

CONSERVATION PRACTICE ADOPTION MOTIVATIONS SURVEY - VERSION 4

FORESTRY PRACTICES

OMB No. 0535-0272
Approval Expires: 12/31/2024
Project Code: 943
Survey ID: 9027
Version: 4



United States
Department of
Agriculture



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA/NASS

National Operations Division
9700 Page Avenue, Suite 400
St. Louis, MO 63132-1547
Phone: 1-888-424-7828
Fax: 1-855-415-3687
Email: nass@usda.gov

Please make corrections to name, address, and ZIP Code, if necessary.

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. Your responses will be kept confidential and any person who willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your operation is subject to a jail term, a fine, or both. This survey is conducted in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2018, Title III of Pub. L. No. 115-435, codified in 44 U.S.C. Ch. 35 and other applicable Federal laws. For more information on how we protect your information please visit: <https://www.nass.usda.gov/confidentiality>. Response is voluntary.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB number is 0535-0272. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

1. On December 31, 2023, did you own or manage any forest or woodland?

INCLUDE

- woods, woodlots, timberland, forests
- forest land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10% forest cover, or where trees were removed and trees will grow again

EXCLUDE

- Christmas tree farms, orchards, nurseries
- land that is mowed for lawn

10

☐ Yes - Continue

☐ No - Go to Section 10 on page 27

2. Did you own or manage more than 45,000 acres of forest or woodland?

xxx

₁ ☐ Yes - Go to Section 10 on page 27

₃ ☐ No - Continue

3. Are you considered a Timberland Investment Management Organization (TIMO) or Timberland Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)?

- A TIMO is an organization that buys, manages, and sells timber or timberland on behalf of institutional clients.
- A REIT is a company that owns and manages timberland as a real estate investment on behalf of private investors.

xxx

₁ ☐ Yes - Go to Section 10 on page 27

₃ ☐ No - Continue

Section 1 - Land Use

1. How many total acres of land do you currently own or manage?

Acres
901
xxx

2. How many acres of forest or woodland do you currently own or manage?

3. Do you currently rent or lease any of your forest or woodland from others?

108

1 ☐ Yes

3 ☐ No

4. In what year did you or your business first own or manage your forest or woodland? year

121

5. During the last 10 years, have you earned any income from forestry activities? Select all that apply.

122

☐ Timber harvest

123

☐ Fees for allowing hunting or other recreation

xxx

☐ Fees for allowing grazing

xxx

☐ Fees for allowing others to gather forest products

xxx

☐ Sale of edible products, such as berries or maple syrup

xxx

☐ Sale of medicinal products, such as ginseng or St. John's wort

xxx

☐ Sale of landscaping products such as transplants

xxx

☐ Sale of decorative products, such as boughs or birch bark

6. On average, what percentage of your household's or operation's annual income comes from the forest or woodland that you own?

127

%

7. Is your primary residence within 1 mile of your forest or woodland?

xxx

1 ☐ Yes

3 ☐ No

8. Do you operate a farm or ranch?

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 produced (other than forest products) or animals raised on that land.

100

1 ☐ Yes - Continue to Item 7a

3 ☐ No - Go to Section 2 on page 4

a. Is your farm or ranch headquarters within 1 mile of your forest or woodland?

xxx

1 ☐ Yes

3 ☐ No

Section 2 - Approach to Conservation

1. In this survey, conservation practices refer to actions taken to improve forest conditions, water quality or wildlife habitat, or to reduce the risk of wildfire or pests such as insects, disease, or invasive plants. Report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about your approach to using conservation practices.

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
2605 I seek out information about conservation practices and their implementation	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxx I generally adopt new conservation practices before other forest owners/managers in my local area	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxx I experiment with new conservation practices on my forest land	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
2608 I do not implement new conservation practices unless I know that they will increase my profit or reduce my workload	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
2609 I am willing to adopt conservation practices that improve environmental quality, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
2610 I am willing to adopt conservation practices that protect my investment in the land, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
2611 I am willing to adopt conservation practices that preserve land for the next generation, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

2. Which of the following are reasons for using conservation practices on forests or woodlands you own or manage? Select all that apply.

