

Northern Forests and Wetlands



KEITH LAZELLE



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It is a national treasure, a place of wild country and wildness that provides not only refuge for animals, but also refuge for the human spirit.

Most Idaho residents will never see a caribou, a wolverine, a grizzly or a lynx. But in Idaho's Panhandle these creatures still roam, capturing human imaginations even if they are not often spotted. To survive, these species need space—lots of space—for their individual life cycles and to maintain viable populations.

Industrial forests provide important habitat for these creatures. And large tracts of these forests will be for sale in the coming years.

Large mammals aren't the only creatures that benefit from habitat protection efforts in North Idaho. Westslope cutthroat trout need clear, cold water that is put at risk from development and road building. Waterfowl, shorebirds, grebes and ospreys rely on wetland habitat in North Idaho during their migrations. Conservation easements and other conservation tools can help all these species survive in this landscape.

Threats: Privately owned industrial forests are changing ownership, increasing the risk of forest fragmentation.

Opportunity: With your help, the Conservancy can obtain conservation easements on industrial forests to prevent their fragmentation by development and roads.



BOB GRIFFITH

contact information

The Nature Conservancy in Idaho
116 1st Avenue North
Hailey, Idaho 83333
(208) 788-8988
idahonature.org



SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH