



## Fuels Reduction Evaluation Tool

This spatial tool supports forest management on public and private lands in Montana by predicting and evaluating the potential of forest thinning treatments to limit wildfire hazard and promote avian diversity.



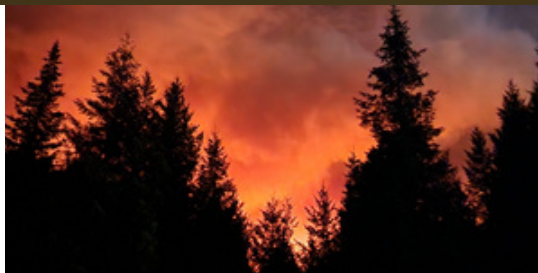
Forestry projects on private & public land



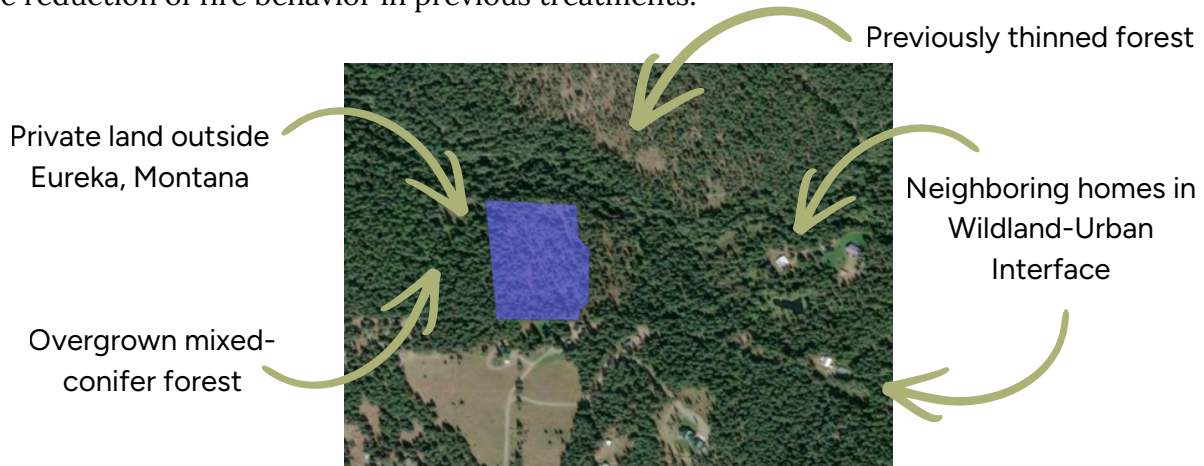
Fire resilient forests & communities



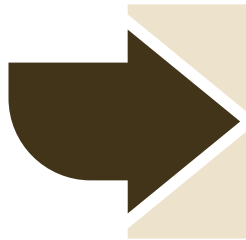
Improved forest habitat & bird abundance



Montana's forested landscapes are increasingly threatened by wildfire and decreasing bird and wildlife abundance. The Fuels Reduction Evaluation Tool (FRET) helps landowners and forest managers make decisions about forest thinning projects that can reduce wildfire risk and improve wildlife habitat—and evaluate the reduction of fire behavior in previous treatments.

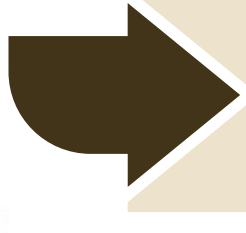
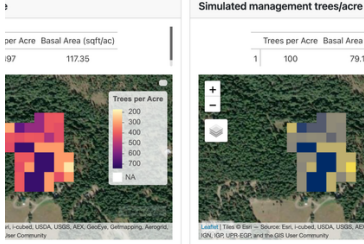


# How It Works



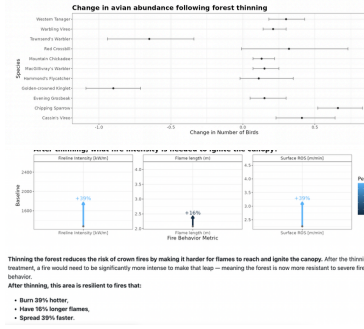
## Upload A Project Map

This private land outside of Eureka is densely treed with mixed conifer. It's also surrounded by other homes and not too far from the National Forest boundary.



## Determine Baseline & Simulate Treatment

FRET estimates the number of live trees per acre on a given site before treatment and shows where tree density is higher or lower. Users can simulate various levels of thinning treatment (or input post treatment data) before running the model.



## Get Results For Wildfire Risk & Bird Abundance

The two models supported by FRET show that thinning this parcel from 497 to 100 trees per acre will make the parcel resilient to hotter, faster burning fires and increase the abundance of certain species of forest birds.

Thinning reduced the risk of catastrophic crown fire on this property. Fires will need to burn 39% hotter and faster and have 16% longer flames to reach the canopy.

This project could also increase the abundance of forest bird species like Western Tanager, Cassin's Vireo, and MacGillivray's Warbler.

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Check out the tool!



<https://bird-conservancy.shinyapps.io/IWJV-forest-tool/>



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