- xxx ☐ Improving timber productivity
- xxx ☐ Improving yield of non-timber forest products
- xxx ☐ Supporting overall forest or woodland health
- xxx ☐ Supporting wildlife habitat
- xxx ☐ Improving stream habitat for species such as salmon or brook trout
- xxx ☐ Improving water quality in the area (e.g. avoiding polluting streams, rivers, and lakes)
- xxx ☐ Sequestering carbon
- xxx ☐ Reducing the risk or severity of wildfire
- xxx ☐ Maintaining or improving scenery or beauty of the forest or woodland
- xxx ☐ Enhancing recreational opportunities
- xxx ☐ Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants
- xxx ☐ Other, please specify: xxx _____

Section 3 - Technical Assistance and Forest Plans

1. Have you ever received technical assistance (expertise or information) for conservation on forest or woodland you manage from any federal, state, local university or other source?

INCLUDE

- Expertise or information provided for planning or implementing conservation practice or designing, laying out, or installing conservation structures
- Expertise or information from a government agency, private consultant, or other technical expert that may be paid or free
- Expertise or information from private technical service providers (TSPs) that is reimbursed by federal, state, or local governments

EXCLUDE financial assistance that helps defray the cost of installing or implementing conservation practices.

200

☐ Yes - Continue

☐ No - Go to Item 1b

- a. Have you received technical assistance from any of these sources? Select all that apply.

201

☐ Federal agencies

202

☐ State or local agencies

203

☐ Private sources

- b. Report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about technical assistance on your forest or woodland.

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	N/A
204 Technical assistance is available to me	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	
205 I currently receive technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	
xxxx I have received technical assistance in the past, but it took too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
207 I have never sought out any form of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	
208 I have had trouble accessing technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
209 I received technical assistance and it was beneficial	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
xxxx I received technical assistance but it did not meet my needs	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
211 I am comfortable using free technical assistance from federal employees	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	
212 I am comfortable using free technical assistance from non-federal government sources	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	

2. A forest management or stewardship plan may be written to help the landowner meet their conservation goals for their forest or woodland.

Did you have a forest management plan in 2023?

213

1 ☐ Yes - Continue 3 ☐ No - Go to Section 4 on page 7 2 ☐ Don't Know - Go to Section 4 on page 7

- a. Who was the primary writer? Select one.

xxxx

1 ☐ I was

2 ☐ Private consultant forester

3 ☐ State or local government forester

4 ☐ Federal government forester

5 ☐ Other, please specify: xxx _____

- b. How was the forest management plan funded? Select all that apply.

xxx

1 ☐ I paid for it

xxx

2 ☐ A program paid for it

xxx

3 ☐ Other, please specify: xxx _____

- c. Have you taken actions to implement the forest management plan?

xxx

1 ☐ Yes

3 ☐ No

Section 4 - Forest Stand Improvement and Related Practices

1. Forest stand improvement includes cutting or killing selected trees in the overstory to achieve desired forest conditions. Brush management includes cutting or killing shrubs or other understory vegetation. Woody residue treatment includes practices to manage and/or remove dead or cut down branches, treetops, or slash remaining after forest management activities or natural disturbance.

Based on the definitions above, have you ever implemented forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment activities on land you own or manage?

Forest stand improvement	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Brush management	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Woody residue treatment	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above in Item 1, continue to Item 2 on page 8.
If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, complete items 1a and 1b below, then go to Section 5 on page 11.

- a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment.

I have never done forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment because:

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
xxxx There was no conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx It costs too much money	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx I did not receive technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx I did not receive financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx I have a conservation need but am not comfortable doing these activities on my own	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx I have a conservation need but more information would be helpful	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

- b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never done forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment.

Other reason, specify: xxxx _____

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 5 on page 11.

