

Aspens



Threats to Aspen

- Deer and Elk can strip the bark and girdle trees.
- Aspens like sunshine. Thick conifer trees will shade the understory and aspen saplings won't germinate.
- Aspens have a variety of diseases. It is important to have high regeneration to replace diseased trees.

Fire

- Aspens don't carry fire as easily as conifers.
- Large aspen groves can return a crown fire back to a surface fire.
- The thin bark doesn't offer much protection, fire will usually kill an Aspen.

How to Mitigate for Fire and Manage for Aspens

- Cut conifers in the understory that are encroaching on aspen stands.
- Fence trees that you don't want deer and elk to scrape on.
- Fence sapling germination to keep cows and elk from browsing.
- Remove dead aspen near you home.
- Remove all brush and mow grasses around aspens near your home.