



Family Forest (10+ Acres)
Ownership Characteristics

2018

WYOMING

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?



65 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

66%
COLLEGE DEGREE

75% MALE

3% MINORITY

PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

4%



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

40%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

20%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

32%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

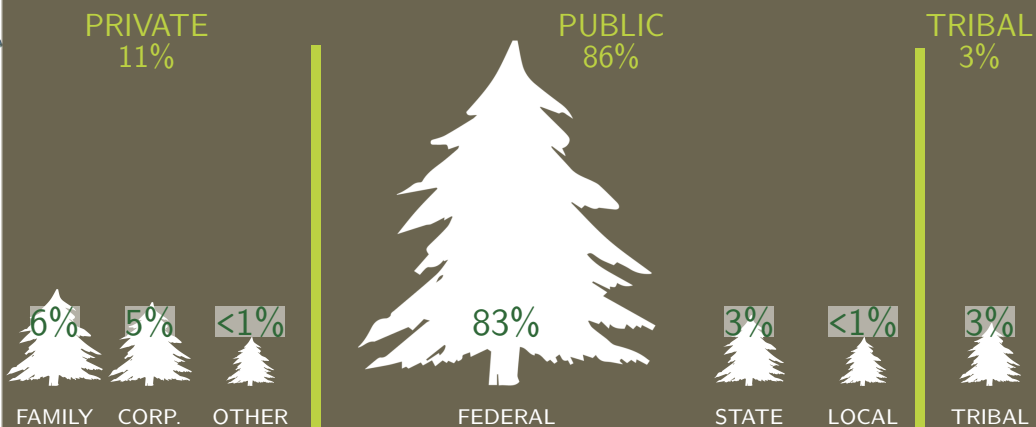
20%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

40%



WHO OWNS WYOMING'S FORESTS?



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Management advice **35%**
Cost-share programs **10%**
Management plan **8%**
Conservation easements **2%**
Green certification **0%**
Property tax program **0%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

Keeping land intact
Wildfire
Insects or diseases
Trespassing or poaching
Property taxes

BY THE NUMBERS Wyoming's Family Forest Ownerships

668,000 ACRES

5,000 OWNERSHIPS

11,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

138 acres

Median = 30 acres



TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery
Wildlife habitat
Nature protection
Privacy
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 288 family forest owners from Wyoming 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	681,000	65,000
Corporate	506,000	58,000
Other private	0	0
Federal	8,811,000	184,000
State	365,000	50,000
Local	4,000	4,000
Tribal	281,000	41,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	668,000	47,000
Ownerships	5,000	1,000
Owners	11,000	2,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	56.6	3.3	60	5.7
Education (College)	57	4.7	66.1	6.7
Gender (Male)	83.9	2.2	75.5	4
Minority	3.7	<1	3.4	1.3

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	9.5	1.5	64	6.5
50-99	5.1	1.1	10.2	2
100-499	27.4	2.1	19.6	1.8
500-999	14.4	1.4	3.1	<1
1,000+	43.6	1.6	3.1	<1

Mean size = 137.6 ac (SE = 8.9); Median size = 30 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	84.7	2.5	84.5	5.2
Wildlife habitat	73.3	2.6	72.6	6.7
Nature protection	69.6	2.6	68.5	6.2
Privacy	66	2.9	61.9	5.8
Water protection	72.4	2.6	61.5	5.8
Recreation	51	2.5	45.7	5.5
Family legacy	68.9	2.5	45.3	4.9
Hunting	53.6	3.6	38.2	4.9
Raise family	49.5	2.3	31	4.4
Land investment	45.7	2.3	31	4.3
Firewood	18.8	2.1	24.9	4.2
Timber products	23.9	1.5	7.7	1.7
Nontimber products	5.8	<1	4.7	2.3

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Keeping land intact	85.8	2.7	86	6.6
Wildfire	77.2	2.6	80.2	6.4
Insects or diseases	68.6	2.6	77.7	6.3
Trespassing	77.2	2.5	72.2	5.9
Property taxes	72.1	2.6	69.9	6.4
Vandalism	61	2.7	69.7	6.6
Government regulation	79.1	2.6	66.2	5.7
Invasive plants	62.4	2.9	57.5	5.8
Drought	69.5	2.6	56.5	5.8
Water pollution	45.9	2.4	51.7	5.9
Development	48	2.5	50.6	5.7
Climate change	28.9	2.1	36.2	5.5
Off-road vehicles	37.9	2.3	32.6	4.6
Air pollution	30.1	2	30.9	4.3
Animal damage	20.6	1.6	23.9	4.7
Wind or ice storms	23	1.9	21.1	4

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	7	1.1	8.6	2.5
Cut trees - own use	34.9	1.9	39.8	4.9
Cut trees - sale	13.4	1.2	3.8	1
Insects management	14.7	1.6	20.2	3.8
Invasives	28.3	1.9	31.9	4.4
Livestock grazing	62.6	2	39.5	4.2
Nontimber products	8.2	1.3	15.6	4
Reduced fire hazard	38.4	2	40.4	4.4
Roads	18.5	1.5	15.1	3.2
Trails	13.7	1.5	12.7	3.6
Wildlife habitat	24.3	1.7	20.3	3.5
None	8.8	<1	7.5	2.3

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	36.0	1.9	35.0	4.5
Conservation easements	4.8	<1	2.0	<1
Cost-share programs	13.9	1.2	9.7	2.7
Green certification	2.3	<1	<1	<1
Management plan	12.8	1.4	8.2	2.9
Property tax program	1.3	<1	<1	<1