

# 10 Acres and a Dream

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AN IDAHO FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM, PRESENTED BY UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO  
EXTENSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE IDAHO DEPT. OF LANDS & MANY OTHER  
PARTNERS

# Living on the Land: *A Great American Tradition*

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*CHRIS SCHNEPF*

AREA EXTENSION EDUCATOR – FORESTRY

BOUNDARY, BONNER, KOOTENAI, AND BENEWAH COUNTIES

# Why are we offering this program?

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- Idaho's public lands get much discussion
- But private lands live large in many Idaho counties.

Idaho Panhandle Private Lands*			
County	Total Acres	Private Acres	Percent Private
Benewah	496,640	385,250	78%
Bonner	1,112,064	440,780	40%
Boundary	812,032	208,056	26%
Kootenai	769,928	494,957	62%

\* Source: Idaho Public Lands Facts and Figures. Idaho Association of Counties. 2011.

# Why are we offering this program?

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- Idaho Master Forest Stewards
  - UI Extension Volunteers who do 70 hours of training to provide peer outreach to forest owners and others.
  - Get many questions from landowners (especially new landowners) about a whole range of issues in addition to trees.





# Why are we offering this program?

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- Idaho Master Forest Stewards
  - Master Forest Stewards help us with Extension needs assessment
    - They saw this program as a need.
    - They helped plan this program!



# 10 Acres and a Dream Planning

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- Planning meeting themes - how can small acreage owners:
  - Meet their goals (e.g., income, sustenance)
  - Do right by the land
- These things are not mutually exclusive
- Land ownership and culture have deep roots in the American Psyche ...

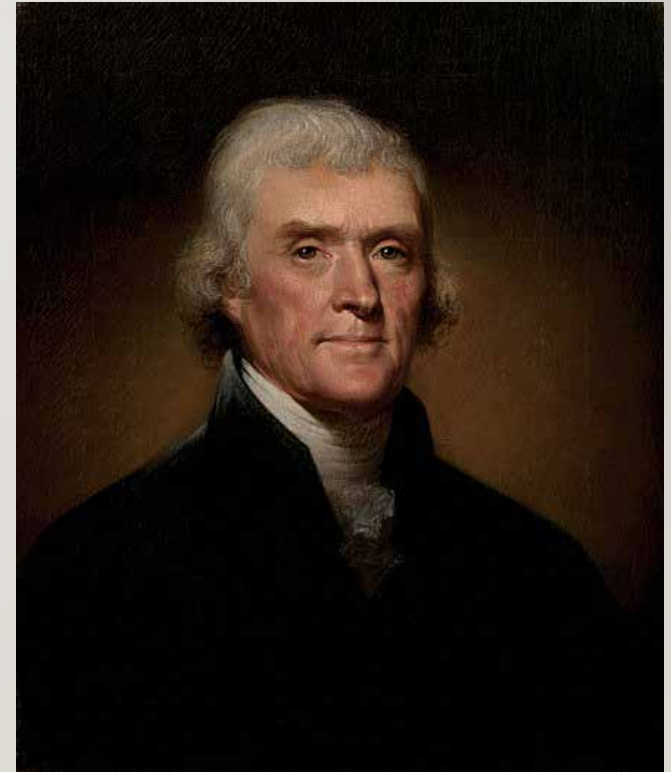


# Americans and Land

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*“Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God, if ever he had a chosen people whose breasts He has made his particular deposit for substantial and particular virtue.”*

Thomas Jefferson, from “Notes on the State of Virginia”





# Americans and Land

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*“There are two spiritual dangers to not owning a farm. One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery. The other is that heat comes from the furnace.”*

Aldo Leopold from “A Sand County Almanac”



