

Forest Ownership in the Conterminous United States

Mark D. Nelson, Greg C. Liknes, and Brett J. Butler
 U.S. Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Forest Inventory and Analysis



Map Description

This map depicts the spatial distribution of forest land across the conterminous United States (CONUS), in 2007, differentiated into public vs. private forest land, and the percentage of corporate ownership of private forest land.

Notable differences between eastern and western United States are evident on the map, as reported in Smith et al. (2009). Over two-thirds of western forest land is publicly owned, the majority of which is administered by the U.S. Forest Service as National Forests. In the East, more than 80 percent of forest land is privately owned.

Corporate forest land is privately owned by an incorporated business, e.g., forest industry, timber investment management organizations (TIMOs), or real estate investment trusts (REITs). Concentrations of corporate forest land are seen in Maine and in portions of the Southeast, South Central, Lake States, and Pacific Northwest regions. 'No Data' class represents private forest land where Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) plot data were insufficient to determine percentage corporate ownership.

Information displayed on this map was derived from multiple sources. Maps produced by FIA are for graphic display to meet general reporting requirements. Sources and intended uses of FIA data are available at: <http://fia.fs.fed.us/tools-data/>

Suggested Citation

Nelson, Mark D.; Liknes, Greg C.; Butler, Brett J. 2010. Map of forest ownership in the conterminous United States. [Scale 1:7,500,000.] Res. Map NRS-2. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station.

Data Sources

The forest/nonforest land/water classification is derived from the U.S. Forest Service's CONUS forest/nonforest dataset. Public and private land ownership class is derived from the Protected Areas Database of the United States: PAD-US 1.1 (CBI Edition) – last accessed 9 June 2010.

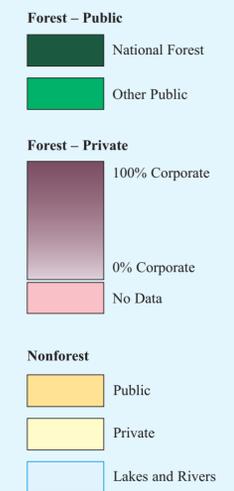
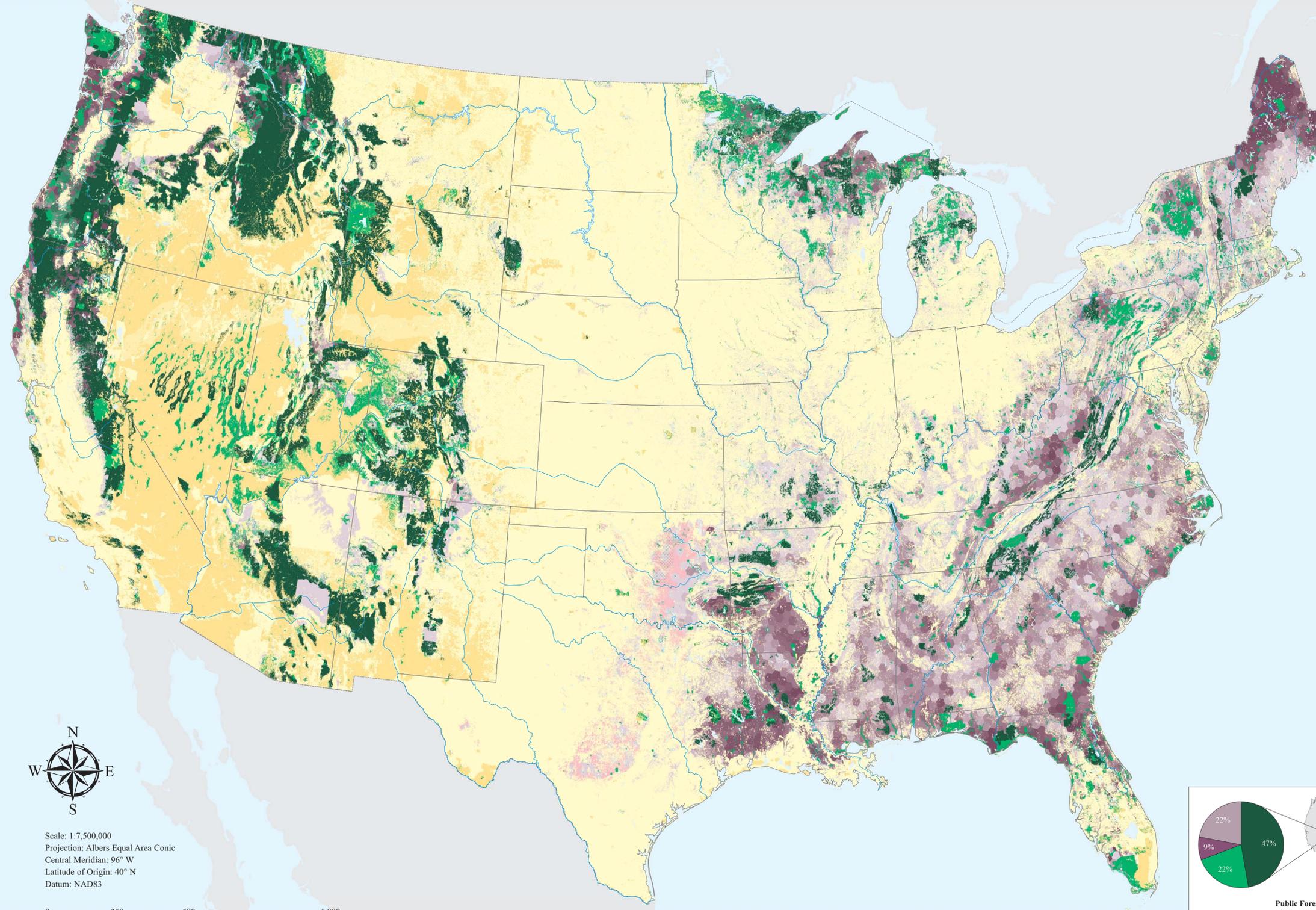
Corporate ownership of private forest land is derived from the Forest Service's 2007 RPA dataset, summarized over the Environmental Protection Agency's original EMAP grid 648 km² hexagon dataset. Political boundaries and basemap layers are from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Data & Maps.

