

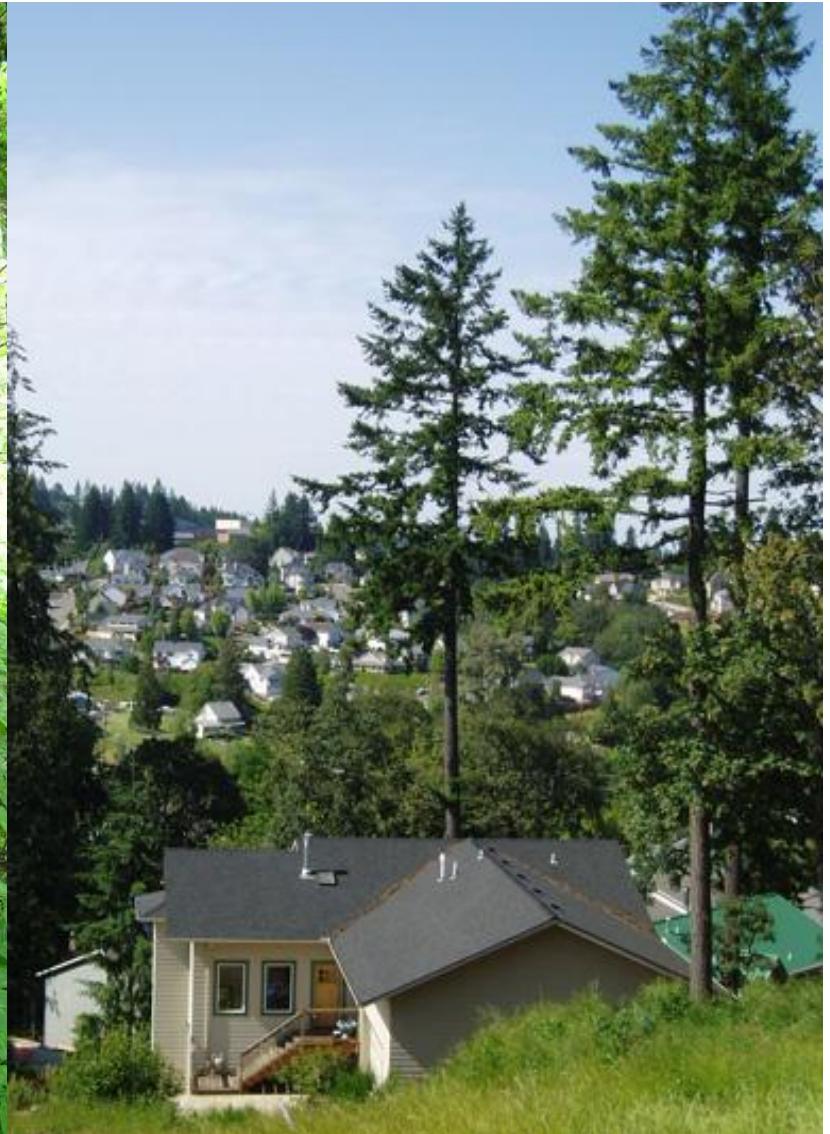
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UNIVERSITY



**Can Forestry Bridge Oregon's
Urban-Rural Divide?**

The Basic Premises

1. There is a real, or perceived, Urban-Rural divide in Oregon
2. Forestry can be something that helps bridge that divide, because people value what forests provide
3. However, people really don't understand much about trees or forestry as we think they do
4. Foresters can and need to do a better job connecting these dots



Oregon's Urban-Rural Divide

- " Oregon has been identified as having an urban-rural divide with many facets . population, economics, politics . and forestry?
- " The topic of books, conferences, and collaborations over the last decade



Sustainable Northwest Convenes Leader's Luncheon: ``Bridges Across Oregon's Urban-Rural Divid...

Oregon Field Guide – Crossing the Urban-Rural Divide · Oregon Public Broadcasting - Mozilla Firefox

Oregon universities see urban-rural divide | OregonLive.com - ...

Welcome to the urban-rural divide - The Daily Astorian: Edit...

Post-Election Poll Shows Deep Rural, Urban Divide In Oregon · OPB News - M...

Toward-One-Oregon.pdf - Adobe Reader

Toward One OREGON: Rural-Urban Interdependence
November 14, 2008
Salem Conference Center

7:30 - 8:30 **Registration & Continental Breakfast**

8:30 - 8:40 **Welcome and Agenda Review**
Beth Emshoff - Metro Specialist, OSU Extension Service

8:40 - 9:00 **Opening Remarks**
Ed Ray - OSU President
Wim Wiewel - PSU President
Russell S. Tomlin - UO Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

9:00 - 9:15 **A Tale of Two Oregons**
Shcila Martin - Director, Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies, PSU
Bruce Weber - Professor & Director, Rural Studies Institute, OSU

9:15 - 10:30 **Who Are We and Where Are We Going? Rural Urban History and Demographics**
Carl Abbott - Professor, Urban Studies & Planning, PSU
Bill Robbins - Professor Emeritus, History, OSU
Roger Hammer - Asst. Professor, Sociology, OSU
Moderator: Michael Hibbard - Director,
Institute for Policy Research & Innovation, UO

10:30 - 10:45 **Break**

10:45 - 11:45 **Prospects for Rural/Urban Cooperation in Governance**
Richard Clucas - Professor, Political Science, PSU
Mark Henkels - Professor, Political Science, WOU
Brent Steel - Professor, Political Science, OSU
Moderator:
Bruce Weber - Professor & Director, Rural Studies Institute, OSU

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
Beth Emshoff
Leader, Metro Initiative

Lyla Hougum
Director, Special Initiatives

Bruce Weber
Professor and Director
Rural Studies Institute

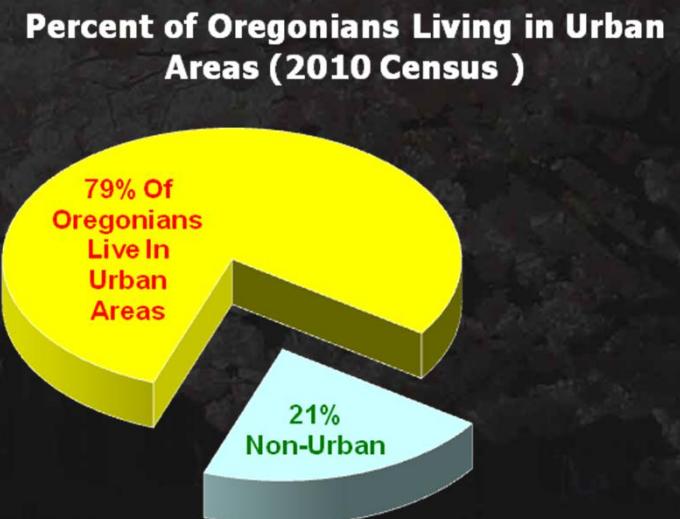
PORLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Ethan Seltzer
Professor and Director
Nohad A. Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning

