



# BENEFITS OF A HEALTHY URBAN FOREST

The Port of Seattle is committed to building healthy urban forests that balance environmental benefits with the operational safety and economic needs of our region.

*Urban forests must be actively maintained and monitored. Characteristics of a healthy forest include:*

- » Lots of native species
- » Minimal invasive species and non-native vegetation
- » Structural complexity, including diversity of vegetation and tree maturity
- » An ability to self-sustain

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- » Shared green space
- » Open recreation areas
- » Equity



## HUMAN HEALTH

- » Better air quality
- » Combat urban heat islands
- » Builds community resilience



## HABITAT

- » Fish and wildlife productivity
- » Biodiversity
- » Stream and wetland buffers



## BIOLOGY

- » Better water quality
- » Connectivity
- » Hydrology
- » Nutrient Cycle



## CLIMATE

- » Reduce impacts of greenhouse gases
- » Carbon sequestration