



Forest Facts

OREGON FORESTRY FACTS AND FIGURES

April 2007

How big are Oregon's forests?

Oregon's forests cover more than 30 million of the state's 61 million-acre land base, or about 49 percent of the state's total landmass.

Who owns Oregon's forests?

About 59 percent of all forestland in Oregon are owned by the federal government; various private owners hold 37 percent; 3 percent belongs to the State of Oregon; 1 percent is in other public ownerships.

How many seedlings are planted in Oregon each year?

Millions of tree seedlings are planted in Oregon each year. Compliance with the reforestation provisions of the Oregon Forest Practices Act is 99 percent for the past five years. Those not in compliance are subject to citations and work orders to ensure that reforestation is completed. On federal government lands more than 2.5 million tree seedlings were planted in 2005, while state lands planted more than 2 million.

How many people work in Oregon's forest products industry?

There are about 85,000 Oregonians working in sawmills, plywood plants, forestry services, pulp and

paper manufacturing operations, logging and trucking companies, and wood furniture and other secondary wood products manufacturing facilities.

The forest products industry is Oregon's second largest industry. Oregon's forestry services, and primary and secondary wood products manufacturing industries generate sales of approximately 13 billion dollars annually.

What is Oregon's most popular tree?

The state tree...the Douglas-fir. West of the Cascades, you could guess that any evergreen tree you see is Douglas-fir, and you would be right eight of 10 times. There are 30 species of conifers and 37 species of hardwoods found in Oregon's forests.

What and where is Oregon's largest tree?

Oregon's largest tree is a Sitka spruce — a 206-foot-tall behemoth that grows along the coast near Seaside. The largest Douglas-fir in Oregon is 329 feet tall located in Coos County's Brummet Creek. That's taller than a 28-story building!

What is the state's largest wildfire since 1900?

The Tillamook Burn, which actually comprised four fires between 1933 and 1951 and destroyed 360,882 acres. However, because of the world's largest reforestation effort, that area in Northwest Oregon is a healthy, growing forest. - cont. -

What is the No. 1 cause of wildfires?

People cause the most fires. On the average, about 68 percent of all wildfires are human-caused.

Lightning and natural causes are responsible for the remainder.

What's another word for conifers?

Conifers are often called evergreens because most hold their leaves all year long. However, some conifers are

deciduous. All conifers are also called softwoods because their wood is relatively soft when compared with that of other trees.

What is the most common tree east of the Cascades?

The Ponderosa pine is the most common tree east of the Cascades and is Oregon's No. 2 tree. Mature ponderosa pines have an interesting bark that flakes off in shapes like jigsaw puzzle pieces. Older trees have a distinct yellow or orange color.