2. What were your conservation objectives in implementing forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment? Select all that apply.

xxxx

☐ Protect or improve wildlife habitat

xxxx

☐ Reduce the risk or severity of wildfire

xxxx

☐ Improve productivity of timber

xxxx

☐ Improve yield of non-timber forest products

xxxx

☐ Support forest health in general

xxxx

☐ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland

xxxx

☐ Sequester or store carbon

xxxx

☐ Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants

3. What year did you first do forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment? year

xxxx

- a. For the first year of forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, what percentage of your forest or woodland was included? %

xxxx

- b. For the first year of forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, did you receive either of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Forest stand improvement	316 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	317 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	318	319 %
Brush management (specifically treating living woody vegetation)	320 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	321 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	322	323 %
Woody residue treatment (managing and/or removing dead or cut down branches, treetops, or slash)	416 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	417 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	418	419 %

- i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

xxxx

%

- c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
xxxx Addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Used successfully by other woodland owners	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Anticipated saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

4. Since the first year you began forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, have you expanded the acreage where they were applied?

xxxx

1 ☐ Yes - Continue3 ☐ No - Go to Section 5 on page 11

- a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive either of the following?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Forest stand improvement	332 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	333 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	334	335 %
Brush management (specifically treating living woody vegetation)	336 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	337 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	338	339 %
Woody residue treatment (managing and/or removing dead or cut down branches, treetops, or slash)	428 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	429 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	430	431 %

- i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

xxxx	%
------	---

- b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand your forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
xxxx Addressed additional conservation needs	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Previously, the process for getting technical or financial assistance was smooth	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

Section 5 - Controlled (Prescribed) Burning

1. Controlled or prescribed burning includes controlled fire applied to a predetermined area to meet management objectives.

Based on the definition above, have you ever used controlled/prescribed burning on land you own or manage?

500 1 ☐ Yes - Go to Item 2 on page 12 3 ☐ No - Complete Items 1a and 1b below, then go to Section 6 on page 15

- a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about controlled/prescribed burning.

I have never used controlled or prescribed burning because:

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
501 It is not needed in my forest or woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
503 It's too difficult to get a burn permit	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
504 I installed firebreaks	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
505 It costs too much money	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
507 I did not receive technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
508 Financial assistance was not available	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
509 Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxx Could not find a contractor to do the burn	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxx Potential liability from escaped fire is too high	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxx Smoke would bother nearby residents	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

- b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never used controlled or prescribed burning.

510
Other reason, specify: _____

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 6 on page 15.

2. Why did you implement controlled or prescribed burning? Select all that apply.

518

☐ Protect or improve wildlife habitat

519

☐ Reduce the risk or severity of wildfire

xxxx

☐ Improve productivity of timber

xxx

☐ Improve yield of non-timber forest products

521

☐ Support forest health in general

522

☐ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland

xxx

☐ Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants

xxxx

☐ Other, please specify: 529 _____

3. What year did you first use controlled/prescribed burning? year

511

a. In the first year, on what percentage of your forest or woodland did you use controlled or prescribed burning? %

512

%

b. For the first year, did you receive either of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Prescribed burning	513 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	514 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	515	516 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

517

%

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement controlled/prescribed burning?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
523 Addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
524 Used successfully by other woodland owners	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
526 Anticipated saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
527 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
528 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

4. Since the first year you began controlled or prescribed burning, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?

530

1 ☐ Yes - Continue3 ☐ No - Go to Section 6 on page 15

- a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive either of the following?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Prescribed burning	531 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	532 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	533	534 %

- i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

535

%

- b. How important were the following in your decision to expand your controlled/prescribed burning?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
536 Successfully addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
538 Saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
539 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
540 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
541 Previously, the process for getting technical or financial assistance was smooth	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

5. On what percentage of your forest or woodland do you practice controlled/prescribed burning regularly?

542

%

If you reported 100% for Item 5, go to Item 6 on page 14.
If you reported less than 100% for Item 5, continue to 5a below.

