

## Vocabulary

**Aesthetic:** of, relating to, or dealing with aesthetics or the beautiful. Aesthetics are in the eye of the beholder, and each and every one of us has a perception of what a forest should look like. It is often different for each individual. When thinking about forest health, it is important to first speak to the function of a forest as well as aesthetics. A scientist will view a forest differently from a bird watcher.

**Chemistry:** a science that deals with the structure and properties of substances and the changes they go through.

**Community:** (scientific) a group of animals or plants that live in the same place.

**Drought:** a long period of time during which there is very little or no rain.

**Monoculture:** Dominated by a single species, such as ponderosa pine.

**Montane forest:** of, relating to, growing in, or being the biogeographic zone of relatively moist cool upland slopes below timberline dominated by large coniferous trees.

**Mosaic:** a surface decoration made by inlaying small pieces of variously colored material to form pictures or patterns. In a forest, a mosaic refers to a diversity of numerous species and species ages, and how those species are arranged and distributed.

**Photosynthesis:** the process by which a green plant turns water and carbon dioxide into food and oxygen when the plant is exposed to light.

**Pollutant:** a substance that makes land, water, air, etc., unsafe or suitable to use: something that causes pollution.

**Restoration:** Returning something to its former condition, repairing.

**Sequestration:** the act of keeping a group apart from another thing or the state of being kept apart from the other group. Carbon sequestration refers to catching and storing carbon for a period of time.

**Serotinous:** remaining closed on the tree with seed dissemination delayed or occurring gradually. In the case of a pinecone, it refers to a cone that is dependent upon heat to open the cone to allow the seed to escape and potentially germinate.

**Sustainable:** able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed.

**Watershed:** a region or area bounded peripherally by a divide and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.