Sheila Martin
Director, Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies

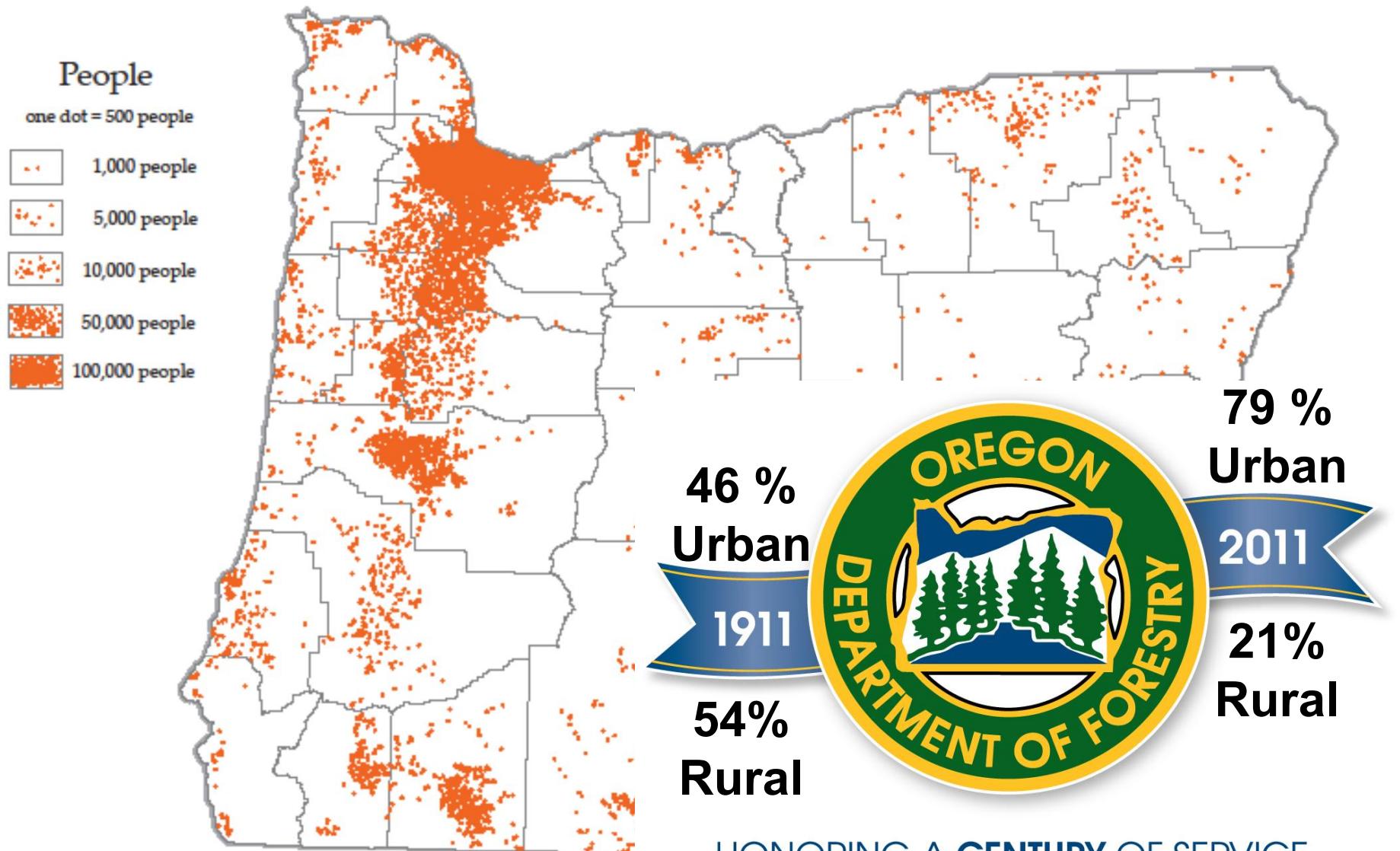


A Look at Oregon Population Data

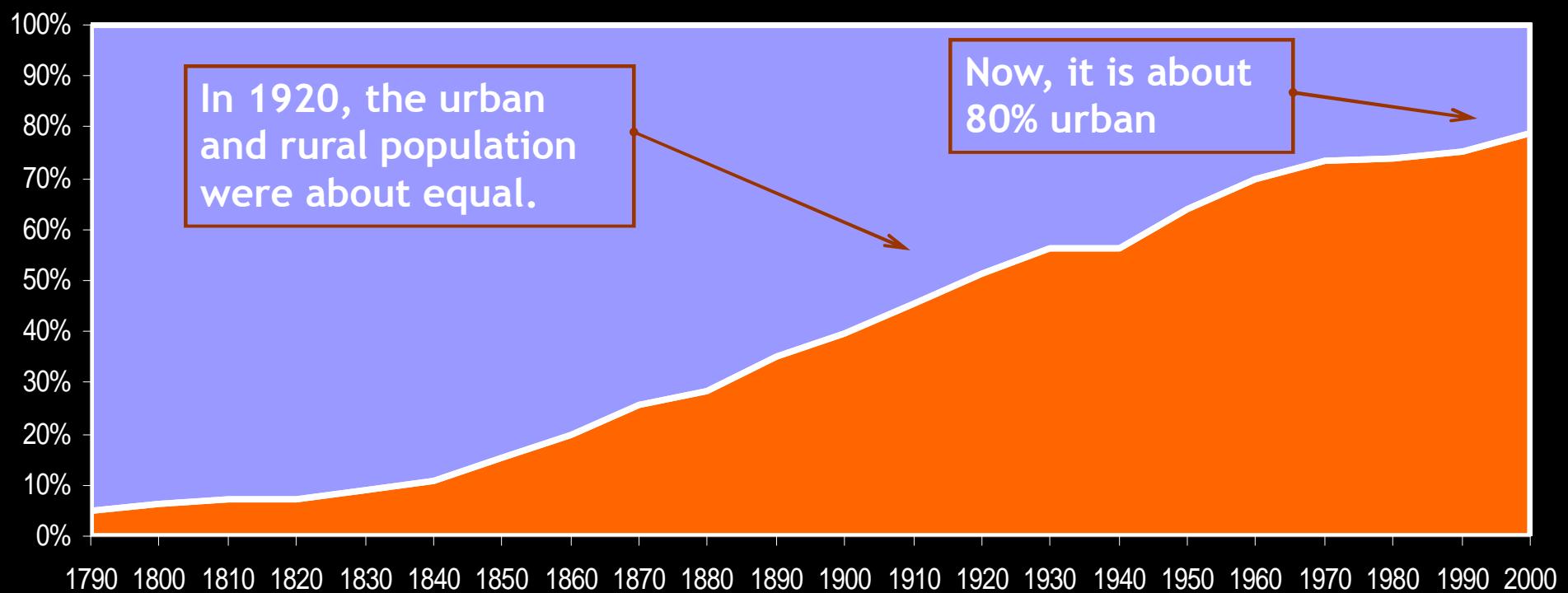
- “ Oregon’s population grew 20% between 1990 and 2000
- “ 3.1 million (or 79%) of Oregon’s 3.9 million people live in 242 cities, and in urbanized unincorporated areas
- “ When it comes to land area, Oregon is clearly a rural state, but in population distribution terms, it has the same rural/urban split as states such as Pennsylvania



