



Family Forest (10+ Acres)
Ownership Characteristics

2018

TEXAS

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?

66 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

60%
COLLEGE DEGREE

66% MALE

13% MINORITY



PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

6%

CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

32%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

6%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

34%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

25%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

22%

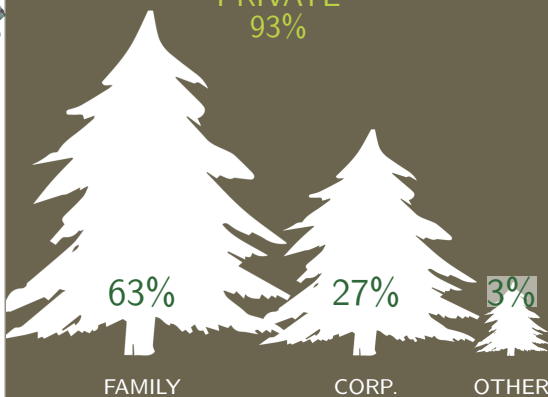


WHO OWNS TEXAS'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE
93%

PUBLIC
6%

TRIBAL
0%



FEDERAL



STATE



LOCAL



TRIBAL

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Management advice **22%**
Property tax program **15%**
Management plan **12%**
Cost-share programs **3%**
Green certification **3%**
Conservation easements **2%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

Property taxes
Keeping land intact
Government regulation
Drought
Trespassing or poaching

BY THE NUMBERS Texas's Family Forest Ownerships

38,030,000 ACRES

260,000 OWNERSHIPS

527,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

146 acres

Median = 35 acres



TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery
Wildlife habitat
Nature protection
Privacy
Land investment



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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 475 family forest owners from Texas 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	39,281,000	492,000
Corporate	16,798,000	322,000
Other private	1,777,000	113,000
Federal	1,663,000	83,000
State	1,714,000	108,000
Local	643,000	63,000
Tribal	26,000	13,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	38,030,000	838,000
Ownerships	260,000	12,000
Owners	527,000	28,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	61.5	2.8	58.8	4.9
Education (College)	69.3	3.2	60.2	5.3
Gender (Male)	76.7	1.8	65.8	4.3
Minority	6.5	<1	12.6	2.5

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	8.8	1	59.7	6.1
50-99	8	1.1	16.6	2.5
100-499	23.6	2	18.4	1.9
500-999	13	1.5	2.8	<1
1,000+	46.6	2.6	2.5	<1

Mean size = 146.4 ac (SE = 11.2); Median size = 35 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	78.2	2.9	84.6	5.5
Wildlife habitat	78.3	2.9	74.9	5.5
Nature protection	65.8	2.9	72.4	6.1
Privacy	66.8	2.8	66.3	5.4
Land investment	62.4	2.8	64.9	5.6
Water protection	69.8	2.8	64.2	5.8
Family legacy	73.7	2.7	61.4	4.9
Hunting	65	2.9	42.6	5
Recreation	50.5	2.6	38.2	4.8
Raise family	39.3	2.5	31	3.7
Timber products	14.1	1.5	12.7	2
Firewood	10.1	1.3	10.1	1.9
Nontimber products	2.1	<1	3.2	1.3

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Property taxes	90	2.8	91.1	4
Keeping land intact	81.6	2.8	76.8	5.7
Government regulation	82.2	3	76.2	4.9
Drought	81.3	2.8	74	5.9
Trespassing	79.3	2.9	73.8	5.2
Water pollution	64.4	2.9	73.8	5.9
Vandalism	63.9	2.9	72.4	5.8
Wildfire	67	2.9	64.8	5.7
Air pollution	41.9	2.6	59.3	5.6
Insects or diseases	60.2	3	54.4	4.8
Development	46.2	2.7	51.6	5.6
Invasive plants	58.4	2.9	51.1	5.2
Wind or ice storms	35.9	2.6	41.6	5.3
Animal damage	43.1	2.7	38.1	4.2
Climate change	33.6	2.3	36.7	4
Off-road vehicles	29.4	2.4	32.8	4.4

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	19.9	1.7	11.3	3.2
Cut trees - own use	29.8	2	31.7	4.1
Cut trees - sale	8.2	<1	5.7	1.2
Insects management	8.2	1.1	6.4	1.4
Invasives	47.1	2.1	34.2	4.3
Livestock grazing	60.5	2	37.1	3.7
Nontimber products	13.5	1.5	16.7	4.2
Reduced fire hazard	25.2	1.9	22.1	4.5
Roads	32.1	2	13.3	2.5
Trails	23.3	1.9	15	2.5
Wildlife habitat	47	2.2	25	3.7
None	6.2	<1	16.8	2.7

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	44.7	2.2	22.4	3.0
Conservation easements	4.3	<1	2.0	<1
Cost-share programs	18.9	1.7	3.2	<1
Green certification	1.5	<1	2.7	1.2
Management plan	24.5	1.9	12.4	2.7
Property tax program	22.0	1.8	15.1	2.6