

Comments or questions?

Please contact us:

USDA Forest Service

National Woodland Owner Survey

160 Holdsworth Way, Amherst, MA 01003

Toll-Free Telephone: 1-866-396-6967

Fax: 1-413-545-1860

Internet: www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos

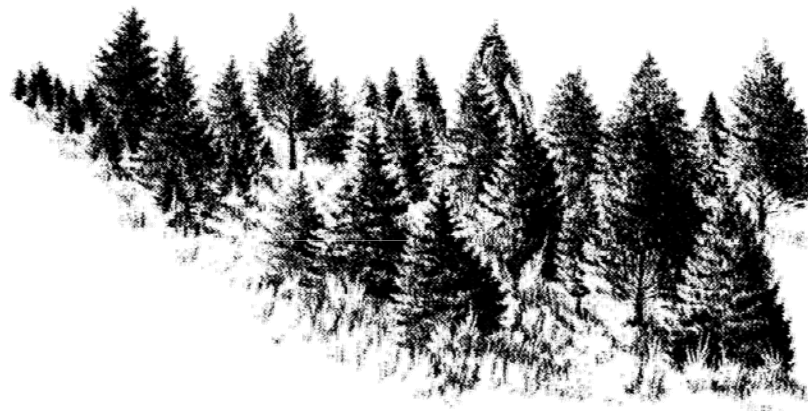


Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 minutes per respondent, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, DC 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB#0596-0078), Washington, DC 20503.

Version: NWOS 5.0 L-<state>

Questionnaire number: _____

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OMB No. 0596-0078

Approval expires <date>

You can complete this questionnaire
via the Internet at:
www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/quest

If you would like Thank you for participating in this survey!
Please return the questionnaire in the postage-paid
envelope.

If you would like a copy of the results of this survey, please
print your name and address on the back of the return
envelope.

If there are additional comments or concerns that you would like to share, please write them below. If there are additional comments or

Instructions

- ✓ Please provide answers for all of the woodland that you own in <state>. If you are part of more than one group that owns woodland, please respond for the group that is listed on the outside of the envelope.
- ✓ The owner who makes most of the decisions about your woodland in <state> should answer this questionnaire.
- ✓ If this questionnaire is received by a company or other organization, please have a person knowledgeable about the organization's woodland in <state> answer this questionnaire. If the company listed on the envelope is a subsidiary of a larger company, please respond for the larger, parent company.
- ✓ If you do not own any woodland in <state>, please return this questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided and indicate why you are returning it. Thank you!

General Questions About Your Woodland

1. Woodland covers <xx>% of <state>.

Woodland includes:

- ✓ Woods, woodlots, timberland, and forest land
- ✓ Productive and unproductive lands
- ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size and 120 feet wide that has at least 10 well-spaced trees per acres
- ✓ Land at least 1 acres in size, where trees were removed and trees will grow again (not converted to another use, such as cropland, pasture land, or residential)

Woodland does not include:

- ✓ Christmas tree farms, orchards, or nurseries
- ✓ Land that is mowed for lawn

a. How many total acres of *land* do you own in <state>?

_____ Acres of land in <state>

b. How many of these acres in <state> are *woodland*?

_____ Acres of woodland in <state>

c. How many parcels or tracts with woodland do you own in <state>?

_____ Parcels with woodland in <state>

Your Reasons for Owning Woodland

2. How important are the following as reasons for why you own woodland in <state>?
Check one box for each item.

| | Very important | Important | Moderately important | Of little importance | Not important |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| To enjoy beauty or scenery | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| To protect nature and biological diversity | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| To protect water resources | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| To protect or improve wildlife habitat | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For land investment | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Part of my home (primary residence) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Part of my vacation home or cabin | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Part of my farm or ranch | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For privacy | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| To pass land on to my children or other heirs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For production of firewood | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For production of biofuel/biomass | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For production of timber products, such as logs, pulpwood, or other timber products | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For collection of nontimber forest products, such as <insert regional examples> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For hunting or fishing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| For recreation other than hunting or fishing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other (please specify): | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

General Questions About You

Please provide answers for up to two owners. The primary owner is the one who makes most of the decisions for your woodland in <state>. If you are responding on behalf of a business or other organization, please skip this section.