Oregon's Population Density

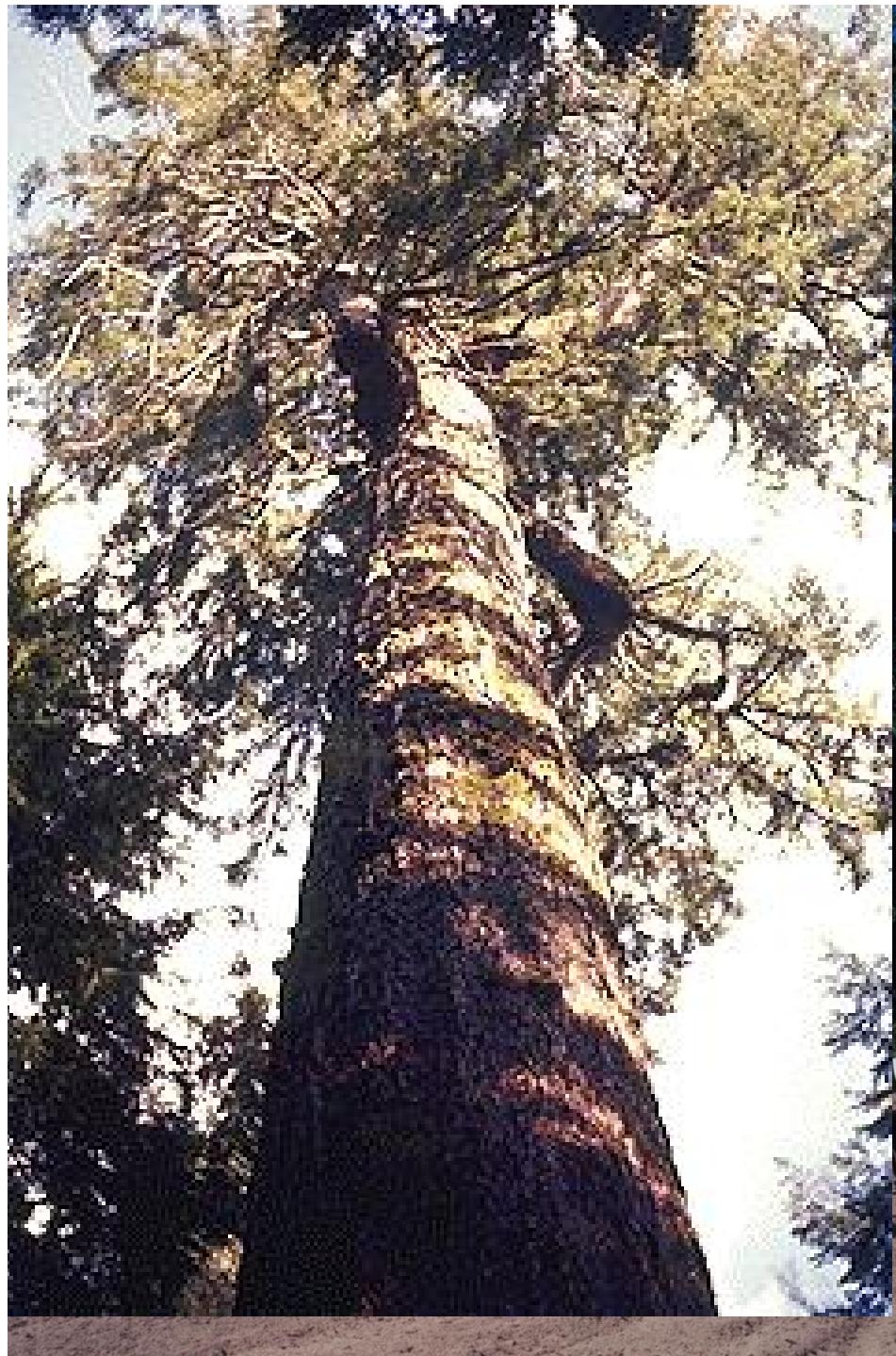


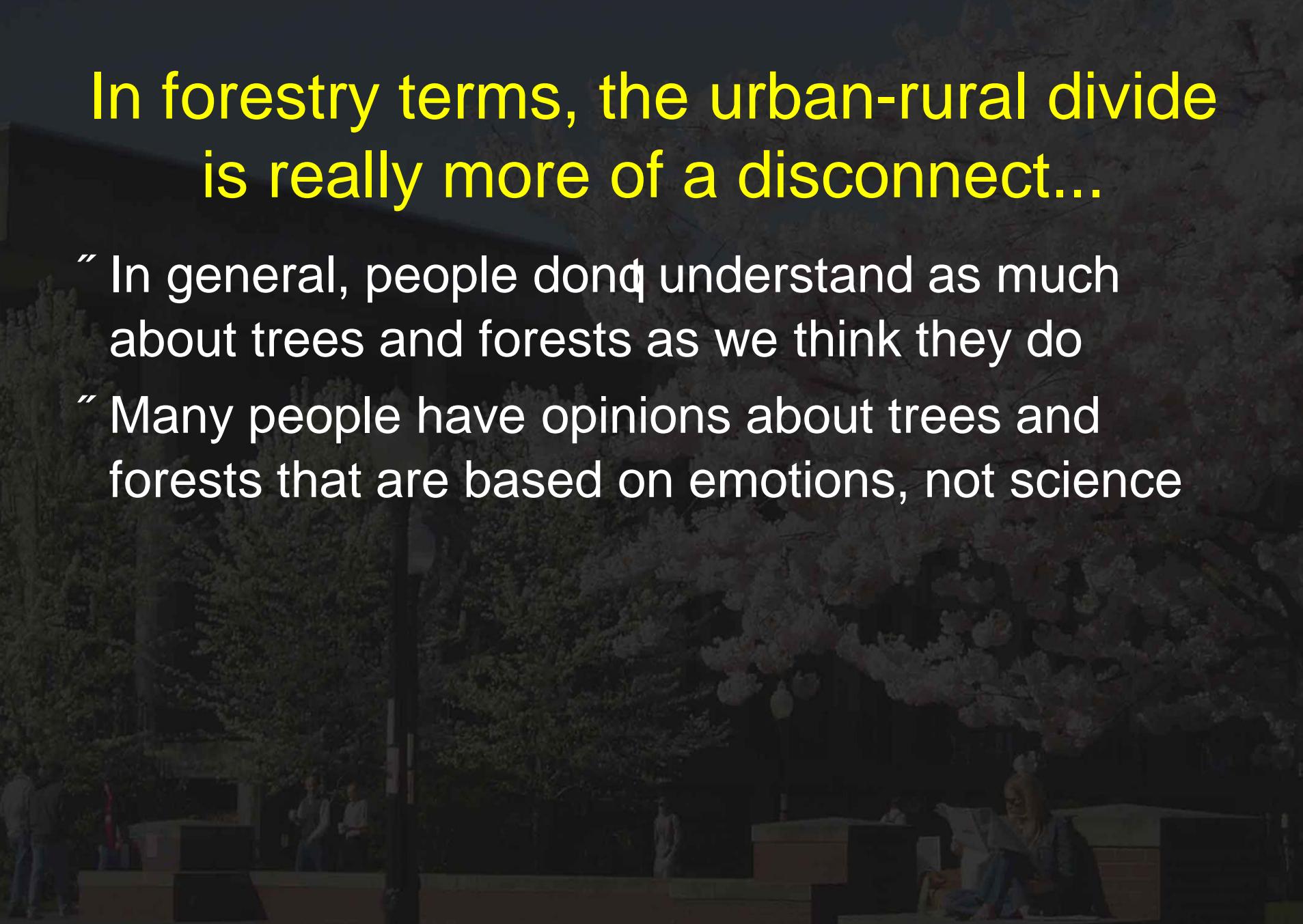
Urban and Rural Population in the United States (1790 to 2000)



How Oregon's Population Trends Impact Forestry

- “ With increased population, there are more voters that need to be reached with forestry messages
- “ Urban residents do not have the same connection to forests that rural residents do
- “ Urban voters are the major determiners of land use and forestry initiatives that appear on election ballots
- “ Oregon is losing forest canopy cover to urban development





In forestry terms, the urban-rural divide is really more of a disconnect...

- ” In general, people don’t understand as much about trees and forests as we think they do
- ” Many people have opinions about trees and forests that are based on emotions, not science

What to do about it

" Help people connect to the values that forests provide, and why they need to be managed . whether they are urban or rural ones



Rural Forests and Urban Forests

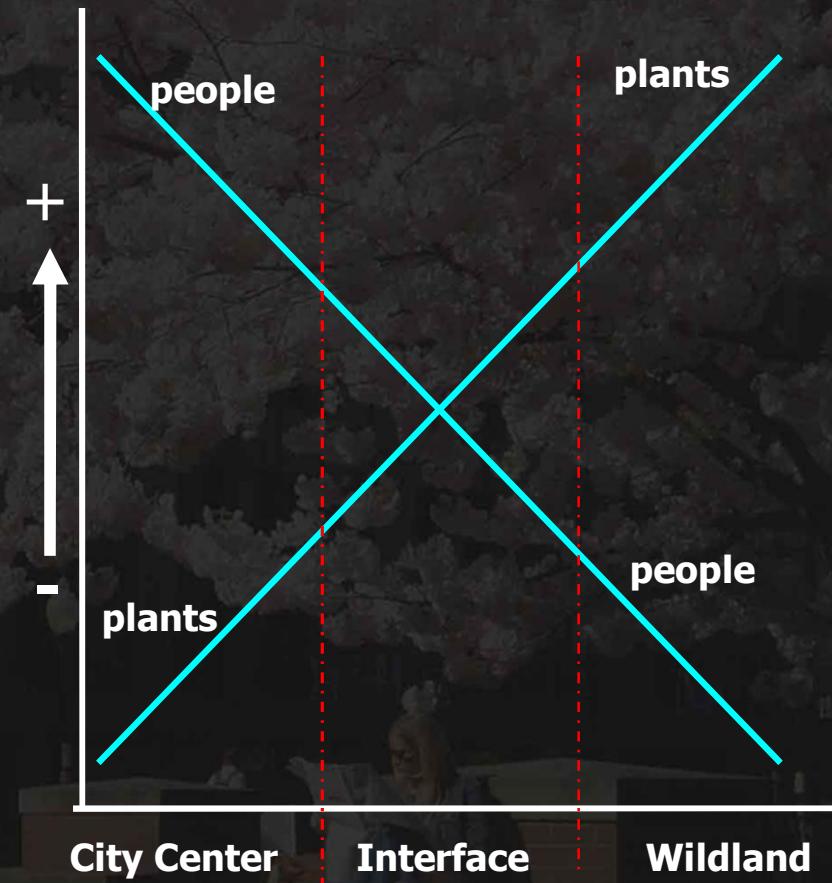
- ” Connected, not separate ecosystems
- ” Both require management and investment to remain sustainable



The Urban - Wildland Forest Gradient

My colleague Dr. Gordon Bradley of the University of Washington calls this the Urban-Wildland Forest Gradient.

It helps explain the relationship between rural and urban forestry - and the urban/rural interface.



