

The USFS Ponderosa Poster Child Text, Lies, and Photographs

The U. S. Forest Service omits from thousands of reports and posters its photo on the left, which shows the pre-logging conditions of the Bitterroot's Lick Creek forest in 1909.

It then claims its 1909 photo in the center "*serves as the baseline reference of forest stand conditions that evolved from regularly occurring, low-intensity surface burning,*" even though it actually shows "*cleanup operations on the Lick Creek timber sale.*"



It then includes its 1997 photo on the right to show how well recent "*ecosystem management treatments*" compare to "*pre-settlement*" conditions. Obviously, logging to open the canopy is necessary only to mimic the logging done in 1909, not to restore these forests to their pre-settlement conditions.

Restoring forests to pre-settlement conditions requires removing the roads, not the trees!