



Protecting the Forest
Understanding the Forest



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**Charles W. Bingham
Forest Learning Center**
Mount St. Helens, Washington

Completed: May 2000
Square Footage: 1,500 sq. ft.
Budget: \$500,000. USD

Fabricator: Heartwood Joinery
Media: JJ André & Associates in
conjunction with CPS Electronics,
Rocket Pictures, Star Studios,
Weyerhaeuser Corporation

Scope of Work: Interpretive Planning, Concept, Schematic and Detailed Design,
Graphic Design, Fabrication and Installation.

Weyerhaeuser asked us to develop new themes around the managed forest. They also asked us to redesign an existing gallery to work physically, thematically and aesthetically as the conclusion and complement to an exhibit sequence designed by another firm. A further challenge was to pick up the thread of the replanted eruption landscape and expand on the current forest practices that guide the company. The intent was to define what a managed private forest is, as opposed to a publicly owned forest, and to present an informed view of past and present forest practices. Historic quotations were used to give a broader context and provoke thought, and text panels included real questions and comments made by previous Learning Center visitors.

CHARLES W. BINGHAM FOREST LEARNING CENTER

"Twenty years after the eruption of Mount St. Helens that destroyed 68,000 acres of its forest land, Weyerhaeuser Company is opening a new exhibit at the Mount St. Helens Forest Learning Center to commemorate the rebirth of the forest surrounding the blast zone."

—Weyerhaeuser Press Release

Managing the Forest
Interactive Station



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