- a. What factors limit your use of controlled burning? Select all that apply

543

☐ Some of my forest/woodlands are too close to urban or suburban areas

xxx

☐ It bothers some neighbors

xxx

☐ Some areas do not respond well to burning

xxx

☐ Burning could expose land to soil erosion

xxx

☐ Other, please specify: 545 _____

6. What is the most recent year when you conducted a controlled or prescribed burn on your operation? year

546

If Item 6 above is 2023, go to Section 6 on page 15.
If Item 6 above is less than 2023, continue to 6a below.

- a. If you did not implement controlled or prescribed burning in 2023, do you plan to do so again within 3 years?

547

₁ ☐ Yes - Go to Section 6 on page 15 ₃ ☐ No - Continue

- b. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements in your decision to stop using controlled/prescribed burning.

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
548 I can no longer find a contractor to do the burn	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
549 Did not meet conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
550 Potential liability from escaped fire is too high	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Smoke bothers nearby residents	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
552 It costs too much money	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
553 Too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
554 Technical assistance ended	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
555 Financial assistance ended	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
556 Financial assistance did not cover enough of the cost	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

Section 6 - Establishing Vegetation

1. Have you ever done the following to establish forest vegetation including woody or understory plant communities?

Established trees or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Planted understory (non-woody vegetation)	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above in Item 1, go to Item 2 on page 16.

If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, continue to Item 1a.

- a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about establishing forest vegetation.

I have never established or enhanced forest or understory plant communities because:

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
601 There was no conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
602 Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
603 It costs too much money	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
605 I did not receive technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
606 Financial assistance was not available	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
607 Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

- b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never established or enhanced forest or understory plant communities.

Other reason, specify: ⁶⁰⁸ _____

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 7 on page 19.

2. Why did you establish forest vegetation? Select all that apply.

609

☐ Protect or improve wildlife habitat and/or pollinator habitat

xxxx

☐ Improve productivity of timber

xxxx

☐ Improve yield of non-timber forest products

612

☐ Support forest health in general

613

☐ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland

xxxx

☐ Sequester or store carbon

xxxx

☐ Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants

xxxx

☐ Other, please specify: xxx

3. What year did you first establish forest vegetation? year

614

a. In the first year, on what percentage of your forest or woodland did you establish forest vegetation?

615

%

b. For the first year, did you receive any of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Establishing tree or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	616 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	617 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	618	619 %
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	620 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	621 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	622	623 %
Planting understory (non-woody) vegetation	624 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	625 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	626	627 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

628

%

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to establish forest vegetation?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
629 Addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
630 Used successfully by other woodland owners	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
632 Anticipated saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
633 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
634 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

4. Since the first year you established forest vegetation, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?

635

1 ☐ Yes - Continue3 ☐ No - Go to Section 7 on page 19

a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive technical or financial assistance?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance?
Establishing tree or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	636 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	637 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	638	639 %
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	640 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	641 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	642	643 %
Planting understory (non-woody) vegetation	644 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	645 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	646	647 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

648	%
-----	---

b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand this activity?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
649 Successfully addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
652 Saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
653 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
654 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

Section 7 - Wildlife Habitat Management

1. Wildlife habitat management practices include providing and maintaining habitats to enable wildlife movement and/or provide food and cover for wildlife.

Have you ever taken any of the following actions to protect or enhance wildlife habitat on your forest or woodland?

Left standing or down dead trees as dens for wildlife	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Created small brush piles for animal shelter	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Delayed forest management activities to protect birds, bats, etc.	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Protected streams from erosion by using best management practices during forest management activities	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Planted areas with wildlife-friendly vegetation	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Controlled undesirable plants to improve quality or connectivity of wildlife habitat	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No
Used fencing to protect native tree species from deer browse, etc.	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above in Item 1, go to Item 2 on page 20.
If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, go to Item 1a on page 20.

- a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about wildlife habitat management practices.