References

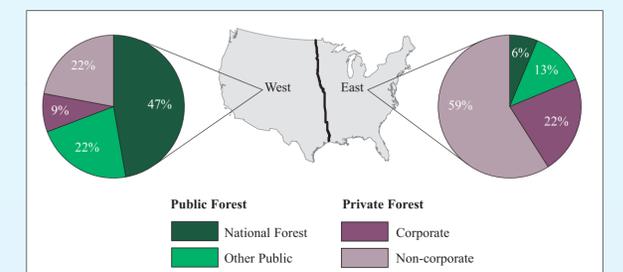
Nelson, Mark D.; Liknes, Greg C.; Butler, Brett J. 2010. Forest ownership in the conterminous United States: ForestOwn geospatial dataset [Database]. Version 1. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. Available at <http://nrs.fs.fed.us/data/rds/0001>

Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.D.; Perry, C.H.; Pugh, S.A. 2009. Forest resources of the United States, 2007. Gen. Tech. Rep. WO-78. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 336 p.

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Scale: 1:7,500,000
 Projection: Albers Equal Area Conic
 Central Meridian: 96° W
 Latitude of Origin: 40° N
 Datum: NAD83





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

**Northern
Research Station**

Research Map
NRS-2



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U.S. Forest Service, Northern Research Station,
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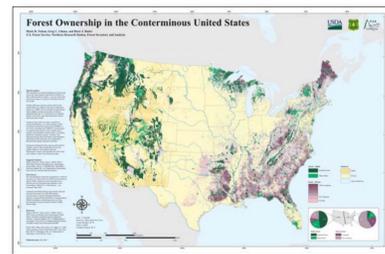
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The Authors

MARK D. NELSON is a research forester and GREG C. LIKNES is a research physical scientist with the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, Northern Research Station, in St. Paul, MN. BRETT J. BUTLER is a research forester with the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, Northern Research Station, in Amherst, MA.



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