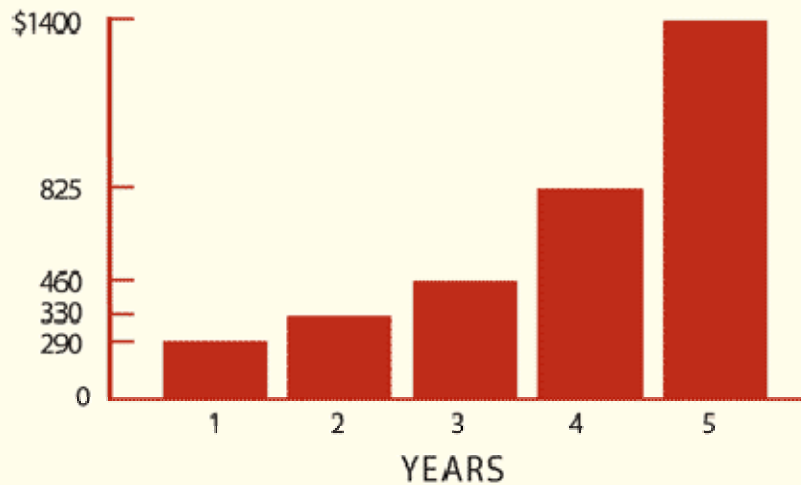


THE COST OF DELAY: REFORESTATION COSTS AFTER OREGON WILDFIRES INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY AS TIME PASSES

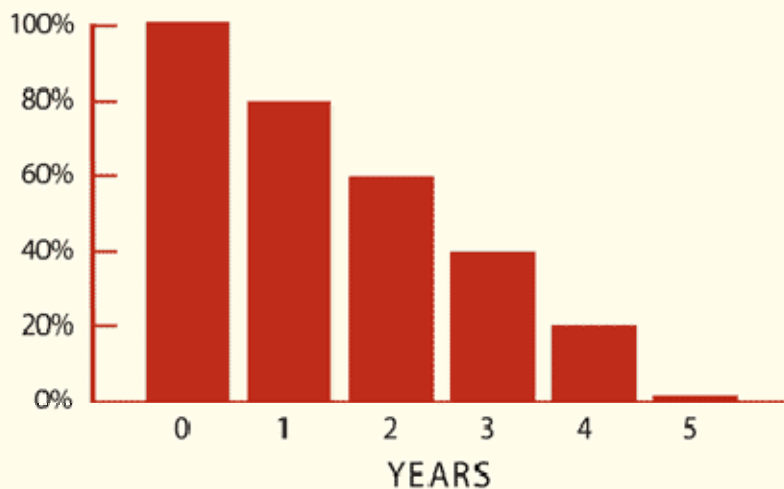
Replant Cost

Delays in replanting a forest after a fire can quickly make the cost prohibitive, due to the need for mechanical thinning if underbrush establishes itself first. According to Forest Engineer John Sessions, the prices shown here reflect replanting 200 conifers per acre of burned forest. This is approximately half the number of trees planted for commercial timber production, but this will achieve the goal of reestablishing conifer-dominated forests for both wildlife and recreation.



Salvage Value

Large wildfires leave most of the trees dead but still standing and commercially valuable. These trees can be sold for most of the same uses as a live tree if they are harvested immediately after a fire. According to John Sessions, however, they start to decompose rapidly, and will lose approximately 20 percent of their value in the first year and every year thereafter.



Study done by Dr. John Sessions, Professor of forest engineering, Oregon State University, College of Forestry