

## VII. NWOS Telephone Survey Guide

### INTERVIEWER INTRODUCTION

Interviewer text:

Hello, this is <NAME> calling on behalf of the <STATE> Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. We are conducting the National Woodland Owner Survey for the U.S. Forest Service and you were selected to participate. Several weeks ago you were mailed a copy of this survey. We have not received it and were hoping to collect the data by telephone today. Your cooperation is extremely important to the accuracy of the survey and your individual report will be kept confidential (under Title 7 of the U.S. Code and CIPSEA (Public Law 107-347)). Response is voluntary.

**The rest of the interview time is allotted to going through the survey and recording landowner's answers. These interviews will a subset of the National Woodland Owner Survey Short Form (below), with the interviewer reading the questions and the landowner responding. Interviews will not go beyond the allotted time (15 minutes).**

1. How many total acres of land do you currently own in <STATE>?

\_\_\_\_\_acres

2. Wooded land covers XX% of the <REGION>.

Wooded land includes:

- ✓ Timberland, forests, and woodlands
- ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10% forest cover
- ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, where trees were harvested and will grow again

Wooded land does *not* include:

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

How many acres of wooded land do you currently own in <STATE>?

\_\_\_\_\_acres

3. Which category below best describes your ownership?

*Check only one.*

Individual

Joint, with husband or wife,

Joint, such as with other family members or friends

Family partnership of family LLC or LLP

Family trust or estate

Corporation or business

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many people are a part of this ownership, including you?

\_\_\_\_\_owners

5. Do you currently own more than one separate, unconnected property with wooded land in Maine?

Yes  No

6. Is your home (primary residence) on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maine?

Yes  No  Not Applicable

7. Do you have a vacation home or cabin on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maine?

Yes  No  Not Applicable

8. Do you own any land within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maine that is farmed or ranched? For the purpose of this survey, a farm or ranch is a place where, in most years, \$1,000 or more is earned from the sale of crops (other than forest products) or animals.

Yes  No  Not Applicable

9. How important are the following as reasons for why you currently own your wooded land in Maine?

*If you own one property, check one box for each item.*

*If you own more than one property in Maine, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.*

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Of little importance	Not Important	Not Applicable
To enjoy beauty or scenery						
To protect nature or biological diversity						
To protect water resources						
To protect or improve wildlife habitat						
For land investment						
For privacy						
To raise my family						
To pass land on to my children or other heirs						
For firewood						
For timber products, such as logs or pulpwood						
For nontimber forest products, such as berries or maple syrup						
For hunting						
For recreation, other than hunting						
Other						
(Please specify):						

10. a. How did you get your wooded land in Maine?

*Check all that apply.*

Purchased

Inherited

Received as gift

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

b. IN what year did you, personally, first take ownership of your wooded land in Maine?

\_\_\_\_\_ Year

11. Have you ever sold or given away any of your wooded land in Maine?

Yes  No

12. Who makes the management decisions, such as whether or not to harvest trees, for your wooded land in Maine?

*Check all that apply.*

Me

My husband or wife

My children

My parents

Another family member

My business partner

My land manager or forester

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

13. A management or stewardship plan may be written in order to help the landowner meet their goals for their wooded land.

a. How familiar are you with these types of plans?

Extremely Familiar	Moderately Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Slightly Familiar	Not at all Familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Do you have a written management or stewardship plan for any of your wooded land in <STATE>?

Yes  No  Don't know

*If yes, please answer c.*

*If no or don't know, skip to question 14.*

c. Have you taken actions to implement it?

Yes  No  Don't know

14. Have trees ever been cut or removed from any of the wooded land that you own in <STATE> since you have owned it?

Yes  No

*If yes, please answer a, b and c.*

*If no, skip to question 15.*

a. What types of products were harvested?

*Check all that apply.*

Firewood

Logs

Wood chips or pulpwood

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

b. Why were the trees cut or removed?

*Check all that apply.*

For sale  For personal use  other

c. Was a professional forester used to plan, mark, contract, or oversee any of the cuts?

Yes  No  Don't know  Not applicable

15. Which of the following have occurred on your wooded land in <STATE> in the past 5 years?

*Check all that apply.*

- Cut and/or removed trees for sale
- Cut and/or removed trees for own use
- Collected nontimber forest products, such as berries or ginseng
- Reduced fire hazard
- Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- Eliminated or reduced invasive plants
- Eliminated or reduced unwanted insects or diseases
- Road construction or maintenance
- Trail construction or maintenance
- Improved wildlife habitat
- Livestock grazing
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

16. Which of the following will likely occur on your wooded land in <STATE> in the next 5 years?

*Check all that apply*

- Cut and/or remove trees for sale
- Cut and/or remove trees for own use
- Collect nontimber forest products, such as berries and ginseng
- Reduce fire hazard
- Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- Eliminate or reduce invasive plants
- Eliminate or reduce unwanted insects or diseases
- Road construction or maintenance
- Trail construction or maintenance
- Improve wildlife habitat
- Livestock grazing
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above
- Don't know

17. To encourage good woodland management, groups have created green certification programs to recognize landowners who comply with the groups' standards. Examples include Tree Farm, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).

a. How familiar are you with green certification?

