Handout M19 & H18-3. How well did the policy work?

Read the excerpt from “U.S. Forest Service Fire Suppression.” This article was published by the Forest History Society. Here is a quote from the article:

Three of the men who had fought the 1910 fires—William Greeley, Robert Stuart, and Ferdinand Silcox—served from 1920 to 1938 as Forest Service chief, which put them in a position to institute a policy of total fire suppression.... This policy had two goals: preventing fires, and suppressing a fire as quickly as possible once one started.

Write a 2- or 3-paragraph essay that answers these questions:

• Do you think the policy was effective in the 1900s?
• Do you think the policy would be effective now?

Explain. Use information from your class’s 2 stand history diagrams and from your other knowledge about fire to support your answer.