



Family Forest (10+ Acres)
Ownership Characteristics

2018

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?



66 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

60%
COLLEGE DEGREE

70% MALE

<1% MINORITY

PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

25%



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

37%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

<1%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

12%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

14%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

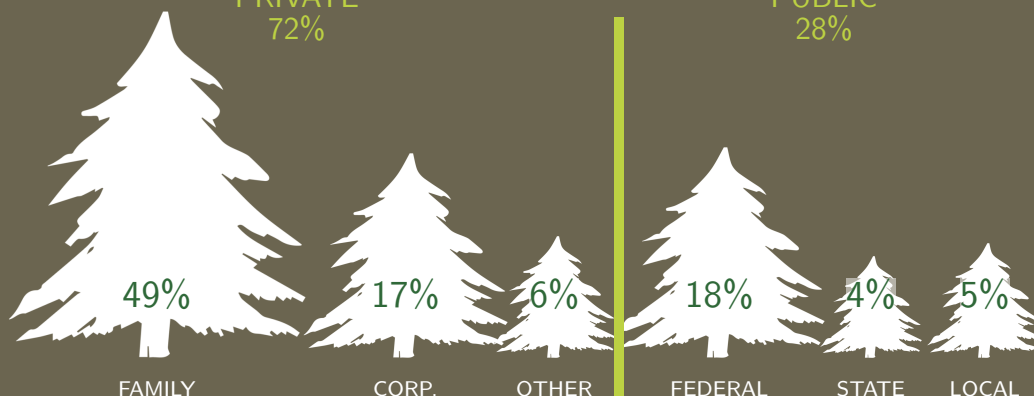
2%



WHO OWNS NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE
72%

PUBLIC
28%



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Property tax program **81%**
Management advice **19%**
Management plan **16%**
Conservation easements **4%**
Green certification **2%**
Cost-share programs **2%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

Keeping land intact
Wildfire
Water pollution
Insects or diseases
Property taxes

BY THE NUMBERS New Hampshire's Family Forest Ownerships

1,838,000 ACRES

32,000 OWNERSHIPS

55,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

57 acres

Median = 28 acres



TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery
Wildlife habitat
Privacy
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 103 family forest ownerships from New Hampshire 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	2,314,000	76,000
Corporate	805,000	63,000
Other private	286,000	42,000
Federal	857,000	28,000
State	199,000	25,000
Local	254,000	37,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	1,838,000	92,000
Ownerships	32,000	3,000
Owners	55,000	5,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	63.2	4.9	64.8	8
Education (College)	73.6	5.6	60.2	7.9
Gender (Male)	76.7	3.3	70.5	5.7
Minority	1.4	<1	<1	<1

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	25	3.5	66.3	8.7
50-99	26.9	3.3	23.4	3.7
100-499	33.8	4.1	9.6	1.5
500-999	6	1.8	<1	<1
1,000+	8.4	2.2	<1	<1

Mean size = 56.7 ac (SE = 5.3); Median size = 28 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	90	5.5	93.6	7.7
Wildlife habitat	81.7	5.1	82	6.6
Privacy	77.7	5.5	82	8.1
Nature protection	80.9	5.3	80.7	6.9
Water protection	69.8	5.5	70.1	6.9
Family legacy	59.9	4.9	56.9	7
Recreation	61.3	5.2	56.3	7.4
Raise family	44.5	4.6	55.3	6.8
Land investment	40.1	4.4	37.2	6.5
Firewood	35.1	4.3	32.2	5.9
Timber products	30.4	4.2	18.1	5
Hunting	25.3	4.1	17.5	4
Nontimber products	14.7	3.1	12.6	4

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Keeping land intact	73.3	4.9	79.5	8
Wildfire	53.9	5	77.3	8.5
Water pollution	60.5	5.4	77.3	10.2
Insects or diseases	74	5.5	76.7	8.5
Property taxes	75.1	4.9	73.2	6.2
Air pollution	54	4.7	67.6	7.5
Government regulation	60.6	5.1	67	7
Development	54.9	5	64.6	8.2
Vandalism	59.2	4.9	62.2	7.8
Drought	32.8	4	59.1	8.7
Climate change	56.4	4.9	57.1	7.4
Invasive plants	54.9	4.9	56.3	7.5
Trespassing	53.1	4.9	55.2	7
Wind or ice storms	49.5	4.6	53.8	7.3
Off-road vehicles	46.1	4.6	49.1	7.2
Animal damage	16.2	3	29.5	7.4

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	<1	<1	<1	<1
Cut trees - own use	46.8	3.8	37	5.9
Cut trees - sale	41.9	3.5	25	4.7
Insects management	1.9	1.1	<1	<1
Invasives	15.6	2.7	12.1	4.4
Livestock grazing	12.5	2.5	7.2	2.7
Nontimber products	31.2	3.5	24.8	4.3
Reduced fire hazard	4.5	1.8	2.3	1.3
Roads	22.5	3.2	14.1	4.2
Trails	34.7	3.5	24.2	4.7
Wildlife habitat	21.8	3.3	14.3	4.4
None	17.9	2.9	28.1	5.8

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	36.2	3.7	18.9	4.5
Conservation easements	15.7	2.7	3.7	1.1
Cost-share programs	9.8	2.3	2.1	1.6
Green certification	8.5	2.1	2.1	1.5
Management plan	32.5	3.6	16.1	4.1
Property tax program	88.3	2.4	80.9	4.9