

crown diameters (Figs. 3d-3f). Such differences in tree characteristics are predictable given differences in overstory stand density (Smith et al. 1996). Unmanaged stands had a higher density of saplings (Fig. 3g). These saplings, however, were predominantly suppressed individuals from the same cohort as the overstory trees, rather than younger, vigorously-growing saplings that can contribute to future stand structure (Smith et al. 1996). There were no significant differences in seedling density among treatments (Fig. 3h).

Comparisons were made across all four treatments with regard to the standing dead component. Wildfire stands had significantly higher densities of standing dead trees as a result of these stand-replacing events – an efficient way to kill trees (Fig. 4).

