

Comments or questions?

Please contact us:

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National Woodland Owner Survey
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Version: Alabama 6.0

National Woodland Owner Survey



USDA Forest Service, National Woodland Owner Survey

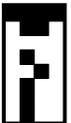


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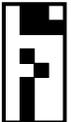
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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Please return the survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.

If you would like a copy of the results of this survey, print your name and address on the back of the return envelope.



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If there are any additional comments or concerns that you would like to share, please write them below.

Instructions

- ✓ Please provide answers for all of the wooded land that you own in Alabama. If you are part of more than one group that owns wooded land, please respond for the group that is listed on the outside of the envelope.
- ✓ The owner who makes most of the decisions about your wooded land in Alabama should answer this survey.
- ✓ If this survey is received by a company or other organization, please have a person knowledgeable about the organization's wooded land in Alabama answer this survey. If the company listed on the envelope is a subsidiary of a larger company, please respond for the larger, parent company.

General Questions About Your Land

1. How many total acres of land do you currently own in Alabama?

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Acres of land in Alabama

2. Wooded land covers 70% of Alabama.

Wooded land includes:

- ✓ Woods, woodlots, timberland, and forests
- ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10% forest cover
- ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, where trees were removed and trees will grow again

Wooded land does *not* include:

- ✓ Christmas tree farms, orchards, or nurseries
- ✓ Land that is mowed for lawn

How many acres of wooded land do you currently own in Alabama?

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Acres of wooded land in Alabama

*If you **own any** wooded land in Alabama, please complete this survey.*

*If you **do not own** wooded land in Alabama, please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided and write on the cover "No Wooded Land"*



General Questions about Your Ownership

3. Which category below best describes your ownership?
Check only one.
- Individual
- Joint, with husband or wife
- Joint, such as with other family members or friends
- Family partnership or family LLC or LLP
- Family trust or estate
- Corporation or business
- Other (please specify): _____
4. How many people are a part of this ownership, including you?
- Owners
5. Do you currently own more than one separate, unconnected property with wooded land in Alabama?
- Yes No
6. Is your home (primary residence) on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Alabama?
- Yes No Not Applicable
7. Do you **own** a vacation home or cabin on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Alabama?
- Yes No Not Applicable
8. Do you **own** any land that is farmed or ranched within a mile of any of your wooded land in Alabama?
For the purpose of this survey, a farm or ranch is a place where, in most years, \$1,000 or more is earned from the sale of crops (other than forest products) or animals.
- Yes No Not applicable

General Questions About You

This section asks questions about you to help us understand private forest owners more broadly. As with the rest of the survey, your responses are anonymous and will not be used to identify you. If you are responding on behalf of a company or other organization, please skip this section.

34. What is your age? Years
35. What is your gender?
- Male Female
36. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?
- Less than 12th grade
- High school/GED
- Some college
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Advanced degree
37. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?
- Yes No
38. What is your race?
Select *one or more*.
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African-American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
39. On average, what percentage of your household's annual income comes from the wooded land that you own?
- Percent



The Future of Your Wooded Land

31. How likely is it that you will sell or give away any of your wooded land in Alabama in the **next 5 years**?

Extremely likely Likely Undecided Unlikely Extremely unlikely

32. Who will likely receive it?

Check all that apply.

- My children
- Another family member(s)
- Other individual(s)
- A business
- A government agency
- Other (please specify): _____
- Don't know

33. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

Check one box for each item.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I want my wooded land to stay wooded	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would sell my land if I was offered a reasonable price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I know my wooded land very well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I want to know more about my wooded land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have a strong emotional attachment to my wooded land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I believe my wooded land provides benefits to my community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your Reasons for Owning Wooded Land

9. How important are the following as reasons for why you currently own your wooded land in Alabama?

If you own one property, check one box for each item.

If you own more than one property in Alabama, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.

	Very important	Important	Moderately important	Of little importance	Not important	Not applicable
To enjoy beauty or scenery	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect nature or biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect or improve wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For land investment	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For privacy	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To raise my family	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To pass land on to my children or other heirs	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For firewood	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For timber products, such as logs or pulpwood	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For nontimber forest products, such as berries or mushrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For recreation, other than hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>					
↳ (Please specify): _____						

The History of Your Wooded Land

10. a. How did you get your wooded land in Alabama?
Check all that apply.
 Purchased
 Inherited
 Received as gift
 Other (please specify): _____
- b. From whom did you get your wooded land?
Check all that apply.
 My parents and/or my husband or wife's parents
 My husband or wife
 Another family member
 Other individual(s)
 A business
 A government agency
 Other (please specify): _____
- c. In what year did you, personally, first take ownership of your wooded land in Alabama?

