



Family Forest (10+ Acres) Ownership Characteristics

2018

UTAH

WHO IS THE PRIMARY DECISION- MAKER?



63 YEARS
(AVERAGE AGE)

61%
COLLEGE DEGREE

86% MALE

5% MINORITY

PAST 5 YEARS Forest Management Activities

CUT TREES FOR SALE

<1%



CUT TREES FOR OWN USE

23%

INSECT/DISEASE MITIGATION

8%

INVASIVE PLANT MITIGATION

22%

IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT

15%

REDUCED FIRE HAZARD

36%



WHO OWNS UTAH'S FORESTS?

PRIVATE
12%

PUBLIC
85%

TRIBAL
3%



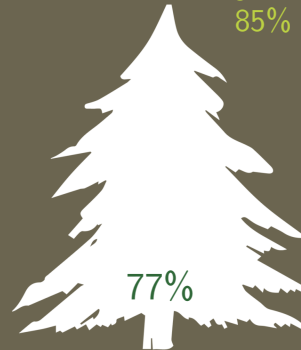
FAMILY
7%



CORP.
5%



OTHER
<1%



FEDERAL
77%



STATE
8%



LOCAL
<1%



TRIBAL
3%

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Property tax program **30%**
Management advice **16%**
Conservation easements **7%**
Cost-share programs **5%**
Management plan **2%**
Green certification **0%**

TOP 5 CONCERNS

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

BY THE NUMBERS Utah's Family Forest Ownerships

1,280,000 ACRES

14,000 OWNERSHIPS

37,000 OWNERS

MEAN SIZE

94 acres

Median = 25 acres



TOP 5 REASONS FOR OWNING

Beauty or scenery
Recreation
Wildlife habitat
Privacy
Nature 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 126 family forest ownerships from Utah 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	1,335,000	85,000
Corporate	858,000	69,000
Other private	56,000	19,000
Federal	14,545,000	233,000
State	1,483,000	91,000
Local	53,000	18,000
Tribal	594,000	56,000

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

UNITS	TOTAL	SE
Acres	1,280,000	114,000
Ownerships	14,000	3,000
Owners	37,000	10,000

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

DEMOGRAPHIC	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Age (65+)	62.2	4.6	38.8	7.9
Education (College)	61.5	4.6	61.3	10.6
Gender (Male)	80.6	2.6	85.7	5.3
Minority	2.6	1.2	4.9	2.9

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

SIZE OF HOLDINGS	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
(ACRES)	Percentage			
10-49	15.1	2.7	71	10
50-99	10.6	2.1	14.9	3.3
100-499	21.8	2.9	11.2	1.9
500-999	8.7	1.7	1.1	<1
1,000+	43.9	3.1	1.8	<1

Mean size = 94.1 ac (SE = 10.2); Median size = 25 acres

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

OBJECTIVE	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Beauty or scenery	83.1	4.2	94	7
Recreation	59.1	4	79	9.5
Wildlife habitat	77.3	4.3	78.5	9.4
Privacy	67.2	4.3	74.8	8.9
Nature protection	65.5	4.4	65.3	8.8
Family legacy	74.8	4.2	61.2	8.5
Water protection	66.6	4.3	58.2	9.3
Land investment	50.4	4.2	48.2	8.6
Hunting	49.7	4.2	40.3	7.8
Raise family	41.3	3.8	28.8	5.9
Firewood	14.5	2.3	10.9	3.4
Timber products	9.6	2	5.3	2.9
Nontimber products	1.4	<1	3.8	2.7

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

CONCERN	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Trespassing	82.7	4.1	76.5	8.9
Property taxes	69.7	4.4	74.8	9.5
Keeping land intact	80.5	4.1	68.6	9.3
Wildfire	69.2	4.7	68	9.3
Insects or diseases	60.4	4.3	60.7	10.4
Vandalism	66.6	4.4	60.2	8.3
Government regulation	70.4	4.3	58.9	8.8
Drought	74.5	4.2	57.1	8.6
Water pollution	49	4.1	50.8	8.9
Development	48.3	4	50.4	8
Invasive plants	55.7	4	42.3	8.1
Off-road vehicles	41.5	3.6	41.2	7.9
Air pollution	35.8	3.4	40.2	7.9
Climate change	25.9	3.1	27.3	6.4
Wind or ice storms	14.4	2.8	19.5	5.7
Animal damage	26.5	3.3	18.5	5.9

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

ACTIVITY	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Controlled burn	6.1	1.4	7.3	3
Cut trees - own use	34.5	3.1	23.1	4.6
Cut trees - sale	6.4	2.1	<1	<1
Insects management	6.5	1.7	7.7	3.7
Invasives	37.2	3.2	21.5	5.7
Livestock grazing	60.1	3.6	32.8	6.5
Nontimber products	8.2	1.4	6.1	3.5
Reduced fire hazard	31.5	2.8	36.2	6.6
Roads	29	3	31.5	6.4
Trails	20.2	2.8	11.4	2.9
Wildlife habitat	28.2	2.7	14.9	5.4
None	12.6	2.3	21.8	6.2

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

PROGRAM	ACRES	SE	OWNER-SHIPS	SE
	Percentage			
Advice	32.8	2.7	16.5	4.4
Conservation easements	7.9	1.9	6.8	3.0
Cost-share programs	13.4	2.2	5.1	1.7
Green certification	2.4	<1	<1	<1
Management plan	20.7	2.3	2.0	<1
Property tax program	53.9	3.3	29.7	6.5