



Family Forest (10+ Acres)  
Ownership Characteristics

2018

# U.S. PACIFIC COAST

## WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION-MAKER?

**65** YEARS  
(AVERAGE AGE)

**70%**  
COLLEGE DEGREE

**67%** MALE

**10%** MINORITY

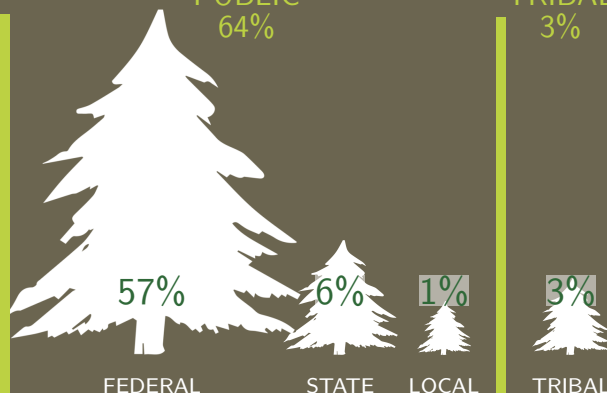
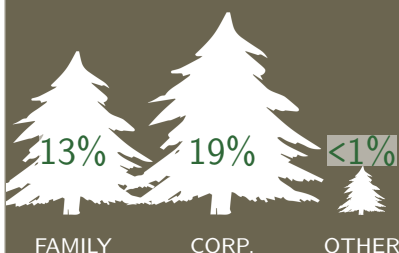


## WHO OWNS U.S. PACIFIC COAST'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE  
33%

PUBLIC  
64%

TRIBAL  
3%



## PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Management advice **27%**  
Property tax program **22%**  
Management plan **16%**  
Cost-share programs **5%**  
Conservation easements **2%**  
Green certification **1%**

## TOP 5 CONCERNS

Wildfire  
Dumping or vandalism  
Property taxes  
Trespassing or poaching  
Keeping land intact

## BY THE NUMBERS U.S. Pacific Coast's Family Forest Ownerships

**11,088,000** ACRES

**159,000** OWNERSHIPS

**343,000** OWNERS

MEAN SIZE  
**70 acres**

Median = 20 acres



## TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery  
Privacy  
Wildlife habitat  
Nature protection  
Water protection



## PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

**11%**



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

**29%**

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

**14%**

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

**38%**

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

**14%**

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

**41%**



# Family Forest (10+ Acres) Ownership Characteristics | 2018

## U.S. PACIFIC COAST

Data in this report come primarily from the USDA Forest Service, National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS). The NWOS is implemented by the Forest Inventory and Analysis program to answer questions related to who owns the forests, why they own it, what they have done with it in the past, and what they intend to do with it in the future. The family forest ownership results are based on a random sample of 509 family forest ownerships from the U.S. Pacific Coast (Coastal AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) who participated in the NWOS in 2017 and 2018. The sampling errors provided below are important for assessing the reliability of the estimates. Additional results from the NWOS are available in USFS General Technical Report NRS-199 and can be accessed via the [NWOS Dashboard](#) and additional documentation and resources can be found on the [NWOS website](#).

TABLE 1. Forest Ownership

| OWNER GROUP   | ACRES      | SE      |
|---------------|------------|---------|
| Family        | 12,269,000 | 225,000 |
| Corporate     | 18,790,000 | 242,000 |
| Other private | 877,000    | 71,000  |
| Federal       | 54,902,000 | 238,000 |
| State         | 6,066,000  | 114,000 |
| Local         | 1,323,000  | 87,000  |
| Tribal        | 2,697,000  | 119,000 |

TABLE 2. Totals, family forest (10+ ac)

| UNITS      | TOTAL      | SE      |
|------------|------------|---------|
| Acres      | 11,088,000 | 458,000 |
| Ownerships | 159,000    | 15,000  |
| Owners     | 343,000    | 32,000  |

TABLE 3. Demographics, family forest (10+ ac)

| DEMOGRAPHIC         | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|---------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                     | Percentage |     |             |     |
| Age (65+)           | 56.2       | 2.5 | 55          | 4.8 |
| Education (College) | 72.9       | 2.8 | 70.1        | 5.8 |
| Gender (Male)       | 78.7       | 1.6 | 66.6        | 3.8 |
| Minority            | 7.2        | 1   | 10          | 2   |

TABLE 4. Size of forest holdings, family forest (10+ ac)

| SIZE OF HOLDINGS | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| (ACRES)          | Percentage |     |             |     |
| 10-49            | 21.6       | 1.8 | 77.3        | 5.2 |
| 50-99            | 11         | 1.2 | 11.1        | 1.4 |
| 100-499          | 26         | 2   | 9.4         | <1  |
| 500-999          | 11.6       | 1.1 | 1.3         | <1  |
| 1,000+           | 29.8       | 1.7 | <1          | <1  |