28. What is or was your main occupation?

29. Are you retired?

30. What is your age?

31. What is your gender?

32. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

33. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

34. What is your race?
Please select one or more.

34. What is your household's annual income?

- Less than \$25,000 \$100,000 to \$199,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999 \$200,000 or more
 \$50,000 to \$99,999

35. What percentage of your household's income is derived from the woodland that you own?

__ Percent

| Primary Owner | Owner 2 |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| ____ Years | ____ Years |
| <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female | <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female |
| <input type="radio"/> Less than 12th grade <input type="radio"/> High school/GED <input type="radio"/> Some college <input type="radio"/> Associate degree <input type="radio"/> Bachelor's degree <input type="radio"/> Graduate degree | <input type="radio"/> Less than 12th grade <input type="radio"/> High school/GED <input type="radio"/> Some college <input type="radio"/> Associate degree <input type="radio"/> Bachelor's degree <input type="radio"/> Graduate degree |
| <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| <input type="radio"/> White <input type="radio"/> Black or African-American <input type="radio"/> Asian <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="radio"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="radio"/> White <input type="radio"/> Black or African-American <input type="radio"/> Asian <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="radio"/> American Indian or Alaska Native |

27. How helpful would each of the following be to help you keep your woods in <state> as woods?

| | Very helpful | Helpful | Moderately helpful | Of little help | Of no help |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Financial assistance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Advice on woodland management | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Advice on estate planning | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Getting a conservation easement | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Giving the land to a trusted heir while I'm still alive | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| More favorable tax policies | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Donating or willing the land to a conservation organization | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Stronger timber markets | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Markets for ecosystem services, such carbon sequestration (capture), water protection, or biodiversity protection | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other (specify): _____ | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

3. Which category below best describes your ownership?

Check only one.

- Individual
- Joint
- Family partnership
- Trust or estate
- Corporation or business partnership
 - ↳ If you are answering on behalf of a company or other organization, skip to question 7.
- Other (please specify): _____

4. How many people (owners) are a part of this ownership?

Owner(s)

5. Is your home (primary residence) on or within a mile of any of your woodland in <state>?

- Yes No

↳ If no, approximately how far is it from your home to your nearest parcel of woodland in <state>?

Miles

6. Do you have a vacation home or cabin on or within a mile of any of your woodland in <state>?

- Yes No

↳ If yes, how many days a year, on average, do you spend there?

Days per year

7. Do you own any land that is farmed or ranched in <state>?

- Yes No → If no, go to question 8.

↳ If yes, is any of it within a mile of any of your woodland in <state>?

- Yes No

The History of Your Woodland

8. a. How did you acquire your woodland in <state>?
Check all that apply.
- Purchased
 - Inherited
 - Received as gift
 - Other (please specify): _____
- b. From whom did you acquire your woodland?
Check ALL that apply.
- My parents
 - My spouse
 - Another family member
 - Other individual(s)
 - A business
 - A government agency
 - Other (please specify): _____
- c. In what year did you, personally, first acquire woodland in <state>?
- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
- Year

9. a. How many times have you sold or given away any of your woodland in <state>?
- Never → If never, go to question 10.
 - Once (1 time)
 - 2 to 5 times
 - 6 or more times
- b. Who received it?
Check all that apply.
- My children
 - Another family member
 - Other individual(s)
 - A business
 - A government agency
 - Other (please specify): _____
- c. Have you sold or given away any of your woodland in <state> in the last 5 years?
- Yes
 - No

