10 Acres and a Dream

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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BOUNDARY, BONNER, KOOTENAI, AND BENEWAH COUNTIES
Why are we offering this program?

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

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

Why are we offering this program?

• 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?

- 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

- 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

“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”
“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

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

- To enjoy beauty or scenery: 99%
- To protect nature: 96%
- To protect or improve wildlife habitat: 96%
- For personal privacy: 95%
- Land investment: 89%
- Firewood for personal or commercial use: 74%
- For hunting, fishing, or other recreation: 70%

**REGION**
- Northern
- North Central
- Central
- South & East

**SIZE**
- Small
- Medium
- Large
- Very Large
How important are the following reasons for why you currently own forest land in Idaho?

- **Very, moderately, or slightly important**
- **Not important at all**

### Family heritage or legacy
- Northern: 31%
- North Central: 51%
- Central: 19%
- South & East: 40%
- Small: 9%
- Medium: 19%
- Large: 41%
- Very Large: 31%

### Timber products, like logs or pulpwood
- Northern: 59%
- North Central: 81%
- Central: 49%
- South & East: 60%
- Small: 30%
- Medium: 59%
- Large: 69%
- Very Large: 59%

### Vacation home site
- Northern: 69%
- North Central: 81%
- Central: 49%
- South & East: 60%
- Small: 81%
- Medium: 49%
- Large: 69%
- Very Large: 59%

### Non-timber products, like berries or mushrooms
- Northern: 81%
- North Central: 10%
- Central: 19%
- South & East: 40%
- Small: 10%
- Medium: 19%
- Large: 31%
- Very Large: 49%

### Grazing income
- Northern: 19%
- North Central: 19%
- Central: 19%
- South & East: 19%
- Small: 19%
- Medium: 19%
- Large: 19%
- Very Large: 19%

### Mineral leasing or mining income
- Northern: 10%
- North Central: 10%
- Central: 10%
- South & East: 10%
- Small: 10%
- Medium: 10%
- Large: 10%
- Very Large: 10%

### REGION
- Northern
- North Central
- Central
- South & East

### SIZE
- Small
- Medium
- Large
- Very Large

**Diff.**
- Timber
- Vacation
- Grazing
Americans and Land

• 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

• 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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