Mean size = 69.6 ac (SE = 3.9); Median size = 20 acres

TABLE 5. Reasons for owning, family forest (10+ ac)

| OBJECTIVE          | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|--------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                    | Percentage |     |             |     |
| Beauty or scenery  | 84.6       | 2.5 | 87.3        | 4.2 |
| Privacy            | 74.5       | 2.6 | 81.3        | 4.9 |
| Wildlife habitat   | 73         | 2.6 | 76.3        | 5.5 |
| Nature protection  | 70.8       | 2.6 | 75.2        | 5.4 |
| Water protection   | 66.9       | 2.6 | 69.7        | 5.2 |
| Family legacy      | 68.9       | 2.5 | 57.5        | 4.7 |
| Land investment    | 55.3       | 2.5 | 53.1        | 5.1 |
| Recreation         | 53.9       | 2.4 | 50.9        | 4.2 |
| Raise family       | 43.5       | 2.3 | 42.8        | 4.3 |
| Firewood           | 24         | 1.8 | 24.5        | 3.6 |
| Hunting            | 34.9       | 2.1 | 19.5        | 3.9 |
| Timber products    | 32.5       | 1.9 | 17.8        | 2.3 |
| Nontimber products | 8          | 1.1 | 10.3        | 1.8 |

TABLE 6. Concerns, family forest (10+ ac)

| CONCERN               | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                       | Percentage |     |             |     |
| Wildfire              | 84.4       | 2.4 | 82.1        | 5.2 |
| Vandalism             | 67.5       | 2.5 | 74.5        | 5.2 |
| Property taxes        | 78.2       | 2.5 | 74          | 4.9 |
| Trespassing           | 76.4       | 2.6 | 73.2        | 5.8 |
| Keeping land intact   | 78.5       | 2.5 | 71.6        | 5   |
| Government regulation | 74.5       | 2.3 | 65.6        | 4.7 |
| Insects or diseases   | 67.6       | 2.5 | 65.2        | 5.1 |
| Drought               | 66.8       | 2.5 | 61.5        | 4.6 |
| Development           | 52.6       | 2.4 | 61          | 5   |
| Climate change        | 43.2       | 2.3 | 60.3        | 5   |
| Water pollution       | 50.7       | 2.4 | 60.2        | 4.1 |
| Air pollution         | 39.2       | 2.2 | 55.1        | 5.1 |
| Invasive plants       | 56.5       | 2.3 | 54.8        | 4.4 |
| Wind or ice storms    | 34.1       | 2   | 41.6        | 4.8 |
| Off-road vehicles     | 31.6       | 1.9 | 37.7        | 4   |
| Animal damage         | 23.4       | 1.6 | 21.4        | 2.3 |

TABLE 7. Management activities, family forest (10+ ac)

| ACTIVITY            | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|---------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                     | Percentage |     |             |     |
| Controlled burn     | 10.9       | 1.1 | 7.1         | 1.2 |
| Cut trees - own use | 37.1       | 2   | 29.3        | 3.7 |
| Cut trees - sale    | 25         | 1.5 | 11.3        | 1.6 |
| Insects management  | 10.2       | 1   | 14.5        | 2.4 |
| Invasives           | 43.1       | 1.8 | 37.5        | 3.1 |
| Livestock grazing   | 37.4       | 1.7 | 11.8        | 1.9 |
| Nontimber products  | 22.7       | 1.7 | 20.4        | 3.4 |
| Reduced fire hazard | 47.9       | 1.9 | 40.9        | 3.8 |
| Roads               | 41.5       | 1.9 | 21.9        | 3.2 |
| Trails              | 19.8       | 1.5 | 16.8        | 2.7 |
| Wildlife habitat    | 25.6       | 1.6 | 14          | 2.3 |
| None                | 11.4       | 1.2 | 26.7        | 3.3 |

TABLE 8. Management programs, family forest (10+ ac)

| PROGRAM                | ACRES      | SE  | OWNER-SHIPS | SE  |
|------------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                        | Percentage |     |             |     |
| Advice                 | 42.8       | 1.7 | 26.6        | 2.6 |
| Conservation easements | 8.5        | 1.2 | 2.3         | <1  |
| Cost-share programs    | 18.8       | 1.2 | 4.9         | <1  |
| Green certification    | 6.3        | <1  | <1          | <1  |
| Management plan        | 27.8       | 1.5 | 16.1        | 2.2 |
| Property tax program   | 28.7       | 1.5 | 21.6        | 2.4 |