


# POLICY STATEMENT

*addressing the IFOA objective to:*

**“inform and educate members about legislative issues pertaining to forest land”**



 Historically, forests of the world have been an essential part of the development of civilization. Forest products have been used to provide food, shelter, water, heat, cooling, transportation, communication, art media, tools, etc. in every way imaginable. Similar to other farming and business enterprises - federal, state, and local governments and courts are increasingly restricting freedom to engage in forestry for profit, recreation, or aesthetics through regulation, taxation and injunction.



Fortunately, in Idaho we have clear-thinking, pragmatic leaders and much of Idaho code is agreeable toward a dynamic forest industry. Robust interaction with state and local government entities is essential to ensure that our elected and appointed officials are aware of how all legislative measures at all levels affect family forest landowners in fulfilling their historical and essential role in Idaho’s economy.

Family forest owners face unique challenges since as residents of their forestland they are affected not just by natural resource and taxation legislation, but additionally by local land use policies, building codes, and other residential issues and ordinances.

IFOA has a standing legislative committee that actively researches governmental policies and legislation that may impact our members. Representatives from IFOA maintain contact with legislators, IFOA communicates with position papers, and IFOA regularly informs our members of pending legislation and the impact it may have on member pursuits.



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*... for further information please contact ...*

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