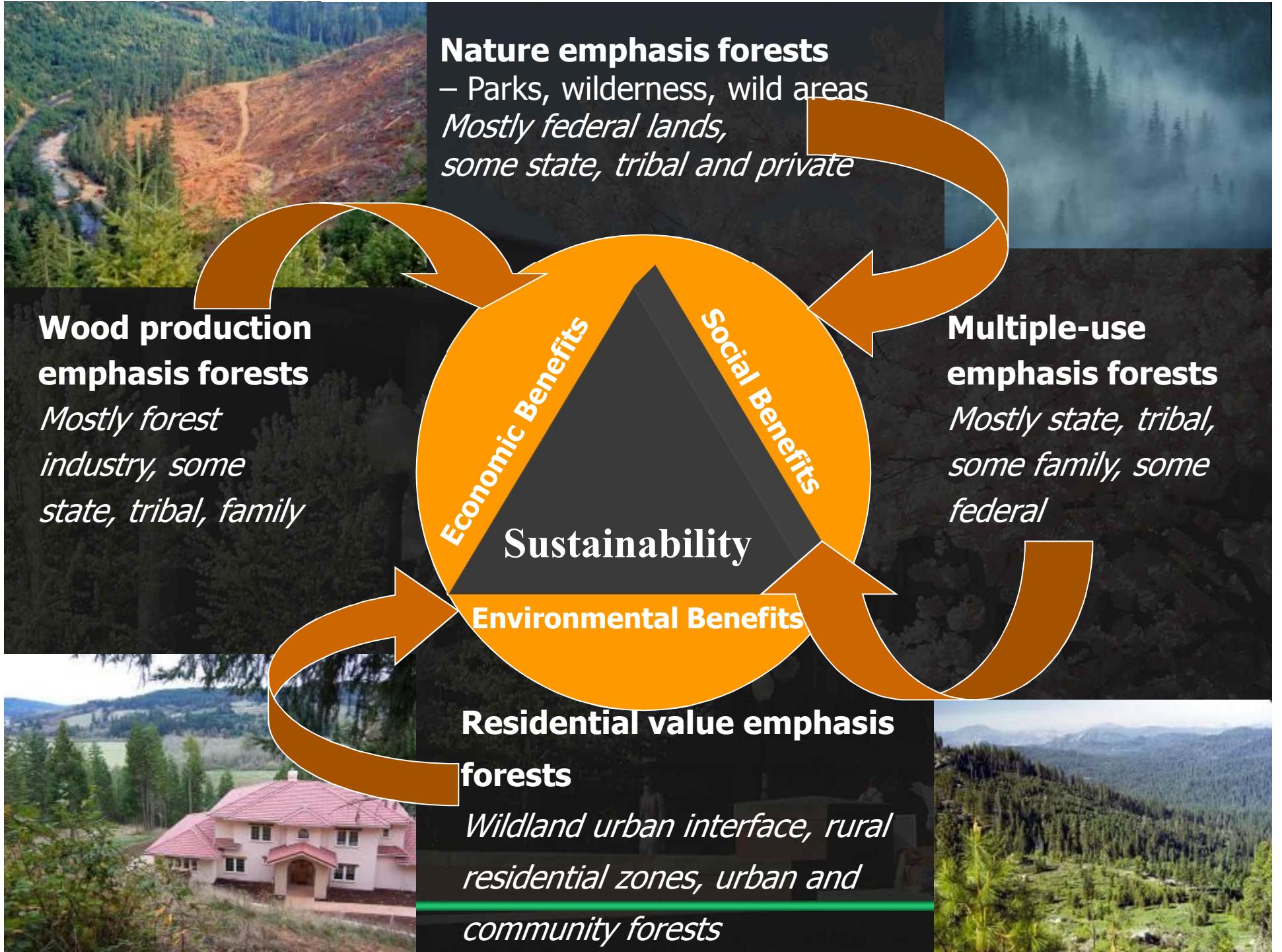
Threats to Forests

Rural Forests

- ” Invasive species
- ” Wildfire
- ” Insects and Disease
- ” Lack of investment
- ” Lack of management
- ” Fragmentation
- ” Development
- ” Natural disasters
- ” Ignorance
- ” Apathy

Urban Forests

- ” Invasive species
- ” Wildfire
- ” Insects and Disease
- ” Lack of investment
- ” Lack of management
- ” Fragmentation
- ” Development
- ” Natural Disasters
- ” Ignorance
- ” Apathy



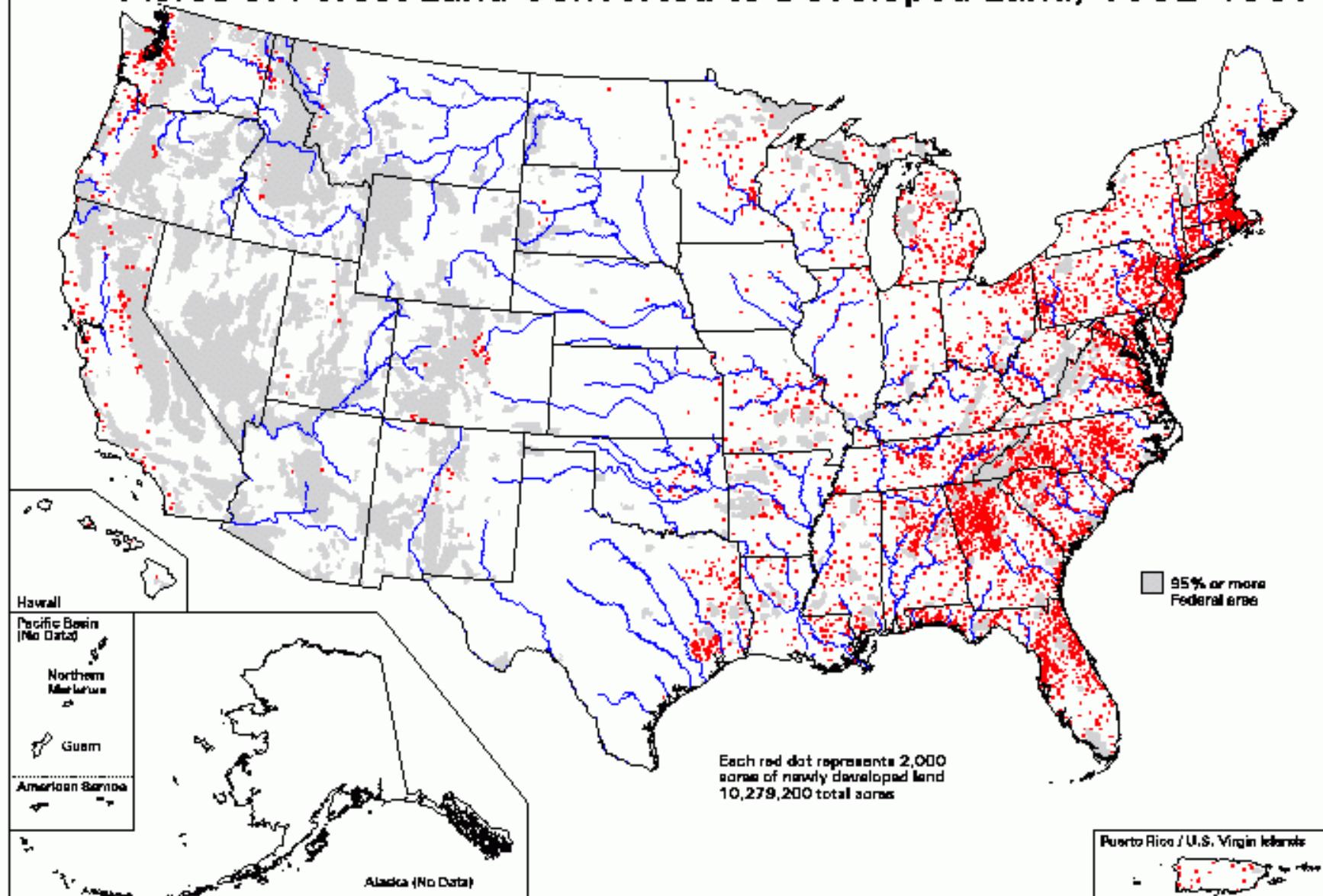
“30 years ago it was unpaved, a rock road, with no infrastructure.
Now it’s a neighborhood”



“The value of the trees they can take off the land is negligible compared to the raw real estate value.”



Acres of Forest Land Converted to Developed Land, 1982-1997



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Resource Assessment Division
Washington DC January 2001

Map ID: m5104
For proper interpretation, see Explanation
of Analysis for this map at our web site. Search
for "USDA801" to locate our map index.

Data Source: 1987 National Resources Inventory
Revised December 2000

The National Context

- ” Between 1982 and 1997, the amount of land deforested was equal in size to all the forests in the state of Washington.
- ” More than 50 million acres of forestland are projected to be converted to developed uses over the next 50 years.
- ” The PNW population is expected to grow faster than the national average