Extremely	Moderately	Somewhat	Slightly	Not at all
Familiar	Familiar	Familiar	Familiar	Familiar

b. Is any of your wooded land in <STATE> currently green certified?

Yes       No       Don't know

18. Some state and local governments have programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes for wooded land. In <STATE>, there are the Tree Growth Tax Law and Open Space Tax Law programs.
- a. How familiar are you with these programs?
- |           |            |          |          |            |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Extremely | Moderately | Somewhat | Slightly | Not at all |
| Familiar  | Familiar   | Familiar | Familiar | Familiar   |
- b. Is any of your wooded land in <STATE> currently enrolled in one of these programs or a similar one?
- Yes     No     Don't know
19. Development rights for land can be sold or voluntarily given away. This is usually in the form of a conservation easement.
- a. How familiar are you with this concept?
- |           |            |          |          |            |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Extremely | Moderately | Somewhat | Slightly | Not at all |
| Familiar  | Familiar   | Familiar | Familiar | Familiar   |
- b. Have development rights been sold or voluntarily given away on any of your wooded land in <STATE> by either you or a previous owner?
- Yes     No     Don't know
- c. If No or Don't know, how likely are you to do so in the next 5 years?
- |           |        |           |          |           |            |
|-----------|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Extremely |        |           |          | Extremely | Not        |
| Likely    | Likely | Undecided | Unlikely | Unlikely  | Applicable |
20. Cost-share programs provide landowners with money to help them establish or otherwise manage their wooded land. Examples include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, and various state funded programs.
- a. How familiar are you with this cost-share programs?
- |           |            |          |          |            |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Extremely | Moderately | Somewhat | Slightly | Not at all |
| Familiar  | Familiar   | Familiar | Familiar | Familiar   |
- b. In the past 5 years, have you used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your wooded land in <STATE>?
- Yes     No     Don't know
21. Have you leased your wooded land in Maine (other than for logging)?
- Yes     No
- If yes, please answer a and b.*
- If no, skip to question 22.*
- a. What leasing activities did they use it for?
- Check all that apply.*
- Hunting
- Recreation (other than hunting)
- To graze/pasture livestock
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Have any of these leasing activities occurred on your land in the last 5 years?
- Yes     No

22. In efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change, public programs and private markets have been created that pay owners of wooded land for capturing or sequestering carbon.
- a. How familiar are you with this cost-share programs?
- |           |            |          |          |            |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Extremely | Moderately | Somewhat | Slightly | Not at all |
| Familiar  | Familiar   | Familiar | Familiar | Familiar   |
- b. Is any of your wooded land in <STATE> currently enrolled in one of these carbon capture programs or markets?
- Yes     No     Don't know
23. a. Who, with your permission, has hunted, hiked, or otherwise recreated on your wooded land in Maine in the past 5 years?
- Check all that apply.*
- Me and/or my husband or wife
- My children
- Other family members
- Friends
- Neighbors
- The general public for free
- The general public for a fee
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Nobody -> *If nobody, skip to question 24.*
- b. How did you/they recreate?
- Check all that apply.*
- Hunting
- Fishing
- Hiking/walking
- Bicycling
- Camping
- Horseback riding
- Skiing or snowshoeing
- Off-road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles

\_Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

24. Is any of your wooded land in <STATE> posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?  
 \_\_Yes \_\_No

25. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for your wooded land in <STATE>.

*If you own one property, check one box for each item.*

*If you own more than one property in Maine, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.*

	Great concern	Concern	Moderate concern	Of little concern	No concern	Not Applicable
Air pollution						
Climate change						
Damage from animals						
Development of nearby lands						
Drought or lack of water						
Damage or noise from off-road vehicles						
Government regulation						
High property taxes						
Invasive plants						
Keeping land intact for future generations						
Misuse of forested land, such as vandalism or dumping						
Trespassing or poaching						
Unwanted insects or diseases						
Water pollution						
Wildfire						
Wind or ice storms						
Other						
(please specify):						

26. How likely is it that you will sell or give away any of your wooded land in Maine in the next 5 years?

Extremely Likely      Likely      Undecided      Unlikely      Extremely Unlikely      Not Applicable

—                      —                      —                      —                      —                      —

27. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.  
*Check one box for each item.*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I want my wooded land to stay wooded					
I would sell my land if I was offered a reasonable price					
I know my wooded land very well					
I want to know more about my wooded land					
I have a strong emotional attachment to my wooded land					
I believe my wooded land provides benefits to my community					

Please answer for the owner who makes most of the decisions for this property.

28. Are you retired?

Yes

No

29. What is or was your main occupation?

\_\_\_\_\_

30. What is your age:

\_\_\_\_\_

31. What is your gender?

Male

Female

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

Less than 12<sup>th</sup> grade

High school/GED

Some college

Associate degree

Bachelor's degree

Advanced degree

33. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Yes

No



34. What is your race?

*Select one or more.*

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African-America
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

35. What is your household's annual income?

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