I have never established wildlife habitat management practices because:

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
701 There was no conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
702 Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
703 It costs too much money	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Too much time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
705 I did not receive technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
706 Financial assistance was not available	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
707 Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

- b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never established wildlife habitat management practices.

Other reason, specify: ⁷⁰⁸ _____

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 8 on page 24.

2. Why did you implement wildlife habitat management practices? Select all that apply.

- 710 ☐ Support overall forest health
- 711 ☐ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the forest or woodland
- xxx ☐ For hunting
- xxx ☐ For wildlife photography
- xxx ☐ Support songbird habitat and bird watching
- xxx ☐ Establish pollinator habitat
- xxx ☐ Improve fish, reptile, or amphibian habitat
- xxx ☐ Aiding in wildlife habitat connectivity

3. What year did you first implement wildlife habitat management practices on your operation? year

712

a. In the first year, on what percentage of your forest or woodland did you implement wildlife habitat management practices? %

713

%

b. For the first year, did you receive any of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Wildlife habitat management INCLUDE installing structures or planting trees, shrubs, or grasses to attract wildlife to an area, delaying forest management activities to protect wildlife, monitoring for species, or other activities to manage existing habitat	714 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	715 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	716	717 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

718

%

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement wildlife habitat management practices on your operation?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
719 Addressed conservation need	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
720 Used successfully by other woodland owners	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
722 Anticipated saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
723 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
724 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

4. Since the first year you implemented wildlife habitat management practices, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?

725

1 ☐ Yes - Continue3 ☐ No - Go to Section 8 on page 24

- a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive technical or financial assistance?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Wildlife habitat management INCLUDE installing structures or planting trees, shrubs, or grasses to attract wildlife to an area, delaying forest management activities to protect wildlife, monitoring for species, or other activities to manage existing habitat	726 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	727 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	728	729 %

- i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.

730	%
-----	---

- b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand wildlife habitat management practices on your operation?

	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
731 Successfully addressed conservation need (wildlife numbers increased or habitat improved)	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
xxxx Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
734 Saving time or effort	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
735 Availability of technical assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐
736 Availability of financial assistance	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐

5. In what year did you last implement wildlife habitat management on your forest or woodland? (Enter most recent year). year

737

If Item 5 above is 2023, go to Section 8 on page 24.
If Item 5 above is less than 2023, continue to 5a below.

- a. If you did not implement wildlife habitat management in 2023, do you plan to do so again within 3 years?

738

₁ ☐ Yes - Go to Section 8 on page 24

₃ ☐ No - Continue

- b. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
⁷³⁹ Did not meet conservation need (wildlife numbers or use did not increase, or habitat did not improve)	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐
⁷⁴⁰ It costs too much money	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐
⁷⁴¹ Too much time or effort	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐
⁷⁴² Technical assistance ended	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐
⁷⁴³ Financial assistance ended	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐
⁷⁴⁴ Financial assistance did not cover enough of the cost	₁ ☐	₂ ☐	₃ ☐

Section 8 - Conservation Stewardship Program Participation

1. Are you or have you ever been enrolled in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)?

800

☐ Yes - Continue

☐ No - Go to Section 9 on page 25

a. Have you received financial assistance through the CSP for the enhancement of an annual practice on land you own or manage?

801

☐ Yes - Continue

☐ No - Go to Section 9 on page 25

b. Please fill out the table for the number of acres where you received financial assistance through CSP for applying an enhancement on any of the following practices.