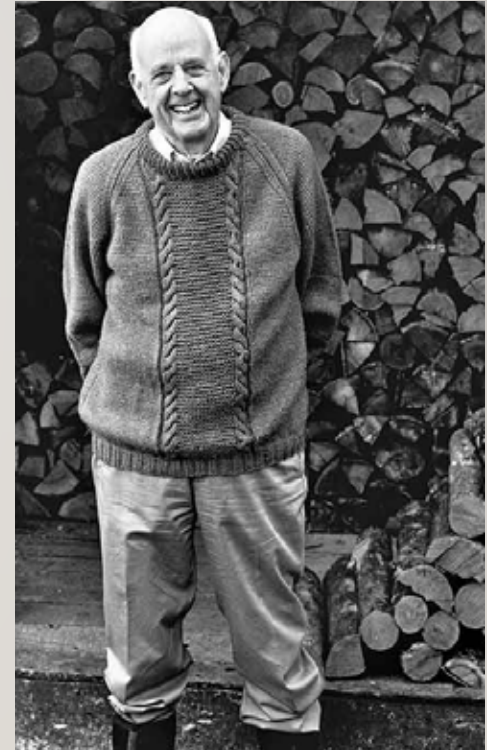


# Americans and Land

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*“The small family farm is one of the last places . . . where men and women (and girls and boys, too) can answer that call to be an artist, to learn to give love to the work of their hands. It is one of the last places where the maker - and some farmers still do talk about “making the crops” - is responsible, from start to finish, for the thing made. This certainly is a spiritual value, but it is not for that reason an impractical or uneconomic one.”*

Wendell Berry, from “Bringing it to the Table: On Farming and Food”



# New Survey of Idaho Family Forest Owners:

- In 2016, the University of Idaho Policy Analysis Group, completed a large survey of Idaho family forest owners,
- 2,869 randomly selected Idaho family forest owners received a 14-page questionnaire in the mail.

When answering the following questions, please consider only forest land you own in Idaho. Do not consider forest land you own in other states, if any.

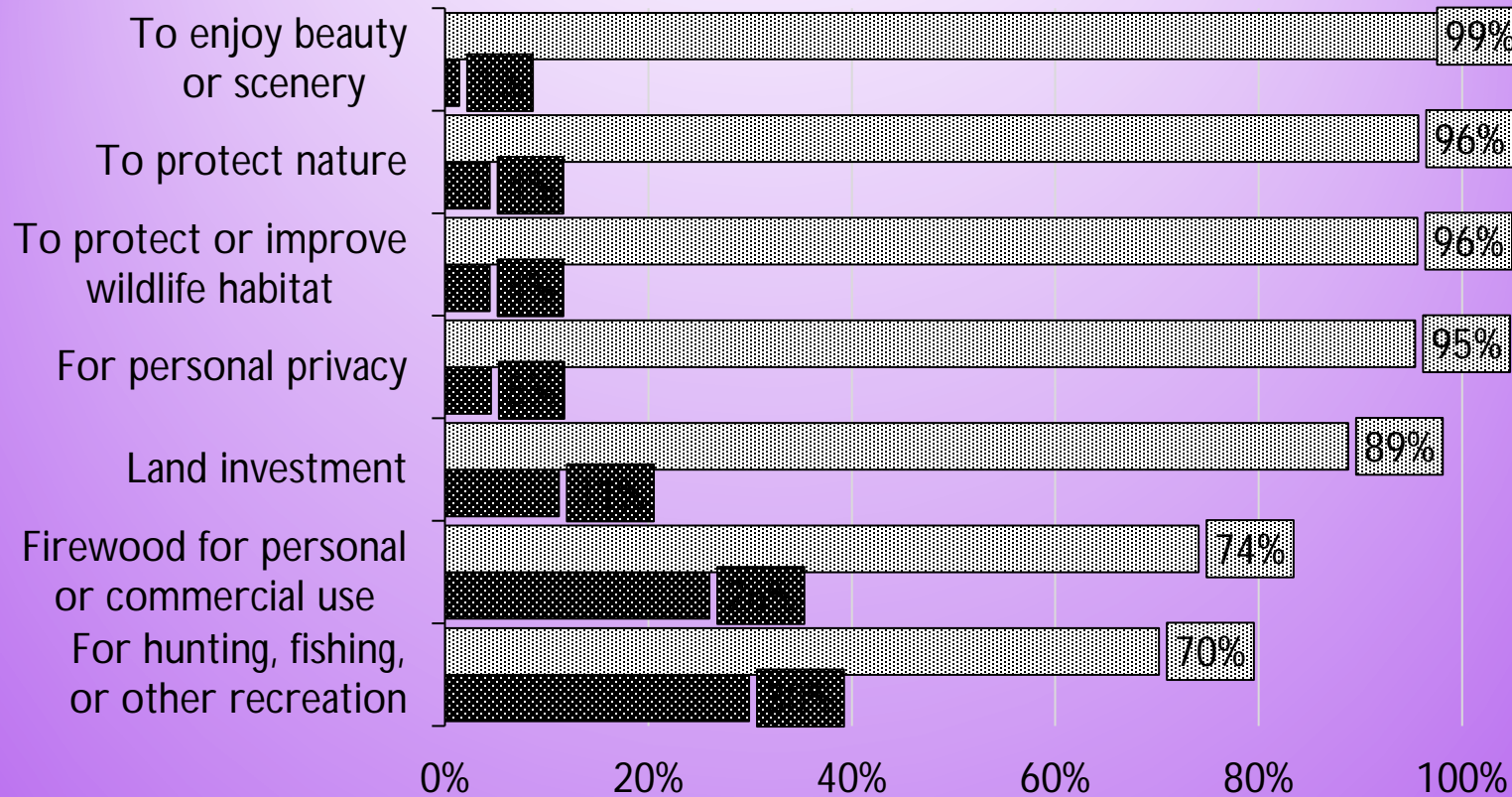
1. How many total acres of forest land do you own in Idaho?  
\_\_\_\_\_ forest land acres
2. In what year did you first become a forest landowner in Idaho? Please write down the year, e.g. YYYY.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How did you first become a forest landowner in Idaho? Mark only one answer.  
 Purchased  
 Inherited  
 Received as gift  
 Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is your primary residence on or within one mile of any of your forest land in Idaho?  
 Yes  
 No  
↳ How far away is your closest forest land from where you live?  
\_\_\_\_\_miles
5. In the past year, about how many days did you spend on your forest land for any reason?  
\_\_\_\_\_days