The Future of Your Woodland

25. a. What are your plans for your woodland in <state> for the next 5 years?
Check all that apply
- Sell some it
 - Sell all of it
 - Give some of it to my children or other heirs
 - Give all of it to my children or other heirs
 - No plans at this time → If no plans, go to question 26.
- b. Who will likely receive it?
Check all that apply
- My children → __ Number of children
 - Another family member(s) → __ Number
 - Other individual(s)
 - A business
 - A non-governmental organization
 - A government agency
 - Other (please specify): _____
- c. Why are you planning to sell or transfer it?
Check all that apply
- I am ready to pass it on
 - Too expensive
 - I need the money
 - High market value
 - No longer interested in owning it
 - Other (please specify): _____
26. Which of the following best describes you?
- I am absolutely committed to keeping my woods as woods and not developing it
 - I would like to keep my woods as woods, but if I don't think I can take care of it I might sell it
 - I would like to keep my woods as woods, but if the price were right, I might sell it
 - I would like to eventually sell my woodland, but I could be persuaded to keep and conserve it
 - I am absolutely committed to selling or developing my woods

Concerns and Issues

24. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for your woodland in <state> and your ability to keep and maintain it.

| | Great concern | Concern | Moderate concern | Of little concern | No concern |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Air and water pollution | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Damage from off road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Development of nearby lands | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Drought | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Global climate change | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| High property taxes | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Invasive plants | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Keeping land intact for my children or other heirs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Misuse of woodland, such as vandalism or dumping | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Noise from off road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People stealing my trees | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Regulations that restrict harvests | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Threat or risk of lawsuits | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Trespassing or poaching | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Uncontrolled grazing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Unwanted insects and diseases | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Wild animals, such as deer or feral hogs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Wildfire | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Wind storms or hurricanes | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other (please specify): | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Uses of Your Woodland

10. Have you ever leased or collected money (other than from logging) for allowing people to use your woodland in <state>?

Yes No → If no, go to question 11.

↳ If yes, please answer a and b.

a. What did they use it for?

Check all that apply.

- Hunting or fishing
- Recreation (other than hunting or fishing)
- To graze/pasture livestock
- Land conservation, such as the Conservation Reserve or Environmental Quality Incentives Programs
- Other (please specify): _____

b. Have any of these activities occurred in the last 5 years?

Yes No

11. Conservation easements are *voluntary* agreements that restrict land from being used for designated purposes, such as development, in order to protect the land's conservation values. These restrictions are legally binding, permanent, and passed on from one owner to the next.

Have you ever heard or read about conservation easements before?

Yes No → If no, go to question 12.

↳ If yes, is there a conservation easement on any of your woodland in <state>?

Yes → What types of activities are, to one degree or another, restricted?

Check all that apply.

- Conversion of woodland to another land use, such as residential or commercial
- Splitting of woodland into smaller holdings
- Harvesting of trees
- Other (please specify): _____

↳ Who holds the easement?

- A government agency
- A land trust or other non-governmental org.
- Other (please specify): _____

No → If no, do you plan to get a conservation easement on any of your woodland in <state>?

Yes No Maybe

12. To encourage good woodland management, groups have created green certification programs to recognize woodland owners that comply with the groups' standards. Examples include Tree Farm, Green Tag, Forest Stewardship Council, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Have you ever heard or read about green certification before?

Yes No → If no, go to question 13.

↳ If yes, is any of your woodland in <state> currently green certified?

Yes → If yes, go to question 13.

No → If no, do you plan to get any of your woodland in <state> green certified?

Yes No Maybe

13. Cost-share programs provide landowners with money to help them establish or otherwise manage their woodland. Examples include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Forest Land Enhancement Program, and various state funded programs.

Have you ever heard or read about cost-share programs before?

Yes No → If no, go to question 14.

↳ Have you ever used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your woodland in <state>?

Yes No → If no, go to question 14.

↳ Have you done so in the last 5 years?

Yes No

14. Some state and local governments have current use programs that reduce or eliminate property taxes for woodland.

Have you ever heard or read about current use property tax programs before?

Yes No → If no, go to question 15.

↳ If yes, do you have any of your woodland in <state> in a current use property tax program?

Yes No

Sources of Information

23. Have you received advice or information about taking care of your woodland in <state> in the past 5 years?

Yes No → If no, go to question 24.

