

Family Forest Ownerships with 10+ Acres in the Northern United States, 2011-2013

The U.S. Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis program conducts the National Woodland Owner Survey in order to better understand: who owns America's 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. This document summarizes data on family forest ownerships with 10+ acres in the Northern U.S.. These summaries are based on responses from randomly selected landowners from across the Northern U.S. collected between 2011 and 2013 (n=4,635). For explanations of the numbers and figures below, underlying summary tables, additional results, definitions, and methods see supplementary information at <http://dx.doi.org/10.2737/NRS-RN-205> or visit www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos.

General Forest Ownership Information¹

Table 1.—Forest land in the Northern U.S. by ownership category

Ownership Category	Area (millions)	Standard Error (SE)
Family	93.5	0.4
Corporate	30.0	0.3
Tribal	1.3	<0.1
Other private	4.7	0.2
Federal	14.4	0.1
State	23.4	0.2
Total	176.3	0.6

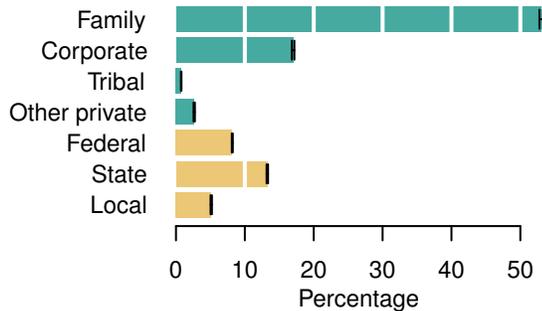


Figure 1.—Percentage of forest land in the Northern U.S. by ownership category.²

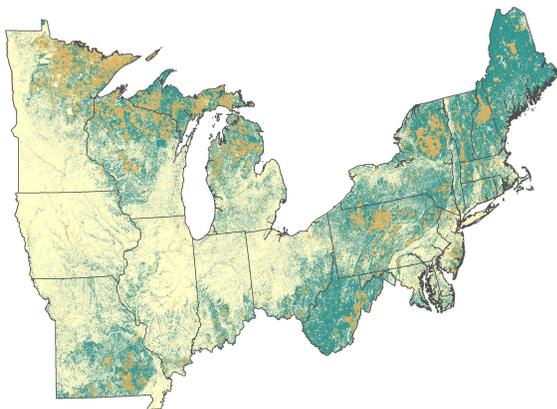


Figure 2.—Private (■) and public (■) forest land across the Northern U.S.. Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2737/RDS-2014-0002> (Hewes et al. 2014b).

Characteristics of Family Forest Ownerships with 10+ Acres in the Northern U.S.

- Area owned: 84,129,000 acres³ (SE=592,000)
- Number of ownerships: 1,776,000 (SE=36,000)

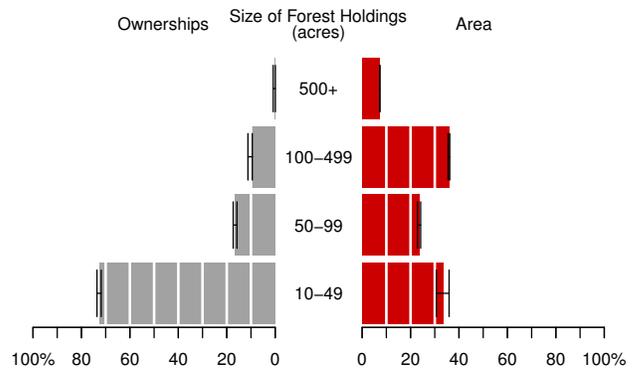


Figure 3.—Size of forest holdings.

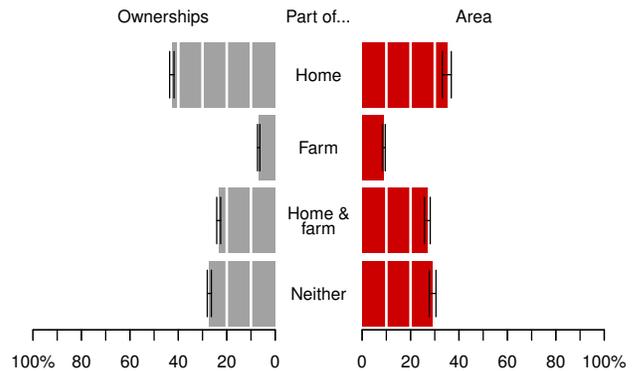


Figure 4.—Forest land is part of home or farm.

