

DID YOU KNOW?



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Forest Coverage (Global)

- **UN Report Flags 252 Million Hectares Under Restoration:** A joint **FAO, UNEP, and CBD** report finds **252 million ha** across **149 countries** under restoration, creating over **1 million** green jobs. Asia leads with **192.2 million ha**, followed by Africa (**36.3 million ha**). Terrestrial restoration is near **half** of the **2030** target, but freshwater (**11 million ha**) and marine (**5.7 million ha**) lag far behind. Annual restoration finance must more than quadruple from **US\$64 billion** to **US\$296 billion** by **2030**, potentially generating **32 million** jobs.
- **Nelson Mandela University Expert Warns of Wildfire Risks:** Christiaan Pool, forestry head at Nelson Mandela University, says...





... climate change, drought, and invasive vegetation are making wildfires harder to control in southern Africa. A **UNEP** assessment projects extreme fires could increase **30%** by **2050**. Concerns include the developing **2026 El Niño** and invasive alien species like acacias and eucalyptus. A fire near Franschhoek, South Africa, burned over **17,000 hectares** in **January 2026**, while **Algeria** wildfires killed at least **34** people in **July 2023**. Pool advocates satellite-based early warning systems and community-driven fire management.

Source: FAO Forestry, Down To Earth (October 29, 2026)

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