

The campground you wanted to stay in smells smoky because of a natural fire. You can't even see the mountain tops.

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The park you had planned to visit is closed because of a fire. You don't know if the fire is being suppressed or not.

The area you live in is so smoky that you can't see the surrounding mountains. The smoke is from a fire set on purpose for improving elk winter range.

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Your hiking route takes you through a mile of lodgepole pine forest with red, falling needles. These trees are dying because of infestation by mountain pine beetles.

From your campsite in the backcountry, you see a slope covered with lodgepole pine snags. They were killed by a fire five years ago.

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Your family picnics at a spot where the large ponderosa pines all have fire scars and a lot of scorch on their bark. The ground has many pockets of ash from a surface fire set to reduce fuels last year.

You cannot climb the peak that you had planned to this weekend because the Forest Service plans to burn its lower slopes today.

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You take visiting relatives on a drive in the mountains. Along the road, you see a few large ponderosa pines and mile after mile of small Douglas-firs. Most of the large firs have deformed tops because of parasitic plants.

The lake where you traditionally go fishing had a severe wind storm last year. The forest along one whole side of the lake has been leveled, and all the trees are dead.

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You take your students on a field trip to a ponderosa pine forest. You walk through an area where there are lots of small stumps because the Forest Service has thinned most of the young firs.

You return to a high ridge you visited as a child. About half of the whitebark pines have died and are now snags. The living trees all have wounds or dead branches from a non-native fungus. There are no cones.

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