Sustainability

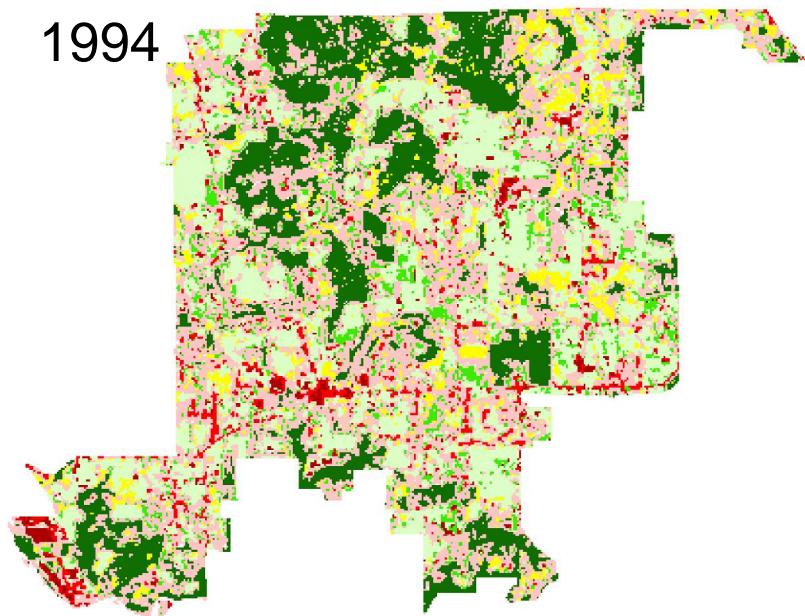


Sustainability

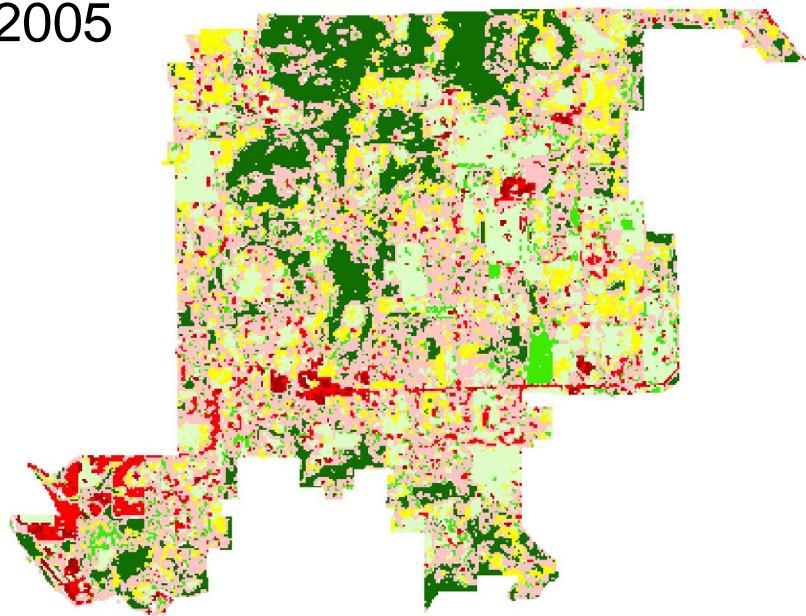


City of Damascus

1994



2005



Developed, Open Space



Developed, Low Intensity



Developed, Medium Intensity



Developed, High Intensity



Forest in Transition



Forest Cover



Agriculture, Bare Land, Shrub/Scrub

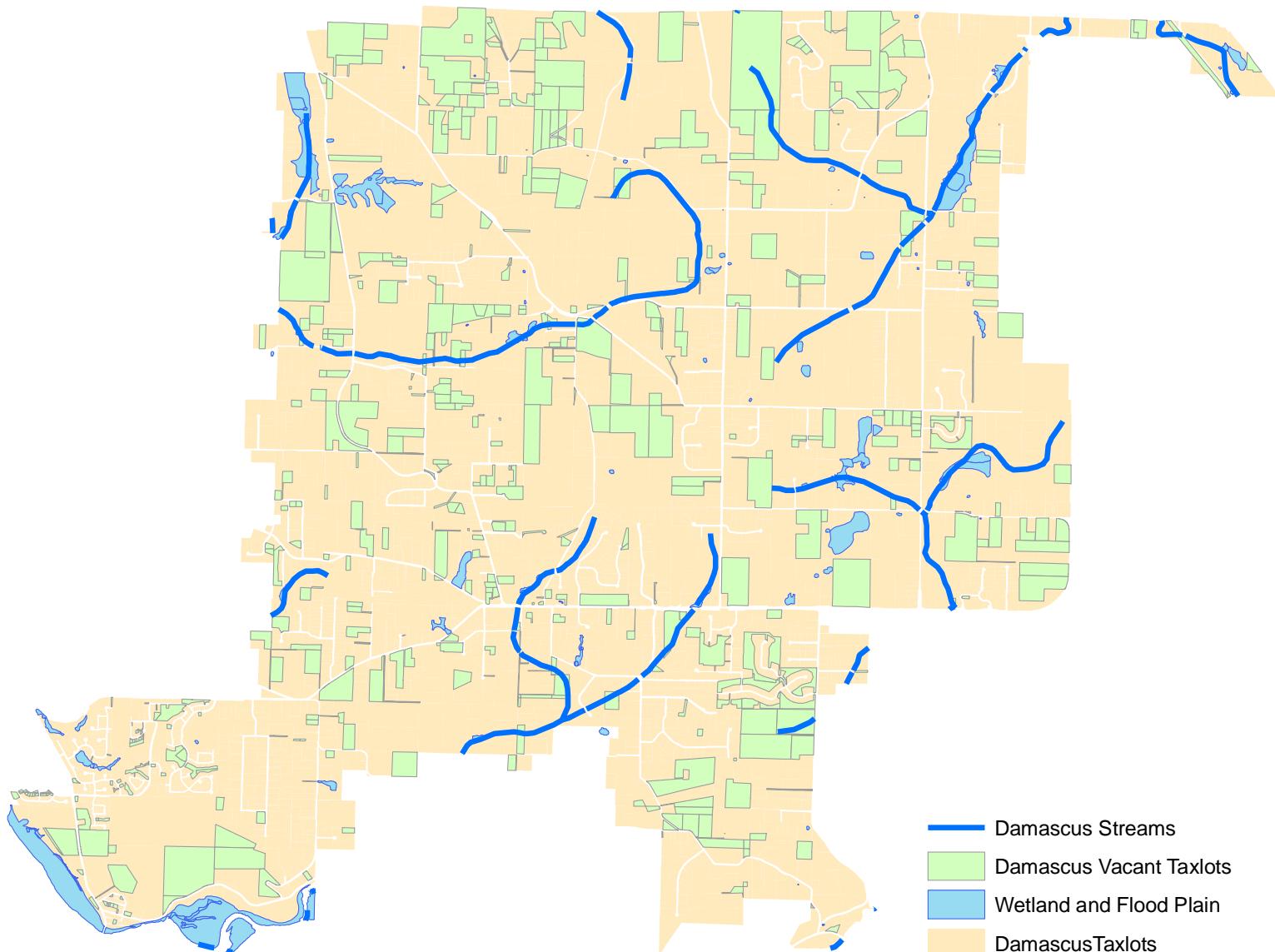


Wetlands



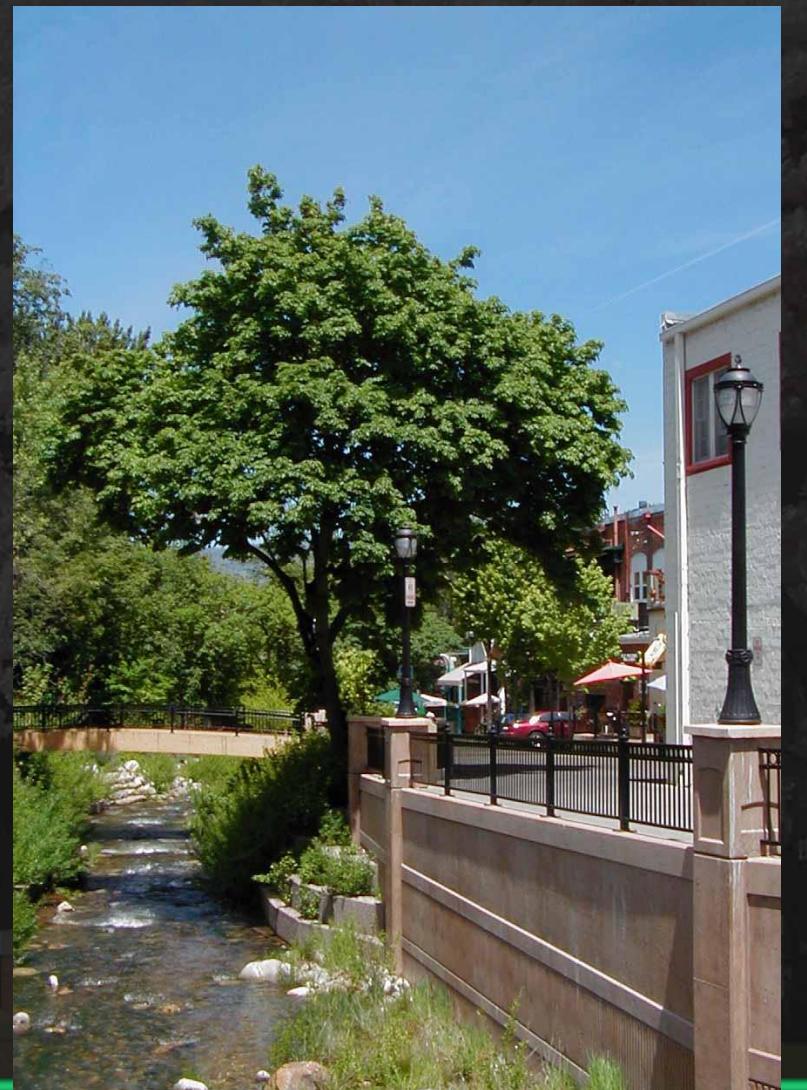
Open Water

Buildable Land with Potential to Meet Leaf-Out Goals



Ecosystem Services

- “ The ecological functions that sustain and improve human life
- “ The Green solution can be cheaper than the engineered solution



