



New Hampshire's Forest Resources, 2008

Research Note NRS-57

This publication provides an overview of forest resource attributes for New Hampshire based on an annual inventory conducted by the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program at the Northern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service. These estimates, along with web-posted core tables, will be updated annually. For more information please refer to page 4 of this report.

Table 1. – Annual estimates and uncertainty

	Estimate 2008	Sampling error (%)
Forest Land Estimates		
Area (1,000 acres)	4,803.4	1.0
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	4,192.9	2.7
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	277,083.0	1.7
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	10,670.2	1.9
Annual net growth of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	202,854.9	10.4
Annual mortality of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	123,900.7	13.1
Annual harvest removals of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	81,929.3	34.9
Annual other removals of live trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	6,013.3	71.8
Timberland Estimates		
Area (1,000 acres)	4,606.2	1.1
Number of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (million trees)	3,938.9	2.8
Dry biomass of live trees 1-inch diameter or larger (1,000 tons)	269,872.0	1.9
Net volume in live trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	10,389.4	2.0
Net volume of growing-stock trees (1,000,000 ft ³)	9,544.9	2.1
Annual net growth of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	187,692.3	10.4
Annual mortality of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	96,908.1	15.5
Annual harvest removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	69,150.1	35.5
Annual other removals of growing-stock trees (1,000 ft ³ /year)	22,947.4	58.4

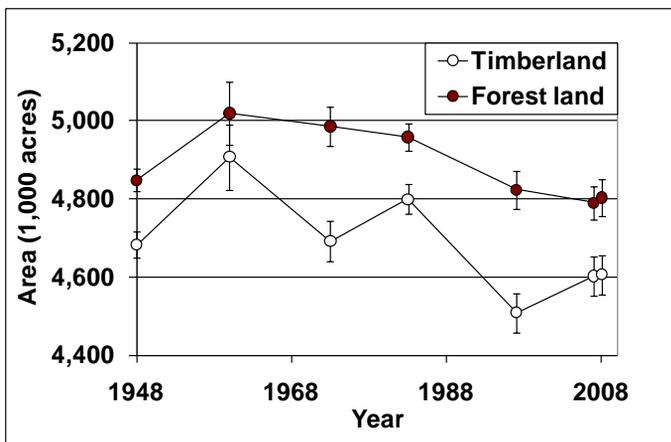


Figure 1. – Area of timberland and forest land by year.

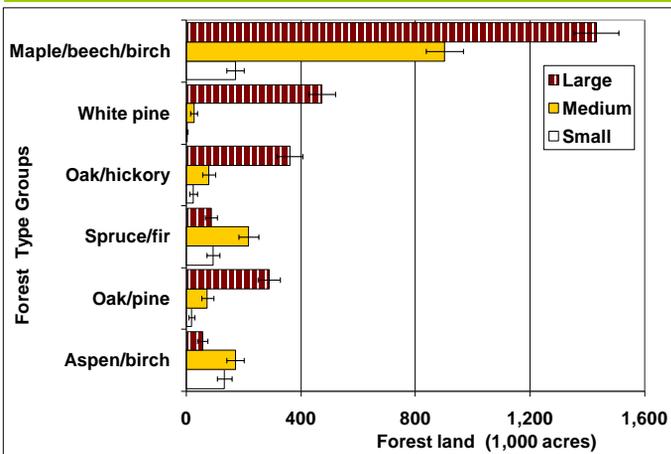


Figure 2. – Area of forest land area by top five forest type groups and stand size class, 2003-2008.

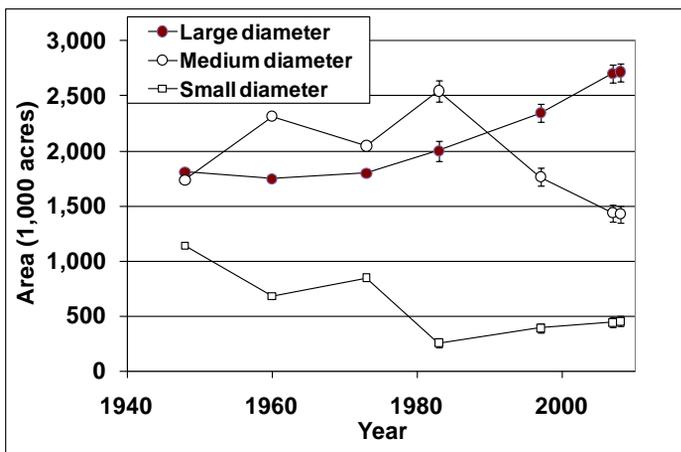


Figure 3. – Area of timberland by stand size class and year.

