

## Forestry Demonstration

Improve Forest Health • Reduce Wildfire Threat • Improve Habitat • N. Spokane County • May 17, 2019  
• Okanogan County • May 31, 2019

Hedge your bet and thin the threat! Most forests in the Inland Northwest are overcrowded and in jeopardy of tree-killing bark beetles and wildfire. Forest thinning reduces the number of trees on a site. Thinning re-locates limited light, water, and nutrients to the remaining trees, “releasing” them to grow with greater sunlight, soil moisture, and nutrients needed to thrive. With more sunshine, grasses and shrubs develop and attract wildlife. As the landowner, you have the opportunity to shape the future of your forest. You determine what trees stay or go, what species you want, and how densely they grow together. Most landowners want to protect their homes and forests from wildfire, and reducing fuel by thinning trees is an urgent activity for protecting your forest property.

“Slash,” the debris created by cutting trees, can also become a fire risk. Common slash management includes piling and burning, chipping, “lop and scatter,” or masticating. Wildlife habitat can be enhanced by creating snags for nesting and foraging, or by building piles with slash that provide hiding cover while localizing the material and reducing fire risk.



### Masticator



### Chipper



**Post-treatment project with a masticator.** Markets for chipped material exist, but the ability to extract the material from the stand is difficult. Most mulching is performed with the intent of leaving the material on the ground. - **USDA Mastication Science Synthesis**

**NO REGISTRATION FEE. RSVP IS REQUIRED.**

For driving directions and to register, contact:  
WSU Extension (509) 667-6540 [andyp@wsu.edu](mailto:andyp@wsu.edu)



Forestry

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION



**WILDFIRE**

### Wildlife Pile