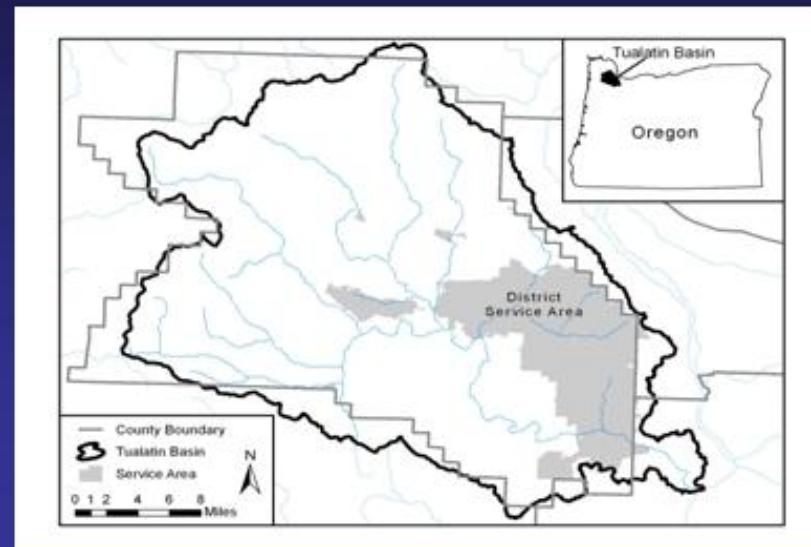
Putting Green to Work



Wherever there's water, there's Clean Water.



A: Clean Water Services
Water Temperature in Tualatin River Watershed



The Green Answer is the More Cost-Effective Answer

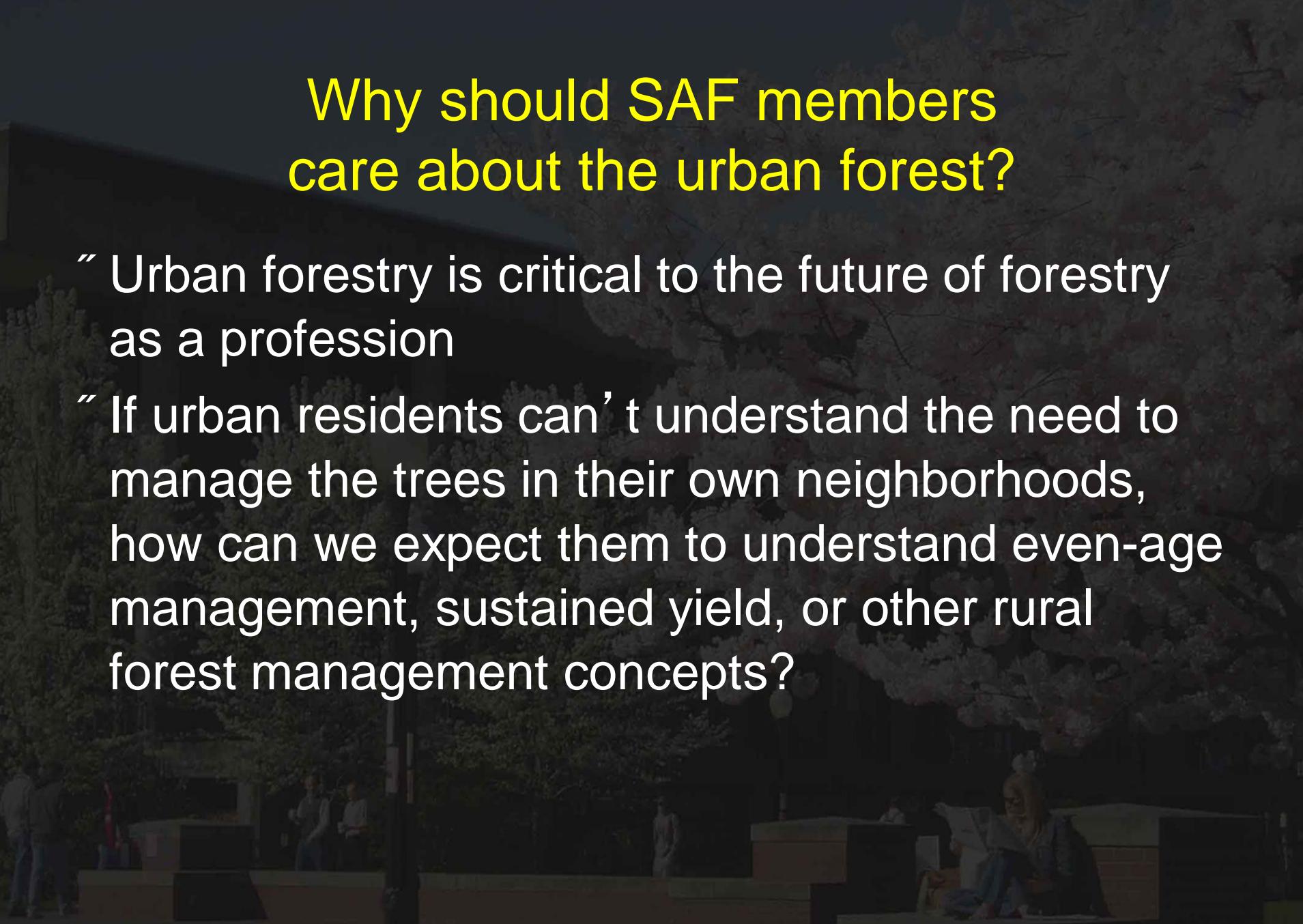


Water chiller
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Riparian tree buffer
\$\$

Net Economic Benefits of Ecosystem Restoration

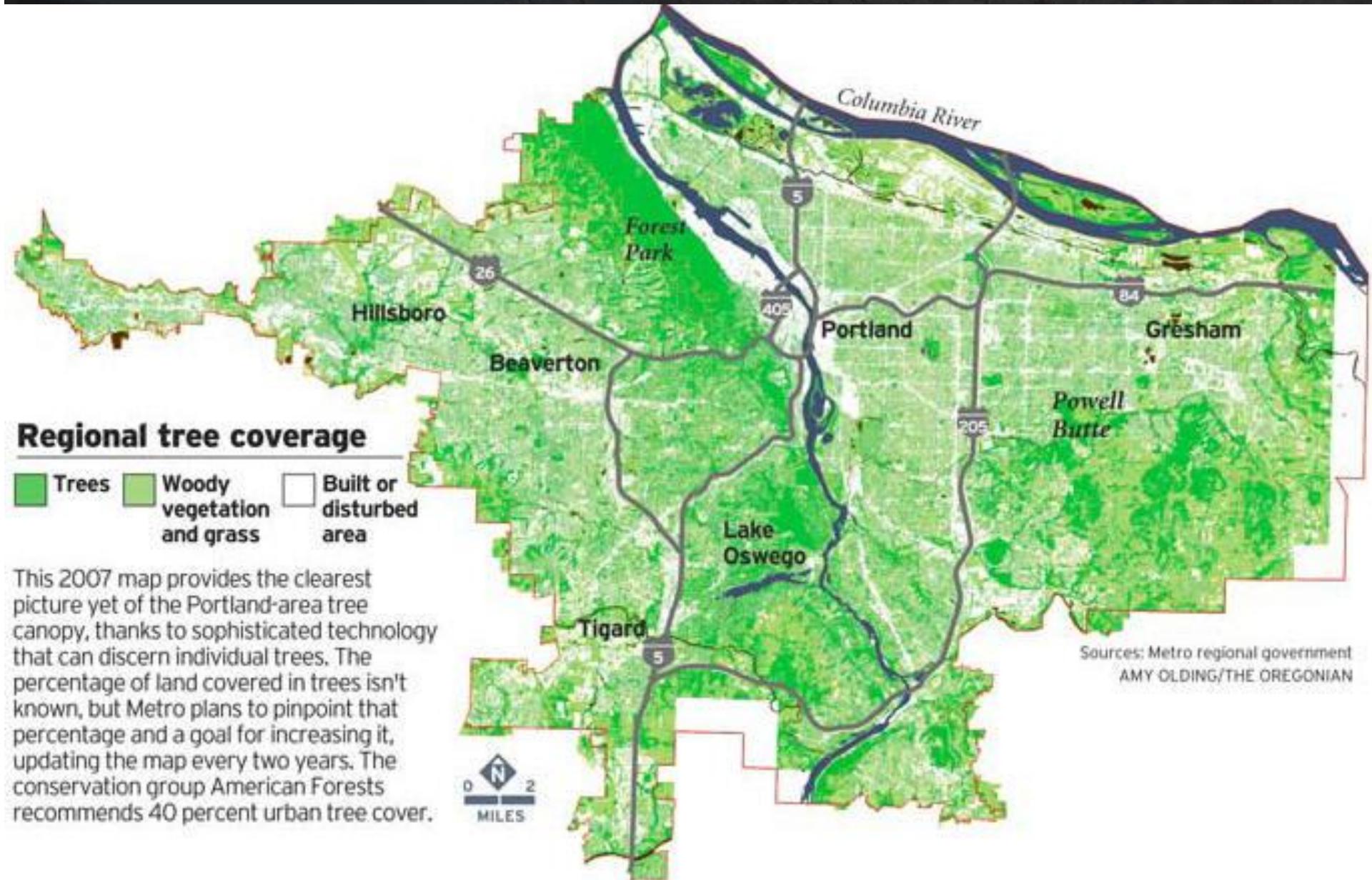
- ” Streamside forest 45 ft. width for 17.5 river miles
- ” CWS planted 2X length to account for variability
- ” 5 years @ \$29,000 per acre (\$12 million total)
- ” Saved \$50.5 million relative to the chiller alternative
- ” Ancillary benefits not included



