



University of Idaho
College of Natural Resources

Forest Innovations Institute

driving cutting-edge, practical solutions to sustain and enhance forests through research, technology, and collaboration.

FII Vision

The Forest Innovations Institute (FII) facilitates transformative and interdisciplinary research and technical assistance to advance the science and practice of forest technology, health, and policy for managing public and private forestlands in Idaho and the region. FII will engage industry specialists, businesses, Native American Tribes, nonprofit organizations, other universities, and public land management agencies to achieve healthy, productive forests that enhances community and economic wellbeing.

Our Mission

Our mission is to advance the use of contemporary and emerging technologies and information systems that support research and technical assistance across forest systems and product value chains. FII will collaborate with university faculty and students in the ecological, physical, and social sciences to advance practical solutions on behalf of the region's industries and landowners.

Collaboration

The collaborative efforts of the FII will be structured to support a future-facing forest sector through cross-sector partnerships, interdisciplinary research, and workforce preparation. To support research and workforce training endeavors, the FII draws upon the expertise of private companies, public land management agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Native American tribes.

Collaboration within FII

The University of Idaho has several facilities and research units whose objectives are uniquely aligned with the FII vision:

Center for Forest Nursery and Seedling Research

A global leader in native plant regeneration education and research housed at the Franklin H. Pitkin Forest Nursery—a fully operational production nursery that produces nearly 500,000 seedlings annually.

Forest Products Lab

Producing sustainable, innovative products adding value to the entire forest supply chain while advancing responsible use of forestlands.

IFIRE Combustion Lab

This state-of-the-art, highly instrumented facility is the only fire combustion lab located on a university campus in the US.

Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative

This regional forestry consortium meets reforestation challenges by applying forest crop breeding techniques for best outcomes.

Intermountain Forestry Cooperative

A regional cooperative of federal, state and private forestry organizations with the goal of developing forest management practices that best meet members' ecological, economic and regulatory objectives.

Mica Creek Experimental Watershed

A 25+ year watershed-scale collaboration between Potlatch Corporation and UI to study the impacts of logging practices on streams and fish.

Policy Analysis Group

Established by the Idaho State Legislature in 1989, PAG provides data and objective analysis of the impacts of natural resource policy proposals to industry, communities and the legislature.

UI Drone Lab

A hub for drone-related activities that provides a pool of drones, sensors, equipment, software and knowledge to support high-quality research and management.

UI Experimental Forest

Provides forestry training, learning and employment opportunities for students across a 10,000 acre network of research and working lands.

UI Forest Affiliate Network

Collaborative partnership among private, industrial, and public entities to transfer cutting edge forest science and management strategies.

Wildland Fire Center

A hub of fire science and management expertise bringing together people from across the full spectrum of fire-related topics.