Note: When available, sampling errors/bars provided in figures and tables represent the approximate error interval at the 68 percent confidence level

Table 2. – Top 10 tree species by statewide volume estimates, 2003-2008

Rank	Species	Volume of live trees on forest land (1,000,000 ft³)	Sampling error (%)	Proportion of total live tree volume (%)	Volume of sawtimber trees on timberland (1,000,000 bdf)	Sampling error (%)	Proportion of total sawtimber volume (%)
1	Eastern white pine	2,077.8	5.9	19.5	8,810.8	6.6	31.2
2	Red maple	1,670.4	4.1	15.7	3,092.3	6.7	10.9
3	Northern red oak	1,097.1	6.8	10.3	3,581.5	7.8	12.7
4	Eastern hemlock	1,035.8	7.3	9.7	2,566.0	9.1	9.1
5	Sugar maple	858.8	7.9	8.0	2,143.3	10.2	7.6
6	Yellow birch	617.4	6.9	5.8	1,428.3	10.2	5.1
7	Paper birch	540.1	6.6	5.1	784.8	10.3	2.8
8	American beech	526.1	8.3	4.9	1,098.8	13.0	3.9
9	Red spruce	524.1	9.1	4.9	1,220.4	11.3	4.3
10	Balsam fir	516.4	8.8	4.8	635.4	11.4	2.2
	Other softwoods	137.5	25.5	1.3	351.9	22.6	1.2
	Other hardwoods	1,068.6	5.7	10.0	2,547.6	8.3	9.0
	All Species	10,670.2	1.9	100.0	28,261.1	3.0	100.0

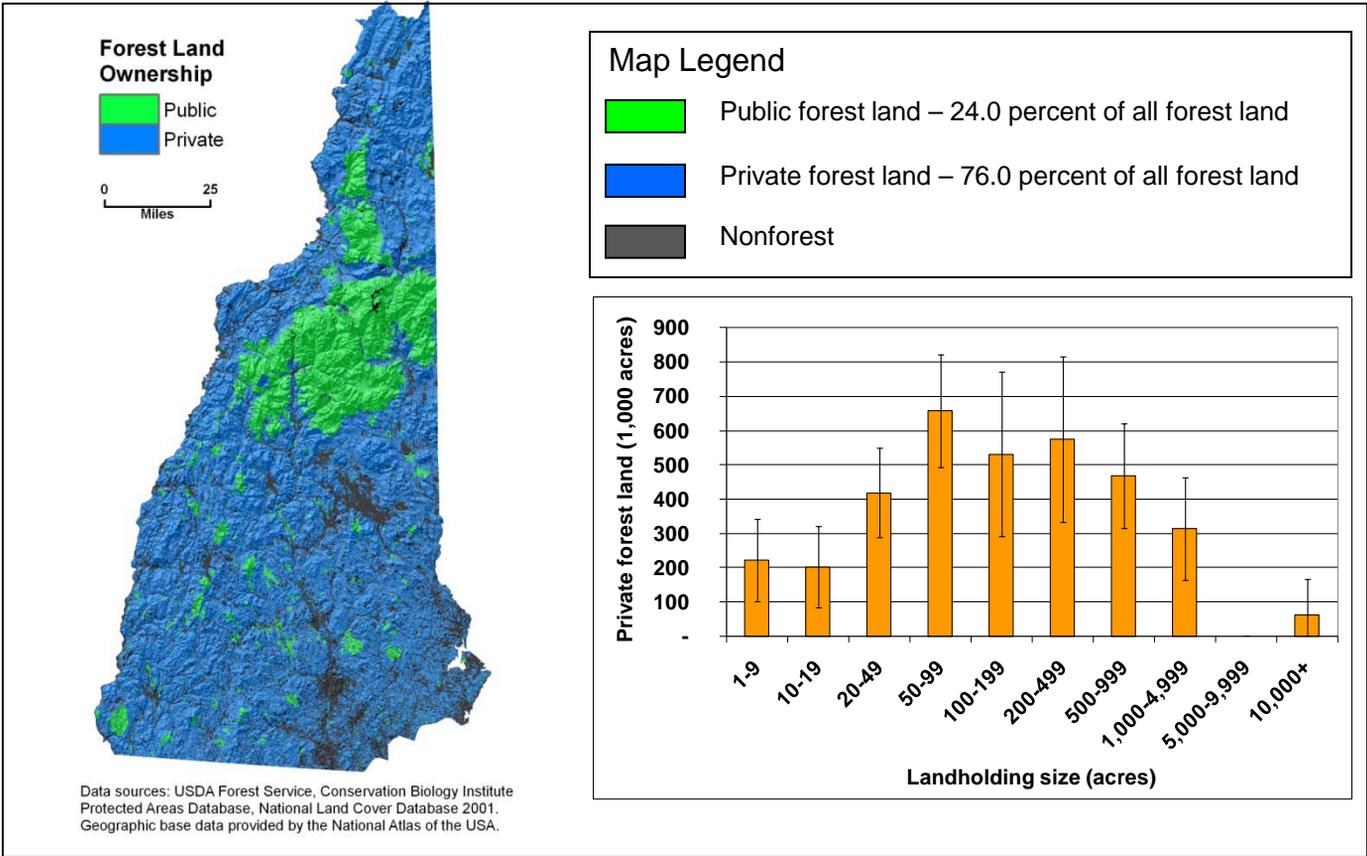


Figure 4. – Area of forest land by major owner group (2008) and size of private family forest landholding (2006).

