

Lawson Fite is the general counsel of the American Forest Resource Council. He directs AFRC's legal program, helping member companies obtain their goal of consistent and sustainable timber harvest from public forests throughout the West. He has testified before Congress several times regarding reforms to forest management and environmental litigation and has written on topics including post-fire timber harvest and national monument designations.

Lawson began his career as a Trial Attorney in the Wildlife and Marine Resources Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, focusing on litigation under the Endangered Species Act and other environmental statutes. He successfully represented the Coast Guard in an ESA challenge to efforts to respond to the Deepwater Horizon spill. Immediately prior to joining AFRC, Lawson was in private practice with a commercial litigation firm in Portland.

Lawson holds a law degree from Harvard Law School and an undergraduate degree in environmental science and public policy from Harvard University. He is a native of Vancouver, Washington and a graduate of Hudson's Bay High School.