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# 2016 Idaho Family Forest Owners Survey

## How important are the following reasons for why you currently own forest land in Idaho?

▨ Very, moderately, or slightly important    ■ Not important at all

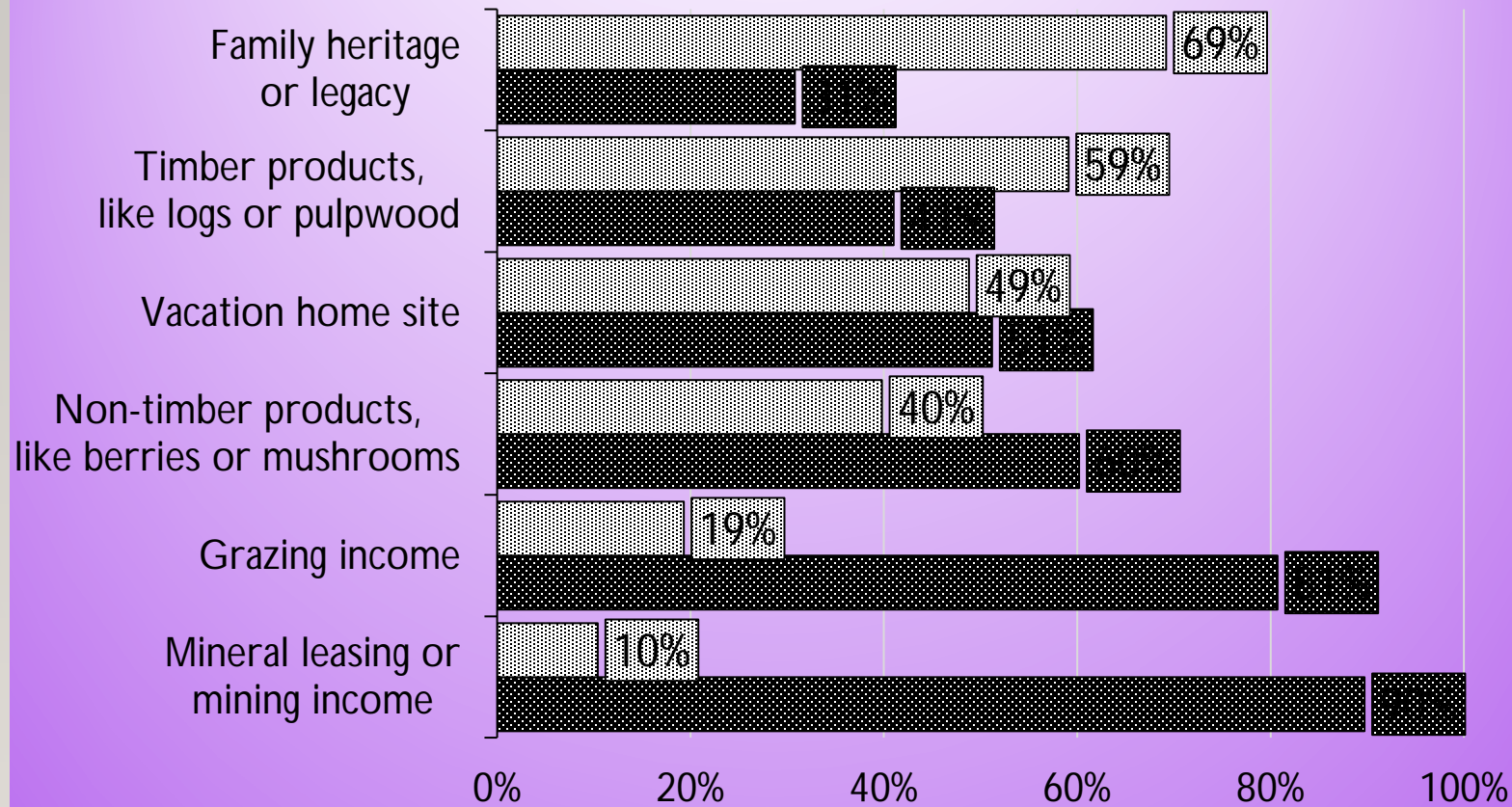


REGION	Diff.
Northern	€ Per. Priv.
North Central	
Central	
South & East	
SIZE	Diff.
Small	€ Per. Priv.
Medium	
Large	
Very Large	

# 2016 Idaho Family Forest Owners Survey

How important are the following reasons for why you currently own forest land in Idaho?

▨ Very, moderately, or slightly important    ■ Not important at all



REGION	Diff.
Northern	
North Central	
Central	ê Timber é Vacation
South & East	ê Timber é Vacation é Grazing
SIZE	Diff.
Small	ê Timber ê Family ê Grazing
Medium	
Large	
Very Large	