	Acres	Percentage of Cost Covered by CSP Payment
Maintaining and improving forest soil quality - INCLUDE activities to minimize compaction from heavy equipment, limit soil disturbance, maintain canopy cover, and retain fallen trees or other woody material for soil cover and carbon cycling.	802	803 %
Wildlife habitat establishment, improvement, or management - INCLUDE any planting, harvesting, patch burning, raking, silvopasturing, or other forest management activities intended to support habitat for wildlife including pollinators.	804	805 %
Planting trees or managing for carbon sequestration - INCLUDE increasing stocking level in forest stands not fully stocked, establishing forest stands on open lands, applying uneven-aged management, using longer harvest rotations, and retaining down trees and woody debris intended to increase carbon storage on-site.	806	807 %
Wildfire risk reduction activities - INCLUDE prescribed burning, thinning forest stands to reduce stand density and fuel, managing understory plants to create a gap between ground cover and the canopy, or controlling invasive species.	808	xxxx %
Planting trees or managing for agro-forestry - INCLUDE planting for silvopasture, increase riparian forest buffer width, adding food-producing trees/shrubs, cultural plantings, etc.	xxxx	xxxx %
Planting trees or managing for non-timber forest products - INCLUDE cultural plantings, sugar bush management, raking for pine straw, etc.	xxxx	xxxx %
Other forest stand improvement activities	812	813 %
Other tree or shrub planting activities	814	815 %

Section 9 - Demographics

1. Please answer the following for the forest or woodland owner or manger.

a. What is your sex?

910

1 ☐ Male

2 ☐ Female

b. What was your age on December 31, 2023?

911

912

c. Are you of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin? 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No

d. What is your race? Select all that apply.

913

☐ White

914

☐ Black or African American

915

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

916

☐ Asian

917

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

e. Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard?

918

1 ☐ Never served in the military

2 ☐ Only on active duty for training in the Reserves or National Guard

3 ☐ Now on active duty

4 ☐ On active duty in the past, but not now

1212

2. Are you retired from forestry, farming or ranching? 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No

3. What is the highest level of formal education you have achieved?

922

- 1 ☐ Less than high school diploma
- 2 ☐ High school
- 3 ☐ Some college (include associates degree)
- 4 ☐ Four-year college graduate and beyond

4. In 2023, which category below best describes your ownership? Check only one.

xxx

- 1 ☐ Individual ownership
- 2 ☐ Joint, with husband or wife
- 3 ☐ Joint, such as with other family members or friends
- 4 ☐ Family partnership or family LLC or LLP
- 5 ☐ Family trust or estate
- 6 ☐ Corporation or business
- 7 ☐ Grazing association, government facility or American Indian reservation
- 8 ☐ Other, specify type: 929 _____

a. How many people are a part of this ownership, including you? (Enter number).

xxxx

Section 10 - Conclusion

1. Has this operation (name on label) been sold, or turned over to someone else?

₁ ☐ Yes - Identify the new operator(s) below ₃ ☐ No - Go to Item 2

Operation Name: _____		
Operator Name: _____		
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____		☐ Check if cell phone

a. Did this person operate or manage the land individually on June 1, 2023? ₁ ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Comments related to the information you reported: 1511

3. Contact Information:

Operator Email:

Operator Phone:

9929	Check to receive results by email ☐	9918 (____) _____	Check if cell phone ☐
------	---	----------------------	---

Operation Email: (if different from above)

Operation Phone: (if different from above)

9937	Check to receive results by email ☐	9936 (____) _____	Check if cell phone ☐
------	---	----------------------	---

Respondent Name:

Respondent Phone: (if different from above)

9912	9911 (____) _____	Check if cell phone ☐	9910 MM DD YY Date: -- -- --
------	----------------------	---	---

This completes the survey. The results will be available on the release date at nass.usda.gov/results.
Thank you for your help.

Use this Space for Notes and Comments.

OFFICE USE ONLY													
Response		Respondent		Mode		Enum.	Eval.	R. Unit	Change	Office Use for POID			
1-Comp 2-R 3-Inac 4-Office Hold 5-R – Est 6-Inac – Est 7-Off Hold – Est	9901	1-Op/Mgr 2-Spouse 3-Acct/Bkpr 4-Partner 9-Other	9902	1-PASI (Mail) 2-PATI (Tel) 3-PAPI (Face-to-Face) 6-Email 7-Fax 19-Other	9903	9998	9900	9921	9985	9989			
										_ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ _ _			
										Optional Use			
										9907 9908 9906 9916			
S/E Name													