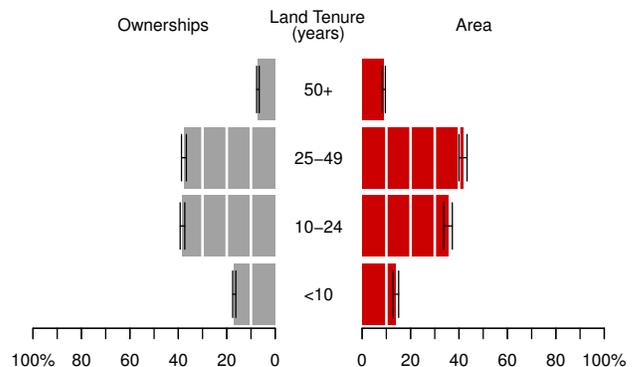


Figure 5.—Forest land tenure.

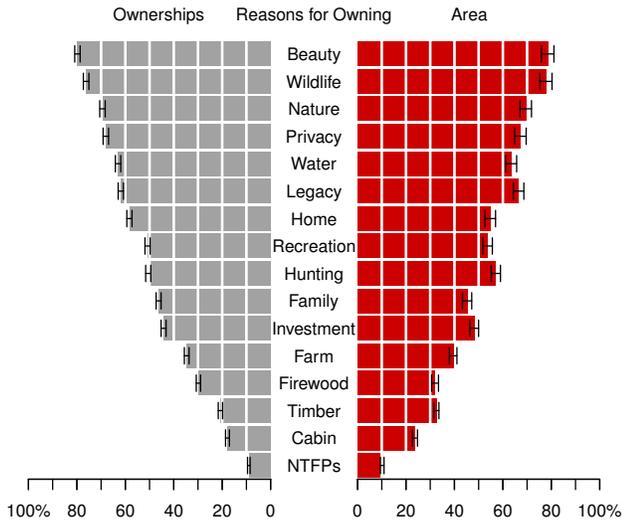


Figure 6.—Reasons for owning.^{4,5}

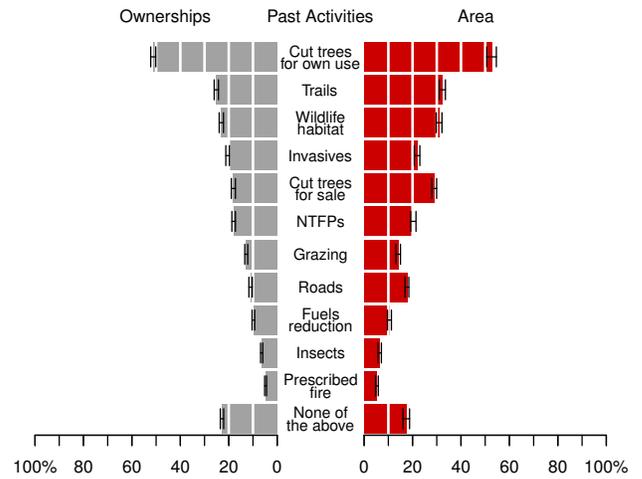


Figure 9.—Activities in the *past* 5 years.⁵

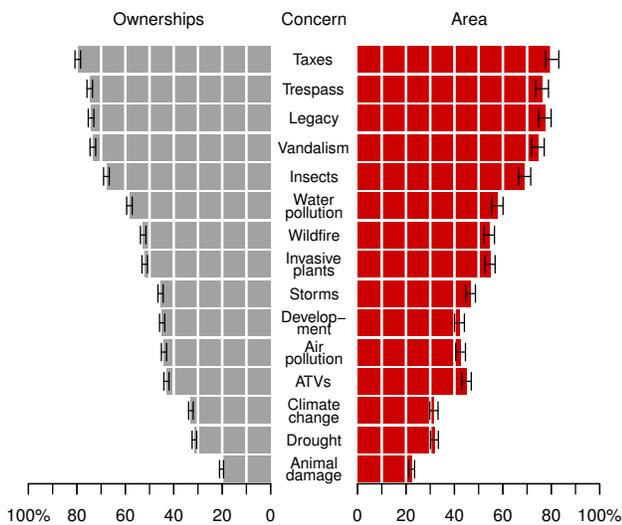


Figure 7.—Landowner concerns.⁴

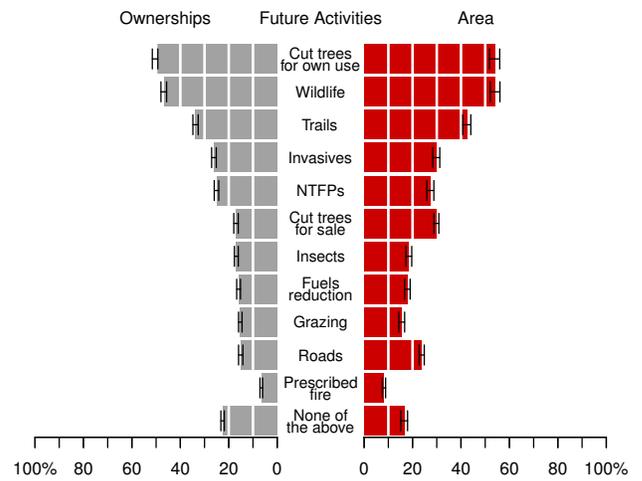


Figure 10.—Likely activities in the *next* 5 years.⁵

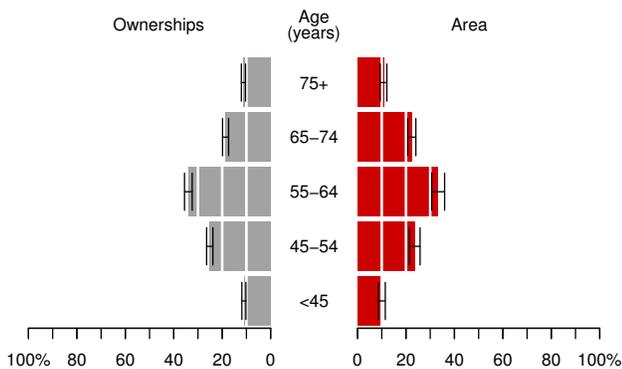


Figure 8.—Landowner age.

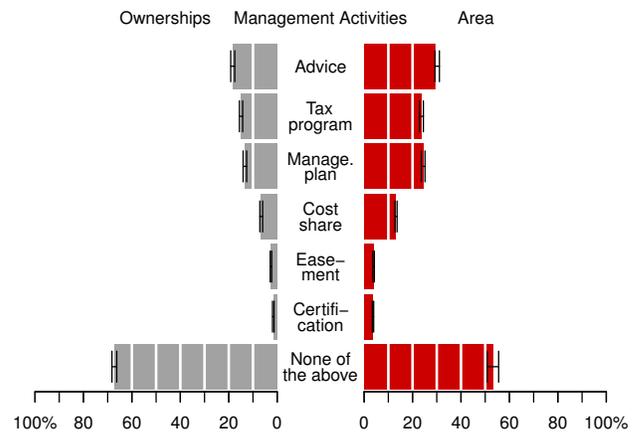


Figure 11.—Management activities.

¹ Values in this section are based on Forest Inventory and Analysis (www.fia.fs.fed.us) data collected between 2008 and 2012.

² Error bars on all figures represent a 68 percent confidence interval around the value depicted.

³ This value does not equal the value in Table 1 because it excludes ownerships with 1-9 acres of forest land.

⁴ Excluding, where applicable, the "none of the above" option, respondents could select multiple options.

⁵ NTFPs = nontimber forest products.

See the Supplemental Information document (<http://dx.doi.org/10.2737/NRS-RN-205>) for details on data sources and graphics.

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