--	--	--	--

 Year
11. a. Have you **ever** sold or given away any of your wooded land in Alabama?
 Yes No → *If no, skip to question 12.*
 ↳ *If yes, please answer b, c and d.*
- b. If sold or given away, was your property subdivided or split up into multiple parcels?
 Yes No Don't know
- c. If sold or given away, who received it?
Check all that apply.
 My children
 Another family member
 Other individual(s)
 A business
 A government agency
 Other (please specify): _____
- d. Have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Alabama in the **past 5 years**?
 Yes No

Concerns

30. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for your wooded land in Alabama.
If you own one property, check one box for each item.
If you own more than one property in Alabama, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.

	Great concern	Concern	Moderate concern	Of little concern	No concern	Not applicable
Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Damage from animals	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Development of nearby lands	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Drought or lack of water	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Damage or noise from off-road vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Government regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>					
High property taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Invasive plants	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Keeping land intact for future generations	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Misuse of wooded land, such as vandalism or dumping	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Trespassing or poaching	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Unwanted insects or diseases	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Water pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Wind or ice storms	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>					
↳ (Please specify): _____						

Uses of Your Wooded Land

27. Which of the following information/advice topics would be helpful to you?

Check all that apply.

- Timber management
- How to transfer land to the next generation
- Conservation easements
- Wildlife management
- Invasive plants
- Wildfire
- Unwanted insects or diseases
- Other (please specify): _____
- None of the above

28. How would you **prefer** to get information or advice related to your wooded land?

Check all that apply.

- Talk to a neighbor
- Talk to an expert
- Have someone visit my land
- Written materials, such as brochures or other publications
- Internet
- Email/E-newsletter
- Conference or workshop
- Other (please specify): _____
- I don't want/need information or advice

29. Which of the following would be helpful to you?

Check all that apply.

- Cost-sharing for woodland management
- More favorable tax policies
- Stronger timber markets
- Other (please specify): _____
- None of the above

12. Who makes the management decisions, such as whether or not to harvest trees, for your wooded land in Alabama?

Check all that apply.

- Me
- My husband or wife
- My children
- My parents
- Another family member
- My business partner
- My land manager or forester
- Other (please specify): _____

13. A management or stewardship plan may be written in order to help the landowner meet their goals for their wooded land.

a. How familiar are you with these types of plans?

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Extremely
familiar | Moderately
familiar | Somewhat
familiar | Slightly
familiar | Not at all
familiar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |

b. Do you have a written management or stewardship plan for any of your wooded land in Alabama?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, please answer c and d.

If no or don't know, skip to question 14.

c. Who wrote it?

Check one.

- I did
- Private consultant forester
- Forest industry forester
- State or local government forester
- Federal government forester
- Other (please specify): _____

d. Have you taken actions to implement it?

- Yes No

14. a. Have trees ever been cut or removed from any of your wooded land in Alabama since you have owned it?
 Yes No → *If no, skip to question 15.*
↳ *If yes, please answer b, c, and d.*
- b. What types of products were cut or removed?
Check all that apply.
 Firewood
 Logs
 Wood chips or pulpwood
 Other (please specify): _____
- c. Why were the trees cut or removed?
Check all that apply.
 For sale For personal use Other
- d. Was a professional forester used to plan, mark, contract, or oversee any of the cuts?
 Yes No Don't know Not applicable
15. a. Which, if any, of the following nontimber forest products have been collected from any of your wooded land in Alabama since you have owned it?
Check all that apply.
 Edibles, such as mushrooms or berries
 Medicinals, such as ginseng or saw palmetto
 Landscaping, such as pine straw or transplants
 Decorative, such as boughs or moss
 Other (please specify): _____
 None of the above → *If none of the above, skip to question 16.*

- b. Why were the nontimber forest products collected from your wooded land in Alabama?
Check all that apply.
 For sale For personal use Other