# Americans and Land

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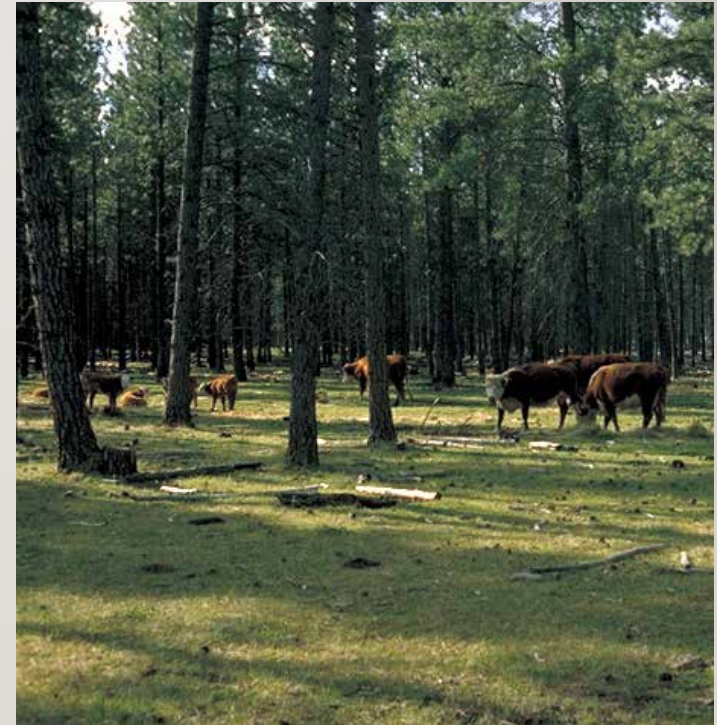
- Many Americans have historically gained all or part of their livelihood from the land
- Simultaneously, many people derive meaning from our relationship with the land (even if they don't own much if any land)
- These values are very compatible



# What we hope you will learn

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- An orientation to managing Idaho panhandle farms and forests
  - How to size up an acreage's capabilities
  - Tips for rural living
- Additional educational resources to help you manage your land
- Communities of landowners you can connect with
- Help you ask better questions about how to manage your land to meet your dreams!





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