



Family Forest (10+ Acres)
Ownership Characteristics

2018

WASHINGTON

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?



64 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

62%
COLLEGE DEGREE

72% MALE

3% MINORITY

PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

15%



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

29%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

10%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

36%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

11%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

32%

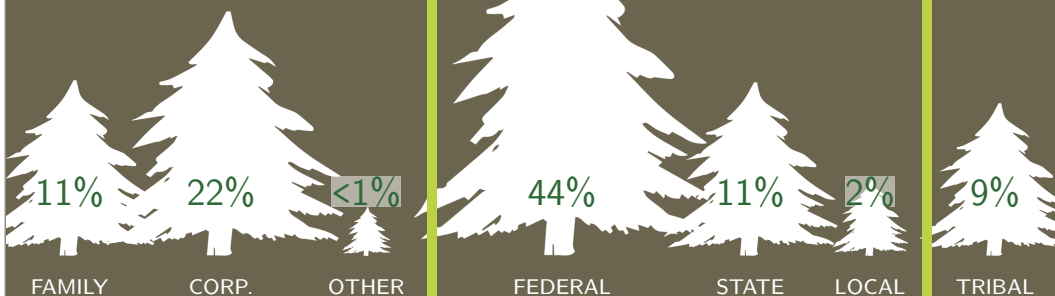


WHO OWNS WASHINGTON'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE
34%

PUBLIC
57%

TRIBAL
9%



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Property tax program **36%**
Management advice **31%**
Management plan **27%**
Cost-share programs **5%**
Conservation easements **2%**
Green certification **1%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

Property taxes
Government regulation
Wildfire
Trespassing or poaching
Dumping or vandalism

BY THE NUMBERS Washington's Family Forest Ownerships

2,131,000 ACRES

49,000 OWNERSHIPS

98,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

43 acres

Median = 20 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 143 family forest ownerships from Washington 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	2,497,000	103,000
Corporate	4,845,000	123,000
Other private	187,000	33,000
Federal	9,741,000	75,000
State	2,458,000	54,000
Local	465,000	52,000
Tribal	1,888,000	97,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	2,131,000	136,000
Ownerships	49,000	5,000
Owners	98,000	10,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	49.5	4.1	52.4	6.3
Education (College)	66.3	4.4	61.5	7.3
Gender (Male)	75.8	3	72	4.7
Minority	6.6	1.7	3.5	1.7

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	38.3	3.4	85.9	6.7
50-99	11.1	2.1	6.8	1.5
100-499	25.5	3	6.3	<1
500-999	9.8	1.9	<1	<1
1,000+	15.2	2.1	<1	<1

Mean size = 43.1 ac (SE = 3.3); Median size = 20 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	80.8	4.2	83.6	5.9
Privacy	68.7	4.5	76.8	6.7
Wildlife habitat	70.7	4.2	72.5	6.9
Nature protection	68.8	4.7	68.6	7.1
Water protection	64.7	4.3	62.6	6.8
Family legacy	63.4	4.2	57.4	6.6
Land investment	53.9	4.2	45	5.7
Recreation	51.5	3.9	44.7	5.7
Raise family	42.5	3.9	42.8	6.2
Hunting	32.3	3.4	22.7	4.7
Timber products	40	3.7	17.3	3.6
Firewood	23.4	3.1	17.2	3.8
Nontimber products	11.6	2	8.8	2.6

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Property taxes	76.3	4.1	76.8	7
Government regulation	76.8	4.1	75	6.2
Wildfire	77.5	4.2	74.9	6.9
Trespassing	76.6	4.3	74.5	7.3
Vandalism	73.4	4.2	74.1	7.1
Keeping land intact	74.1	4.2	73.9	6.5
Insects or diseases	71	4.3	66.3	6.8
Development	55.2	4	58.7	6.5
Invasive plants	60.8	4.1	56.2	6.7
Water pollution	47.4	3.9	53.4	6.3
Wind or ice storms	45.9	4	48.2	6.3
Climate change	41.7	3.8	47.7	6
Drought	49.6	3.8	44.9	6.2
Air pollution	37.9	3.7	43.7	6
Off-road vehicles	38.5	3.5	39	5.8
Animal damage	22.7	3	21.2	4.3

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	5.5	1.5	7.2	2.8
Cut trees - own use	33.8	3	29	4.6
Cut trees - sale	33.4	3	14.8	3.1
Insects management	10.5	2	9.9	3.1
Invasives	42	3.2	36.4	4.8
Livestock grazing	26.9	2.8	8.2	2.1
Nontimber products	30.1	2.9	22.6	4.4
Reduced fire hazard	34.3	3	32.1	5
Roads	25.6	2.8	11.1	3
Trails	22.4	2.6	15.4	3.3
Wildlife habitat	14.2	2.4	11	3.5
None	17	2.3	30.9	5.1

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	40.6	3.2	30.7	4.8
Conservation easements	6.1	1.6	1.7	<1
Cost-share programs	13.9	2.1	4.6	2.4
Green certification	8.1	1.5	1.1	<1
Management plan	37.8	3.1	27.3	4.6
Property tax program	54.3	3.1	36.4	4.5