Sources of Information and Assistance

26. a. Have you talked with anyone or received information/advice about the care, management, or protection of your wooded land in Alabama in the **past 5 years**?
 Yes No → *If no, skip to question 27.*
↳ *If yes, please answer b, c, and d.*
- b. What was it about?
Check all that apply.
 Unwanted insects or plant diseases
 Wildlife or wildlife habitat
 Timber production
 Land conservation
 Fire safety
 Invasive plants
 Other (please specify): _____
- c. How did it happen?
Check all that apply.
 Talked to someone
 Someone visited my land
 Received a brochure or other written material
 From the Internet
 Email/E-newsletter
 Attended a conference or workshop
 Other (please specify): _____
- d. Who was involved?
Check all that apply.
 State or local government employee
 Extension forester or other university employee
 Federal government employee
 Private consultant
 Another landowner
 Family member or friend
 Other (please specify): _____



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Recreation on Your Wooded Land

24. a. Who, with your permission, has hunted, hiked, or otherwise recreated on your wooded land in Alabama in the **past 5 years**?

Check all that apply.

- Me and/or my husband or wife
- My children
- Other family members
- Friends
- Neighbors
- The general public for free
- The general public for a fee
- Other (please specify): _____
- Nobody → *If nobody, skip to question 25.*

- b. How did you/they recreate?

Check all that apply.

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Hiking/walking
- Bicycling
- Camping
- Horseback riding
- Skiing or snowshoeing
- Off-road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles
- Other (please specify): _____

25. a. Is any of your wooded land in Alabama posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?

Yes No → *If no, skip to question 26.*

↳ *If yes, please answer question b.*

- b. If yes, what is restricted?

Check all that apply

- Trespassing
- Hunting
- Motorized vehicles
- Other (please specify): _____

16. Which of the following have occurred on your wooded land in Alabama **in the past 5 years**?

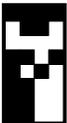
Check all that apply.

- Cut and/or removed trees for sale
- Cut and/or removed trees for own use
- Collected nontimber forest products, such as berries or mushrooms
- Reduced fire hazard
- Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- Eliminated or reduced invasive plants
- Eliminated or reduced unwanted insects or diseases
- Road construction or maintenance
- Trail construction or maintenance
- Improved wildlife habitat
- Livestock grazing
- Other (please specify): _____
- None of the above

17. Which of the following will likely occur on your wooded land in Alabama **in the next 5 years**?

Check all that apply

- Cut and/or remove trees for sale
- Cut and/or remove trees for own use
- Collect nontimber forest products, such as berries or mushrooms
- Reduce fire hazard
- Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- Eliminate or reduce invasive plants
- Eliminate or reduce unwanted insects or diseases
- Road construction or maintenance
- Trail construction or maintenance
- Improve wildlife habitat
- Livestock grazing
- Other (please specify): _____
- None of the above
- I don't know



18. To encourage good woodland management, groups have created green certification programs to recognize landowners who comply with the groups' standards. Examples include Tree Farm, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).

a. How familiar are you with green certification?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Is any of your wooded land in Alabama currently green certified?

Yes No Don't know

19. Some state and local governments have programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes for wooded land. In Alabama, this is the Current Use Program.

a. How familiar are you with this program or something similar?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Is any of your wooded land in Alabama currently enrolled in this program or something similar?

Yes No Don't know

20. Development rights for land can be sold or voluntarily given away. This is usually in the form of a conservation easement.

a. How familiar are you with this concept?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Have development rights been sold or voluntarily given away on any of your wooded land in Alabama by either you or a previous owner?

Yes No Don't know

c. If No or Don't know, how likely are you to do so in the **next 5 years**?

Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>					

21. Cost-share programs provide landowners with money to help them establish or otherwise manage their wooded land. Examples include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, and various state funded programs.

a. How familiar are you with cost-share programs?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. In the past 5 years, have you used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your wooded land in Alabama?

Yes No Don't know

22. In efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change, public programs and private markets have been created that pay owners of wooded land for capturing or sequestering carbon.

a. How familiar are you with carbon capture programs or markets?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Is any of your wooded land in Alabama currently enrolled in one of these carbon capture programs or markets?

Yes No Don't know

23. a. Have you ever leased your wooded land in Alabama (other than for logging)?

Yes No → *If no, skip to question 24.*

↳ *If yes, please answer b and c.*

b. What leasing activities did they use it for?

Check all that apply.

Hunting

Recreation (other than hunting)

To graze/pasture livestock

Other (please specify): _____

c. Have any of these leasing activities occurred on your land in the **past 5 years**?

Yes No

