



Family Forest (10+ Acres)
Ownership Characteristics

2018

ARIZONA

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?

63 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

68%
COLLEGE DEGREE

70% MALE

10% MINORITY



PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

<1%



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

28%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

9%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

13%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

14%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

31%



WHO OWNS ARIZONA'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE
9%

PUBLIC
61%

TRIBAL
30%



6%

FAMILY



3%

CORP.



<1%

OTHER



51%

FEDERAL



10%

STATE



<1%

LOCAL



30%

TRIBAL

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Management advice **3%**
Conservation easements **1%**
Property tax program **1%**
Management plan **1%**
Green certification **0%**
Cost-share programs **0%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

Trespassing or poaching
Dumping or vandalism
Wildfire
Property taxes
Drought

BY THE NUMBERS Arizona's Family Forest Ownerships

985,000 ACRES

18,000 OWNERSHIPS

36,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

54 acres

Median = 40 acres



TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery
Privacy
Wildlife habitat
Nature protection
Water protection



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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 random sample of 116 family forest ownerships from Arizona 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	1,141,000	80,000
Corporate	534,000	56,000
Other private	54,000	18,000
Federal	10,088,000	189,000
State	1,981,000	107,000
Local	73,000	23,000
Tribal	5,894,000	141,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	985,000	205,000
Ownerships	18,000	6,000
Owners	36,000	13,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	49.3	4.3	48.9	5.8
Education (College)	65.7	5.1	68.5	7.4
Gender (Male)	74.7	3.1	69.9	4.8
Minority	5.8	1.5	9.8	3.7

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	40	3.6	75.1	7.6
50-99	23.3	3.1	17.8	2.9
100-499	19.2	2.9	6.3	1.1
500-999	5.8	1.5	<1	<1
1,000+	11.7	2	<1	<1

Mean size = 53.7 ac (SE = 3.9); Median size = 40 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	82.5	4.7	89.6	5.7
Privacy	79.2	4.8	86.9	6.8
Wildlife habitat	65.5	4.8	75.6	6.2
Nature protection	61.2	4.6	72.7	6.6
Water protection	56.2	4.6	64.2	6.3
Land investment	56.2	4.5	50.5	6.2
Recreation	51.7	4.7	46.6	5.6
Family legacy	54.3	4.5	44.6	5.7
Hunting	21.8	3.3	22.3	4.4
Raise family	26.7	3.7	19.5	3.6
Firewood	8.7	2.1	7.3	2.4
Timber products	1.7	1.4	<1	1.1
Nontimber products	<1	<1	<1	<1

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Trespassing	82.3	4.8	84.5	6.8
Vandalism	77.3	4.7	82.1	7.3
Wildfire	75.2	4.7	77	7
Property taxes	78.2	4.5	76.8	6.8
Drought	68.2	4.7	69.3	6.9
Government regulation	74.3	4.6	69	6.5
Keeping land intact	72	4.7	67.5	6.8
Water pollution	53.8	4.7	64.5	7.3
Insects or diseases	60.3	4.9	57.2	6.5
Development	49.2	4.4	49.1	5.6
Off-road vehicles	51.3	4.5	48.1	5.8
Air pollution	38.8	4.2	36.3	5.5
Invasive plants	38.5	4.1	33.6	5.3
Climate change	29.5	3.9	32.6	5.2
Wind or ice storms	21.5	3.4	27	4.8
Animal damage	19.7	3	15.1	2.9

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	1.8	1.1	6.1	4.3
Cut trees - own use	32.7	3.4	27.7	5
Cut trees - sale	1	<1	<1	<1
Insects management	6.8	1.9	9.5	4.6
Invasives	17.2	2.6	13.2	4.8
Livestock grazing	30.8	3.1	18.2	3.2
Nontimber products	4.2	1.5	1.9	<1
Reduced fire hazard	29.2	3.3	30.8	5.3
Roads	15.8	2.5	9.1	2.3
Trails	7.5	1.8	3.2	1.3
Wildlife habitat	11.7	2.3	13.5	4.1
None	30.3	3.2	33.7	5

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	7.7	1.7	3.0	1.4
Conservation easements	2.5	1.1	<1	<1
Cost-share programs	1.7	<1	<1	<1
Green certification	<1	<1	<1	<1
Management plan	4.0	1.6	<1	<1
Property tax program	1.8	1.0	<1	<1