↳ If yes, please answer a, b, and c.

a. What was it about?

Check all that apply.

Insects or plant diseases

Wildlife or wildlife habitat

Timber production

Land conservation

Other (please specify): _____

b. How did you get it?

Check all that apply.

Talking to someone over the phone or in an office

Having someone visit my land

Written materials, such as brochures or other publications

Internet

Conference or workshop

Other (please specify): _____

c. Who did you receive it from?

Check all that apply.

State or local government employee

Federal government employee

Private consultant

Fellow landowner

Other (please specify): _____

21. a. Who, with your permission, has hunted, hiked, or otherwise recreated on your woodland in <state> in the past 5 years?

Check all that apply.

- Me and/or my spouse
- My children
- Other family members
- Friends
- The general public for free
- The general public for a fee
- Other (please specify): _____
- No one → If no one, go to question 22.

b. How did you/they recreate?

Check all that apply.

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Hiking/walking
- Bicycling
- Camping
- Nature watching, such as bird watching
- Horseback riding
- Skiing or snowshoeing
- Off road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles
- Other (please specify): _____

22. Is any of your woodland in <stated> posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?

Yes No → If no, go to question 23.

↳ If yes, what is restricted?

Check all that apply.

- Trespassing
- Hunting
- Motorized vehicles
- Other (please specify): _____

15. Who makes most of the management decisions, such as whether or not to harvest trees, for your woodland in <state>?

Check only one.

- Me
- My spouse
- My children
- My parents
- Another family member
- My business partner
- My land manager or forester
- Other (please specify): _____

16. Have trees been harvested from any of your woodland in <state> since you have owned it?

Yes No → If no, go to question 17.

↳ If yes, please answer a, b, and c.

a. What types of trees/products were harvested and why?

Check all that apply.

| | For sale | For personal use | To improve woods |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Veneer logs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sawlogs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pulpwood | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Biofuel/biomass | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Firewood | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Posts or poles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unwanted tress | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not sure what was harvested | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify): _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

b. During the most recent harvest was a professional forester used to plan, mark, contract, or oversee the harvest?

Yes No

c. During the most recent harvest was a certified or master logger used?

Yes No

17. Have nontimber forest products, such as <insert regional examples>, been collected from any of your woodland in <state> since you have owned it?

Yes No → If no, go to question 18.

↳ What types of products were collected and why?

| | For sale | For personal use or gift |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Edibles, such as <regional examples> <examples continued> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Medicinal, such as <regional examples> <examples continued> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Landscaping, such as <regional examples> <examples continued> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Decorative, such as <regional examples> <examples continued> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cultural, such as <regional examples> <examples continued> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify): _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

18. Do you have a written management or stewardship plan for any of your woodland in <state>?

Yes → If yes, have you taken actions to implement it?

Yes No

↳ Who prepared it?

I prepared the plan myself

State or local government employee

Federal government employee

Private consulting forester

Forest industry forester

Other (please specify): _____

No → If no, why not?

Too busy

Too expensive

Too complicated

I don't need one

Other (please specify): _____

19. Which of the following have occurred on your woodland in <state> in the *past* five years?

Check all that apply.

Harvested trees for sale

Harvested trees for own use

Collected nontimber forest products

Reduced fire hazard

Prescribed fire

Eliminated or reduce invasive plants

Eliminated or reduce unwanted insects/diseases

Road construction or maintenance

Trail construction or maintenance

Improved wildlife habitat

Livestock grazing

Rented land for carbon capture/sequestration

Rented land for water protection

Rented land for biodiversity protection

20. Which of the following will likely occur on your woodland in <state> in the *next* five years?

Check all that apply.

Harvest trees for sale

Harvest trees for own use

Collect nontimber forest products

Reduce fire hazard

Prescribed fire

Eliminate or reduce invasive plants

Eliminate or reduce unwanted insects/diseases

Road construction or maintenance

Trail construction or maintenance

Improve wildlife habitat

Livestock grazing

Rent land for carbon capture/sequestration

Rent land for water protection

Rent land for biodiversity protection