IFOA Forest Seedling Program

Following a timber harvest, responsible forest landowners are in the market for seedlings to replace the harvested trees. It isn't always easy to obtain seedlings that are genetically adapted to northern Idaho forests, and that's where the IFOA Forest Seedling Program comes in.

The IFOA Forest Seedling Program provides a reliable source of genetically superior conifer tree seed to JD Forest Management for the production of healthy forest seedlings to ensure that Idaho forest landowners can obtain properly seed-sourced, healthy seedlings for their afforestation, reforestation, species diversity, forest improvement, restoration, riparian zone maintenance, windbreak, silvopasture or landscaping needs.

IFOA is a member of the Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative (IETIC). Founded in 1968, IETIC is a diverse group of 19 organizations in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana who have joined together to apply classical plant breeding techniques to important native conifer species for the purpose of producing genetically improved tree seed for commercial reforestation and ecosystem restoration. IETIC members, like IFOA, have access to this improved tree seed for our Forest Seedling Program.

The Forest Seedling Program includes:

- A tree seed bank consisting of six species of conifer seed:
 - o Douglas-fir
 - o Western larch
 - o Ponderosa pine
 - o Lodgepole pine
 - Western Redcedar
 - o Blister rust resistant western white pine
- Shares in four* IETIC tree seed orchards.
 - o Ponderosa pine orchard in Pullman, WA
 - o Western larch orchard in Vernon, BC
 - o Rust resistant western white pine orchard in Moscow, ID
 - o Douglas-fir orchard in Vernon, BC
- An advisory committee that determines the policies and direction of the seedling program, and
- Cash reserves to pay for future seed bank replenishment and for operating the seed orchards.

 All Forest Seedling Program funds received by IFOA from the sale of seed go back into the program, providing a source of revenue for purchasing more tree seed, and for development and maintenance of tree seed orchards.

*Plans to establish a western redcedar seed orchard are in the works.

SINCE 1998 THE PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED OVER 2,145,360 TREE SEEDLINGS!

To order quality sourced and grown forest seedlings, contact our grower partner, JD Forest Management (JDFM), in Priest River, ID. JDFM is partnering with IFOA to provide quality seedlings with advanced genetics to small private landowners. In addition to tree seedlings, JD Forest Management also offers tree planting services. For more information, contact Jake Weimer at 208-610-4425 or by email at jake@jdforestmanagement.com.