow.

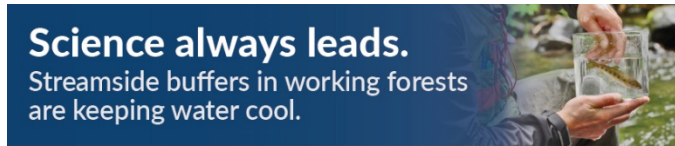
The data gathered in three different working forests speaks for itself.

In this study, Forests & Fish buffers protect cool temperatures in fish-bearing waters – the stream systems in which fish live and spawn. By following the Adaptive Management process – analyzing forest practices using cooperative research and science – Washington state ensures that science is always in the lead on policy.

The "Hardrock" study shows Forests & Fish buffers protected cool water temperatures for salmon before, during and after timber harvest.



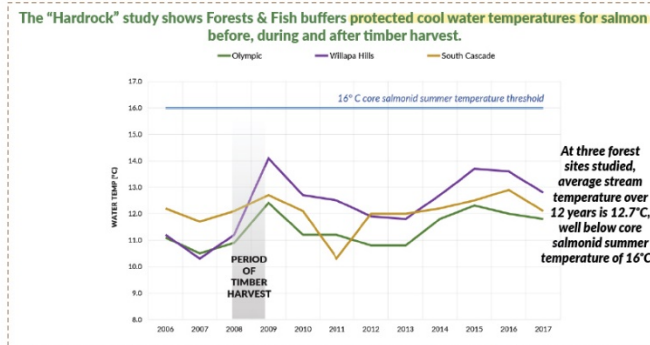
We're encouraging those who support working forests and responsible efforts to protect salmon to share the graphic below containing these key points about the "Hardrock" study. Click the link below the image to download a high-rez file that is free to use.



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Read the study and more about its findings at workingforests.org/hardrock.

Click [here](#) to download a high-rez file that is free to use

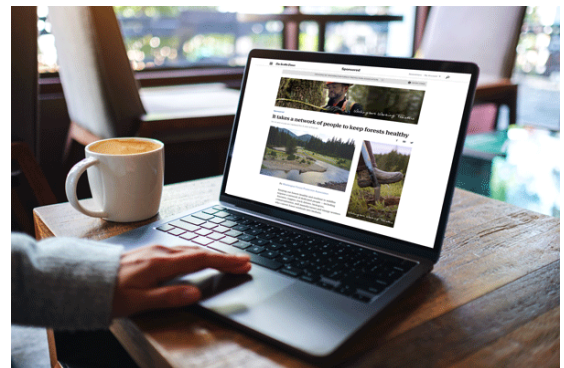
You can also read more on our [website](#) about the study, its findings, and some recent public opinion on water quality priorities.

More Good News From the Woods

The work of keeping forests healthy requires a network of dedicated people, supports a multiplicity of benefits

Maintaining healthy forests to guard against catastrophic wildfire is work that demands intense cooperation, while also supporting needs of society ranging from raw lumber to salmon habitat to feedstock for a new generation of biofuels. That eagle's eye perspective of the modern forest sector was given to Seattle Times readers last week.

Here's a tease from [the sponsored article in the Seattle Times](#):



"Keeping our forests healthy and resilient to wildfire requires a network of dedicated people — including foresters, loggers, truck drivers, biologists, conservationists, mill manufacturers and energy workers who convert forest residuals into biofuels.

"Washington's diversity of land managers from public, private, state, tribal and federal agencies keep their forests healthy by actively managing the forests to reduce wildfire risk.

"The thinning and harvesting from the forest is turned into products we use every day. This network starts with an understanding of the land and what gives forests the resilience to resist catastrophic wildfire. It continues with management of forest land to preserve that balance. And includes creating uses and markets for byproducts of forest restoration efforts."

Click [here](#) to read the rest of the article. The piece is well worth your valuable time and we encourage you to share this good news with friends and others in your network.

Have You Signed?

Our drive toward the creation of a special Washington state vehicle license plate to support working forests is still moving forward. Your help is still needed. If you haven't already, [sign our petition](#) today and then please share with your friends. Thank you for helping to make sure our voices are heard.

[SIGN THE PETITION TODAY!](#)