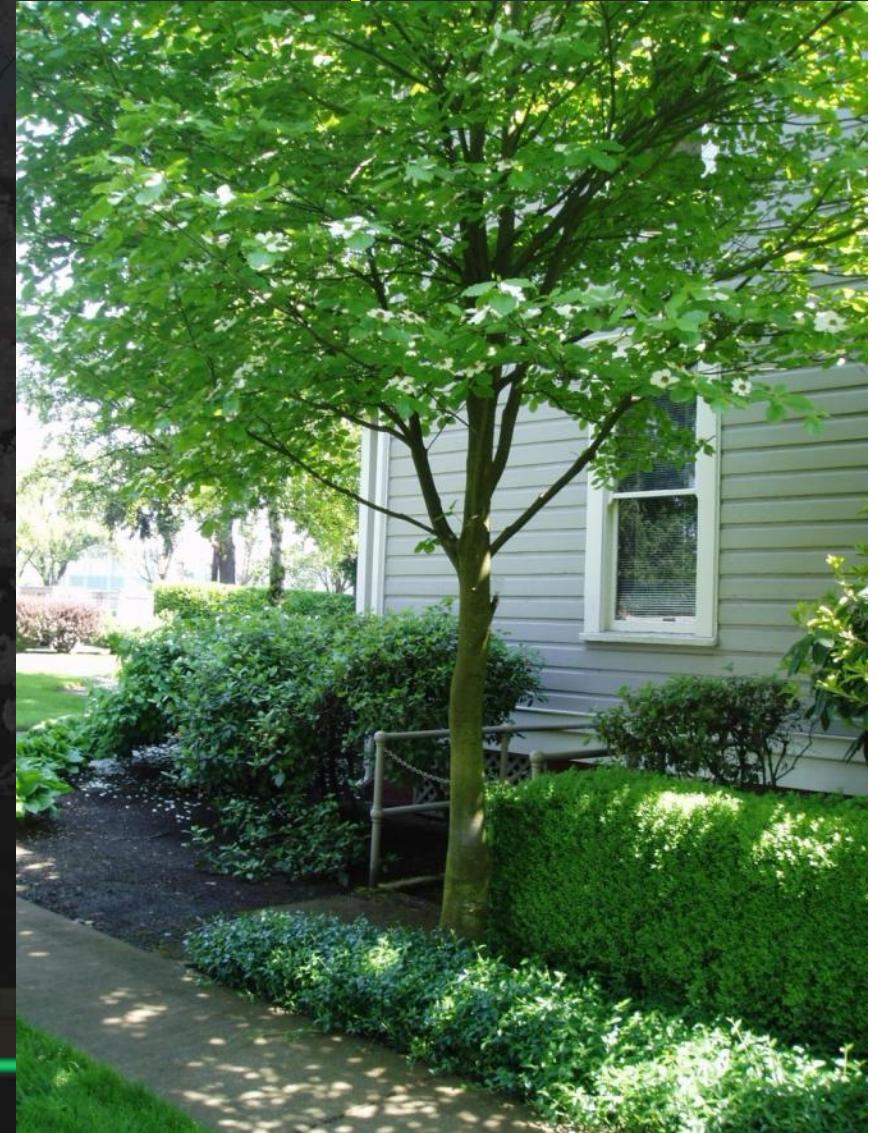
Why should SAF members care about the urban forest?

- ” Urban forestry is critical to the future of forestry as a profession
- ” If urban residents can’t understand the need to manage the trees in their own neighborhoods, how can we expect them to understand even-age management, sustained yield, or other rural forest management concepts?

“Urban Forestry is Voter Forestry” – Don Willeke

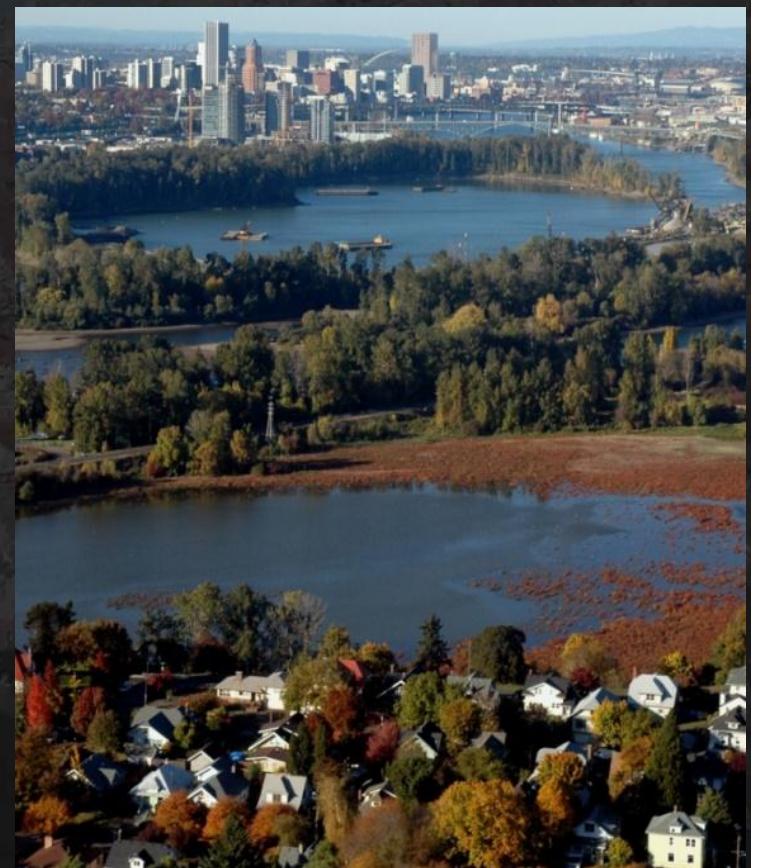


The management goal in rural forests and in urban forests are fundamentally the same .
sound management, and healthy forests



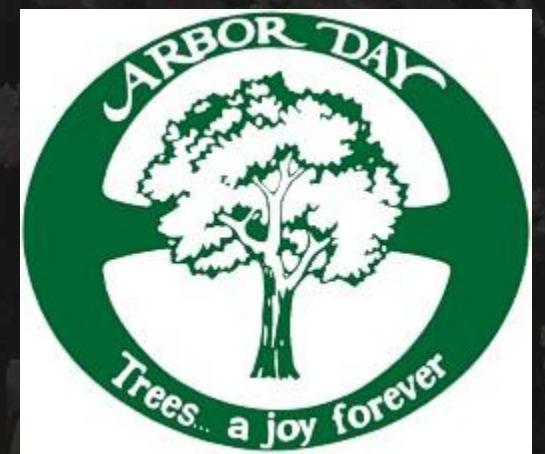
Forestry as a unifying element

- ” Focus on the values that forests provide
- ” Remind people of the need for working forests
- ” Help people understand the dynamic nature of forests