New Hampshire's Family Forest Owners

Most of New Hampshire's forests are privately owned (Fig. 4) and of this private forest land, most is owned by families and individuals. There are an estimated 124,000 family forest owners in New Hampshire who own a total of 2.36 million acres of forest land or 49 percent of the State's total forested area. Along with an inventory of the biophysical characteristics of the forest, the USDA Forest Service conducts the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) to characterize the people who own these resources. The NWOS collects data on forest holding characteristics, ownership histories, ownership objectives, forest uses, forest management practices, preferred methods for receiving information, concerns, future intentions, and demographics. Below are some of the key findings for New Hampshire. For additional information about New Hampshire's family forest owners, see Butler (2008) or visit www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos.

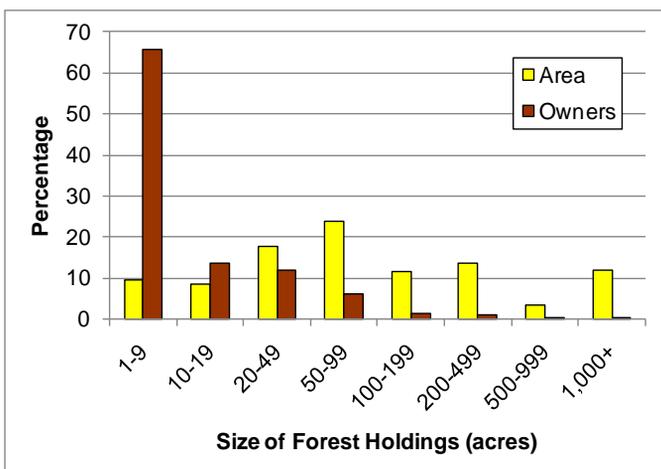


Figure 5. – Area and number of family forests in New Hampshire by size of forest landholdings (2006).

Demographics

Age

- 4% are <45 years old
- 45% are between 45 and 64
- 51% are 65 or older

Education

- 42% have a college degree

Annual Household Income

- 12% under \$50,000
- 54% \$50,000-99,999
- 35% over \$100,000

Ownership Characteristics

New Owners

- 11% have purchased their forest land within last 10 years

Absentee Owners

- 16% do not live on or near (within 1 mile) their land

Farmers

- 3% have a farm associated with their forest land

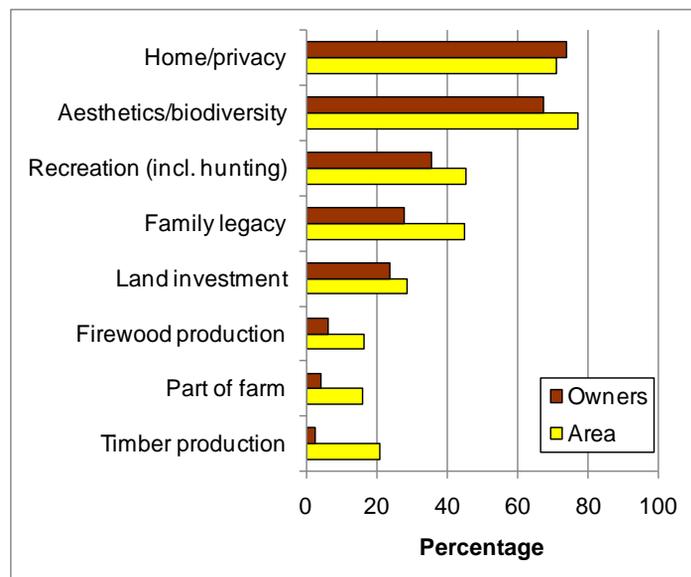


Figure 6. – Area and number of family forests in New Hampshire by reason for owning forest land (2006). Numbers include landowners who ranked each objective as very important (1) or important (2) on a seven-point Likert scale.

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FIA Program Information

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Additional Information

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Additional New Hampshire Inventory Information

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Frieswyk, T.S.; Malley, A.M. 1985. Forest statistics for New Hampshire, 1973 and 1983. Resour. Bull. NE-88. Broomall, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. 100 p.

Frieswyk, T.; Widmann, R. 2000. Forest statistics for New Hampshire, 1983 and 1997. Resour. Bull. NE-146. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Research Station. 130 p.

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Estimates, tabular data, and maps from this report may be generated at: fiatools.fs.fed.us

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