

A photograph of a forest with large tree trunks and dense undergrowth. The text is overlaid on the image.

**A Citizen's Call for Ecological  
Forest Restoration:  
National Forest Restoration  
Principles & Criteria**

A photograph of a forest path with large trees and dense undergrowth. The path is a narrow dirt trail winding through a lush green forest. Several large, mature trees with thick, textured bark stand prominently on either side of the path. The ground is covered in a dense carpet of green ferns and other forest floor plants. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a dappled light effect on the path and the surrounding vegetation.

# Need for Restoration

- Fire suppression
- Logging
- Live stock grazing
- Mining
- Road building
- Exotic species



# Need for Restoration

- Soil compaction
- Habitat fragmentation
- Overbuilt, under-maintained road system
- Altered natural structure and processes
- Species at risk
- Degraded streams

A photograph of a forest with large tree trunks and dense undergrowth. The trees are tall and have thick, textured bark. The ground is covered in green and brown vegetation, including ferns and other plants. The lighting is soft, suggesting a shaded forest environment.

# Restoration Activities: More harm than good?

- Political pressure for national policy solutions
- National Fire Plan/10-year Strategy
- Healthy Forest Initiative

A photograph of a forest path with large trees and green undergrowth. The path is a narrow dirt trail winding through a dense forest. The trees are tall and have thick, textured bark. The ground is covered with various green plants and ferns. The lighting is soft, suggesting a misty or overcast day.

# National Policy Framework Needed

- Identify ecologically appropriate, scientifically supported forest restoration principles
- Provide a yard stick against which to measure policies and projects
- Provide a broad framework as a basis for regional and local restoration principles

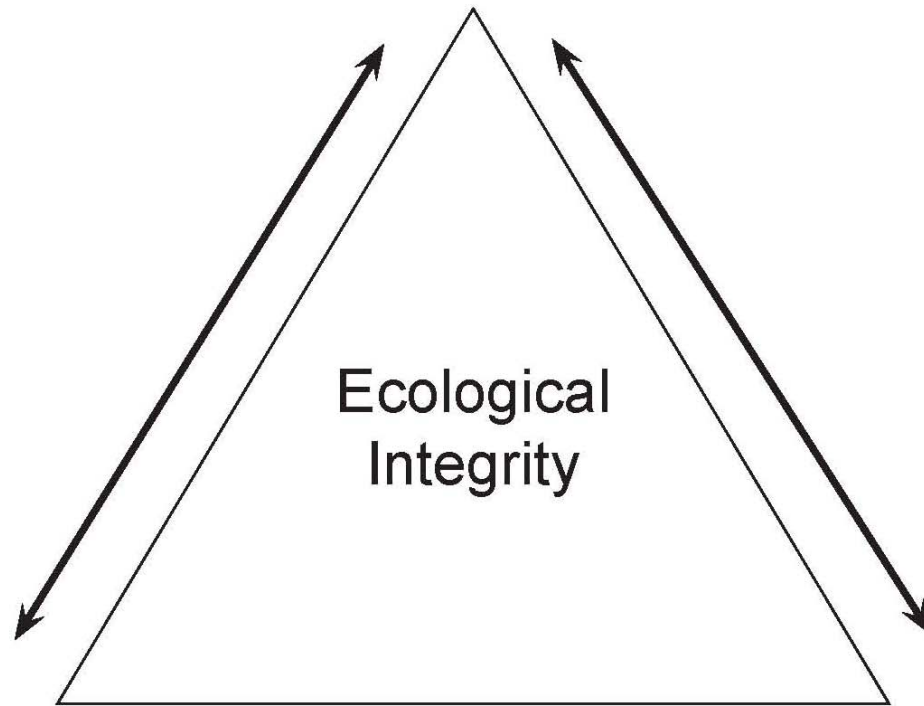
A photograph of a forest with large tree trunks and dense undergrowth. The image shows several thick, textured tree trunks in the foreground and middle ground, surrounded by lush green and brownish vegetation. The background is a dense forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

# Overall Goal:

Enhance ecological integrity by  
restoring natural processes and  
resiliency

# Core Principles

I. Ecological Forest  
Restoration Principle



II. Ecological Economics  
Principle



III. Communities and Work  
Force Principle



# I. Ecological Principles and Criteria

## 1. Conduct Restoration Assessment

- ★ Root causes
- ★ Multiple Scales

## 2. Determine Approach

- ★ *Protect*: Areas of High Ecological Integrity
- ★ *Passive*: Cease activities that impede natural recovery processes
- ★ *Active*: Reintroduce natural processes direct intervention



# I. Ecological Principles and Criteria

## 3. Community Protection Zone

- ★ Restoration Vs. life & property

## 4. Adaptive Management

- ★ Monitoring & evaluation
- ★ Implementation & effectiveness
- ★ Incorporate into project cost

A photograph of a forest path with large trees and green undergrowth. The path is narrow and leads into the distance, flanked by tall, textured tree trunks. The ground is covered in lush green plants and ferns. The lighting is soft, suggesting a shaded forest environment.

## II. Ecological Economics

Develop positive incentives & eliminate negative incentives for sound restoration

- ★ Investments across land ownerships
- ★ Budget: Consistent, multi-year funding
- ★ Best value Vs. lowest bid
- ★ Local workforce



# III. Communities & Workforce

## 1. Community/Workforce Sustainability

- ★ Highly skilled, diverse
- ★ Quality jobs

## 2. Participatory Principle

- ★ Diverse stakeholders
- ★ Common goals & values
- ★ Consensus based

A photograph of a forest path with large tree trunks and dense green undergrowth. The path is narrow and appears to be made of dirt or fallen leaves. The trees are tall and have thick, textured bark. The undergrowth is lush and green, with some small flowers visible. The overall scene is a dense, natural forest setting.

# Conclusion

- ✓ Effective education tool
- ✓ Regional and local initiatives
- ✓ More regional and local initiatives
- ✓ Funding