Foresters as educators

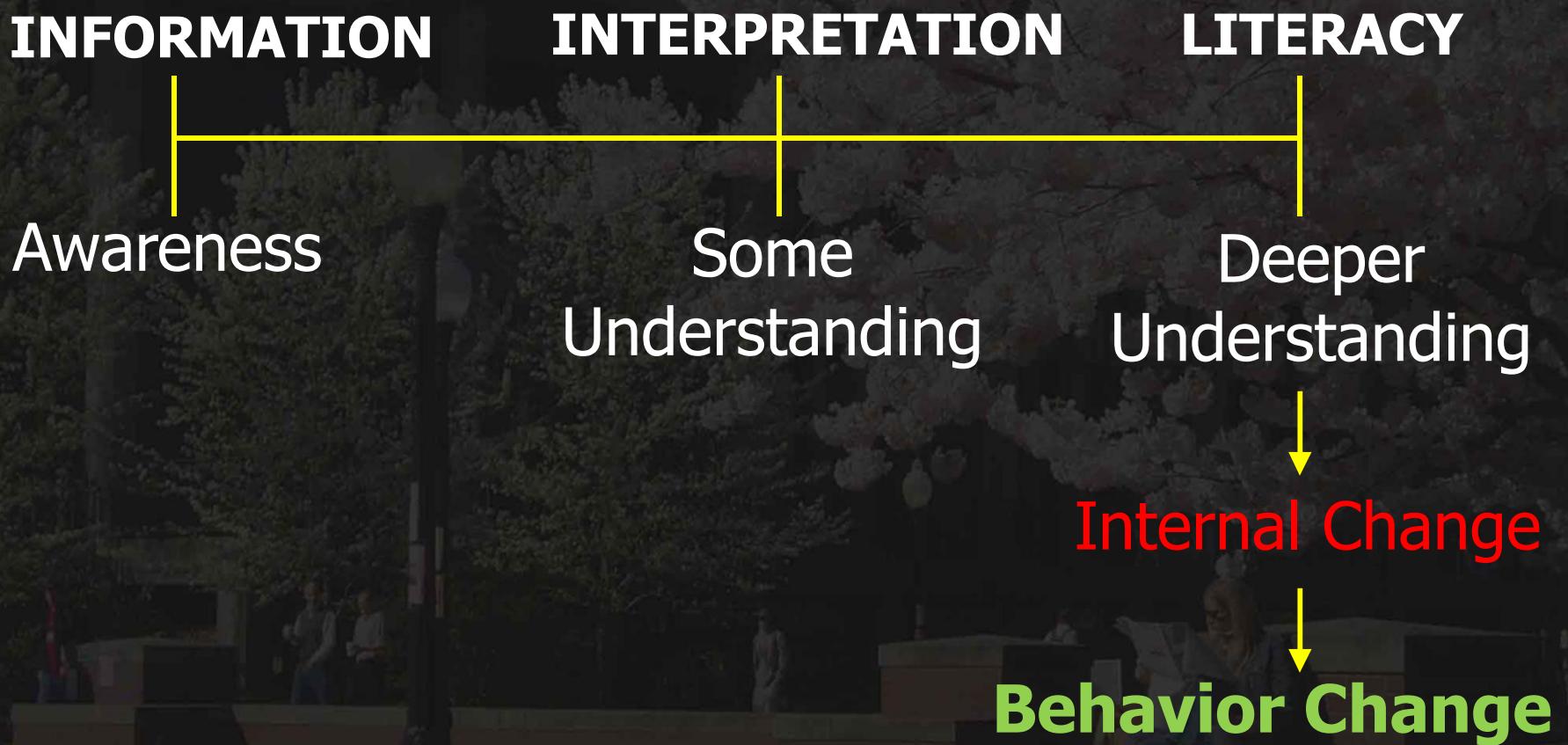
- ” Tomorrow (April 27th) is National Arbor Day
- ” A forester who ignores Arbor Day is like a florist who takes a vacation on Valentine’s Day .
- ” Help people make connections with the values that forests provide before you talk about complex management issues





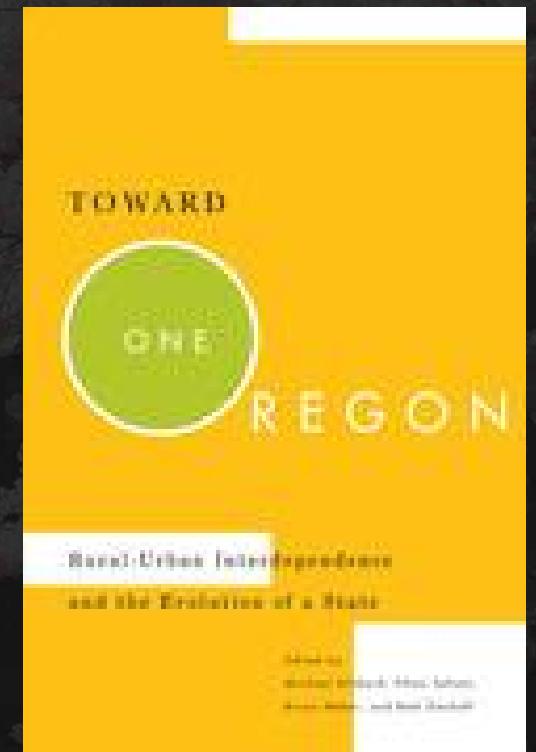
Educational Effectiveness

We need to push this direction with our educational efforts



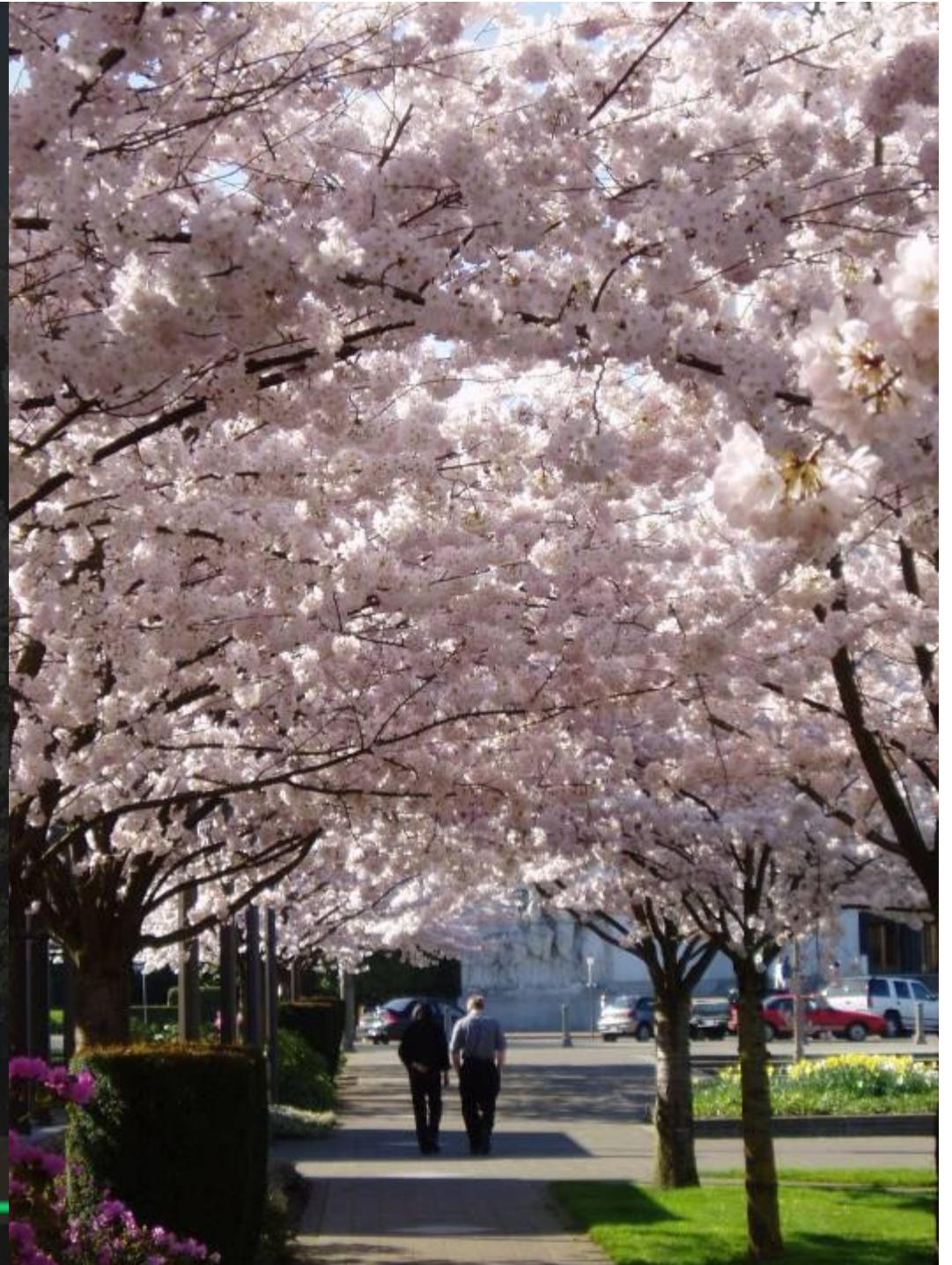
Explore more about this topic

- ” *Toward One Oregon: Rural-Urban Interdependence and the Evolution of a State*
- ” Edited by Michael Hibbard, Ethan Seltzer, Bruce Weber, and Beth Emshoff
- ” OSU Press, 2011



In Conclusion...

- Active management of our forests, both rural and urban, pays dividends for all Oregonians
- Forestry is something that the two should have in common...



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