

V. NWOS LONG FORM

Comments or questions?

Please contact us:

USDA Forest Service
National Woodland Owner Survey
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Amherst, MA 01003
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National Woodland Owner Survey



USDA Forest Service, National Woodland Owner Survey



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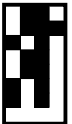
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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Please return the survey in the
postage-paid envelope provided.

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



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

Instructions

- ✓ Please provide answers for all of the wooded land that you own in Maine. If you are part of more than one group that owns wooded land, please respond for the group that is listed on the outside of the envelope.
- ✓ The owner who makes most of the decisions about your wooded land in Maine should answer this survey.
- ✓ If this survey is received by a company or other organization, please have a person knowledgeable about the organization's wooded land in Maine answer this survey. If the company listed on the envelope is a subsidiary of a larger company, please respond for the larger, parent company.

General Questions About Your Land

1. How many total acres of land do you currently own in Maine?

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Acres of land in Maine

2. Wooded land covers 89% of Maine.

Wooded land includes:

- ✓ Woods, woodlots, timberland, and forests
- ✓ 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 removed and trees 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 Maine?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Acres of wooded land in Maine

*If you **own any** wooded land in Maine, please complete this survey.*

*If you **do not own** wooded land in Maine, please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided and write on the cover "No Wooded Land"*



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General Questions about Your Ownership

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 or 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

General Questions About You

If you are responding on behalf of a company or other organization, skip this section.

33. What is your age? Years

34. What is your gender?

☐ Male ☐ Female

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

- ☐ Less than 12th grade
- ☐ High school/GED
- ☐ Some college
- ☐ Associate degree
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Advanced degree

36. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

☐ Yes ☐ No

37. What is your race?

Select *one or more*.

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

38. On average, what percentage of your household's annual income comes from the wooded land that you own?

Percent



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The Future of Your Wooded Land

31. 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 ☐

If likely or extremely likely, answer a.

If undecided, unlikely, or extremely unlikely, skip to question 32.

a. Who will likely receive it?

Check all that apply

- ☐ My children
☐ Another family member(s)
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Other (please specify): _____
☐ Don't know

32. 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	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Your Reasons for Owning Wooded Land

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): _____						

The History of Your Wooded Land

10. a. How did you get your wooded land in Maine?
Check all that apply.
☐ Purchased
☐ Inherited
☐ Received as gift
☐ Other (please specify): _____
- b. From whom did you get your wooded land?
Check all that apply.
☐ My parents and/or my husband or wife's parents
☐ My husband or wife
☐ Another family member
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Other (please specify): _____
- c. In what year did you, personally, first take ownership of your wooded land in Maine?
 Year
11. a. Have you **ever** sold or given away any of your wooded land in Maine?
☐ Yes ☐ No → *If no, skip to question 12.*
 ↳ *If yes, please answer b, c and d.*
- b. If sold or given away, was your property subdivided or split up into multiple parcels?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
- c. If sold or given away, who received it?
Check all that apply.
☐ My children
☐ Another family member
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Other (please specify): _____
- d. Have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Maine in the **past 5 years**?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Concerns

30. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for 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.

	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 wooded land, such as vandalism or dumping	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trespassing or poaching	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Unwanted insects or diseases	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Water pollution	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wildfire	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wind or ice storms	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
↳ (Please specify): _____						



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27. Which of the following would be helpful to you?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Cost-sharing for woodland management
- ☐ More favorable tax policies
- ☐ Stronger timber markets
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ None of the above

28. Which of the following information/advice topics would be helpful to you?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Timber management
- ☐ How to transfer land to the next generation
- ☐ Conservation easements
- ☐ Wildlife management
- ☐ Invasive plants
- ☐ Wildfire
- ☐ Unwanted insects or diseases
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ None of the above

29. How would you **prefer** to get information or advice related to your wooded land?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Talk to a neighbor
- ☐ Talk to an expert
- ☐ Have someone visit my land
- ☐ Written materials, such as brochures or other publications
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Conference or workshop
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ I don't want/need information or advice

Uses of Your Wooded Land

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
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

↓
If no or don't know, skip to question 14
↘ If yes, please answer c and d

c. Have you taken actions to implement it?

☐ Yes ☐ No

d. Who wrote it?

Check one.

- ☐ I did
- ☐ Private consultant forester
- ☐ Forest industry forester
- ☐ State or local government forester
- ☐ Federal government forester
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

14. Have trees ever been cut or removed from any of your wooded land in Maine since you have owned it?

☐ Yes ☐ No → *If no, skip to question 15.*

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

a. What types of products were cut or removed?

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. Have nontimber forest products, such as berries or maple syrup, been collected from any of your wooded land in Maine since you have owned it?

☐ Yes ☐ No → *If no, skip to question 16.*

↳ *If yes, please answer a and b.*

a. What types of products were collected?

Check all that apply

☐ Edibles, such as berries or maple syrup

☐ Medicinals, such as ginseng or St. John's wort

☐ Landscaping, such as transplants

☐ Decorative, such as boughs or birch bark

☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. Why were the nontimber forest products collected from your wooded land in Maine?

Check all that apply.

☐ For sale ☐ For personal use ☐ Other

Sources of Information

26. Have you talked with anyone or received information/advice about the care, management, or protection of your wooded land in Maine in the past 5 years?

☐ Yes ☐ No → *If no, skip to question 27.*

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

a. What was it about?

Check all that apply.

☐ Unwanted insects or plant diseases

☐ Wildlife or wildlife habitat

☐ Timber production

☐ Land conservation

☐ Fire safety

☐ Invasive plants

☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. How did it happen?

Check all that apply.

☐ Talked to someone

☐ Someone visited my land

☐ Received a brochure or other written material

☐ From the Internet

☐ Attended a conference or workshop

☐ Other (please specify): _____

c. Who was involved?

Check all that apply.

☐ State or local government employee

☐ Extension forester or other university employee

☐ Federal government employee

☐ Private consultant

☐ Another landowner

☐ Family member or friend

☐ Other (please specify): _____



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Recreation on Your Wooded Land

24. 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 25.*

- 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): _____

25. Is any of your wooded land in Maine posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?

☐ Yes ☐ No → *If no, skip to question 26.*

↳ If yes, what is restricted?

Check all that apply

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

16. Which of the following have occurred on your wooded land in Maine **in the past 5 years**?

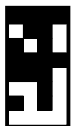
Check all that apply.

- ☐ 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

17. Which of the following will likely occur on your wooded land in Maine **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 or 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
- ☐ I don't know



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18. 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 familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Is any of your wooded land in Maine currently green certified?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

19. Some state and local governments have programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes for wooded land. In Maine, there are the Tree Growth Tax Law and Open Space Tax Law programs.

a. How familiar are you with these programs?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Is any of your wooded land in Maine currently enrolled in one of these programs or a similar one?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

20. 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 familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Have development rights been sold or voluntarily given away on any of your wooded land in Maine 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 likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely	Not applicable
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

21. 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 cost-share programs?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. In the past 5 years, have you used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your wooded land in Maine?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

22. Have you ever leased your wooded land in Maine (other than for logging)?

☐ Yes ☐ No → If no, skip to question 23.

↳ If yes, please answer a and b.

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 past 5 years?

☐ Yes ☐ No

23. 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 carbon capture programs or markets?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Is any of your wooded land in Maine currently enrolled in one of these carbon capture programs or markets?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know



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