CONSERVATION PRACTICE ADOPTION MOTIVATIONS SURVEY - VERSION 4 FORESTRY PRACTICES

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United States Department of Agriculture



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA/NASS

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1. On December 31, 2023, did you own or manage any forest or woodland?

INCLUDE

• woods, woodlots, timberland, forests

EXCLUDE

- Christmas tree farms, orchards, nurseries
- land that is mowed for lawn
- forest land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10% forest cover, or where trees were removed and trees will grow again

2775

1 Yes - Continue

3 🗌 No - Go to Section 10 on page 27

2. Did you own or manage more than 45,000 acres of forest or woodland?

2650

₁ 🗌 Yes - Go to Section 10 on page 27

3 🗌 No - Continue

- 3. Are you considered a Timberland Investment Management Organization (TIMO) or Timberland Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)?
 - A TIMO is an organization that buys, manages, and sells timber or timberland on behalf of institutional clients.
 - A REIT is a company that owns and manages timberland as a real estate investment on behalf of private investors.

2651

 $_1$ \square Yes - Go to Section 10 on page 27 $_3$ \square No - Continue

Section 1 - Land Use

		Acres
1	How many total acres of land do you currently own or manage?	2776
1.	now many total acres of and do you currently own of manages	2652
2.	How many acres of forest or woodland do you currently own or manage?	
3	Do you currently rent or lease any of your forest or woodland from others?	
0.	108	
4.	In what year did you or your business first own or manage your forest or woodland?	2777 ar
5.	During the last 10 years, have you earned any income from forestry activities? Select all that	apply.
	122 Dimber harvest	
	Fees for allowing hunting or other recreation	
	²⁶⁵³ Fees for allowing grazing	
	²⁶⁵⁴ ☐ Fees for allowing others to gather forest products	
	²⁶⁵⁵ Sale of edible products, such as berries or maple syrup	
	²⁶⁵⁶ Sale of medicinal products, such as ginseng or St. John's wort	
	2657 Sale of landscaping products such as transplants	
	²⁶⁵⁸ Sale of decorative products, such as boughs or birch bark	
6.	On average, what percentage of your household's or operation's annual income comes from the forest or woodland that you own?	%

7. Is your primary residence within 1 mile of your forest or woodland?

2659

3 🗌 No

8. Do you operate a farm or ranch?

1 🗌 Yes

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 produced (other than forest products) or animals raised on that land. 100

1 🗌 Yes - Continue to Item 8a ₃ 🗌 No - Go to Section 2 on page 4

a. Is your farm or ranch headquarters within 1 mile of your forest or woodland? 2660 3 🗌 **No**

1 TYes

Section 2 - Approach to Conservation

 In this survey, conservation practices refer to actions taken to improve forest conditions, water quality or wildlife habitat, or to reduce the risk of wildfire or pests such as insects, disease, or invasive plants. Report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about your approach to using conservation practices.

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
2605	I seek out information about conservation practices and their implementation	1	2	3
2661	I generally adopt new conservation practices before other forest owners/managers in my local area	1	2	3
2662	I experiment with new conservation practices on my forest land	1	2	3
2608	I do not implement new conservation practices unless I know that they will increase my profit or reduce my workload	1	2	3
2609	I am willing to adopt conservation practices that improve environmental quality, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1	2	3
2610	I am willing to adopt conservation practices that protect my investment in the land, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1	2	3
2611	I am willing to adopt conservation practices that preserve land for the next generation, even if they do not increase my profit or reduce my workload	1	2	3

- 2. Which of the following are reasons for using conservation practices on forests or woodlands you own or manage? Select all that apply.
 - ²⁶⁶³ Improving timber productivity
 - ²⁶⁶⁴ Improving yield of non-timber forest products
 - ²⁶⁶⁵ Supporting overall forest or woodland health
 - 2666 Supporting wildlife habitat
 - Improving stream habitat for species such as salmon or brook trout
 - Improving water quality in the area (e.g. avoiding polluting streams, rivers, and lakes)
 - ²⁶⁶⁹ Sequestering carbon
 - ²⁶⁷⁰ Reducing the risk or severity of wildfire
 - ²⁶⁷¹ Maintaining or improving scenery or beauty of the forest or woodland
 - ²⁶⁷² Enhancing recreational opportunities
 - Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants
 - 2675
 - Other, please specify:

2674

Section 3 - Technical Assistance and Forest Plans

1. Have you ever received technical assistance (expertise or information) for conservation on forest or woodland you manage from any federal, state, local university or other source?

INCLUDE

- Expertise or information provided for planning or implementing conservation practice or designing, laying out, or installing conservation structures
- Expertise or information from a government agency, private consultant, or other technical expert that may be paid or free
- Expertise or information from private technical service providers (TSPs) that is reimbursed by federal, state, or local governments

EXCLUDE financial assistance that helps defray the cost of installing or implementing conservation practices.

3 🗌 No - Go to Item 1b

- 1 🗌 Yes Continue
- a. Have you received technical assistance from any of these sources? Select all that apply.



203

200

Federal agencies

State or local agencies

Private sources

b. Report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about technical assistance on your forest or woodland.

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	N/A
204	Technical assistance is available to me	1	2	3	
205	I currently receive technical assistance	1	2	3	
2678	I am comfortable using free technical assistance from federal employees	1	2	3	
2679	I am comfortable using free technical assistance from non- federal government sources	1	2	3	
207	I have never sought out any form of technical assistance	1	2	3	
208	I have had trouble accessing technical assistance	1	2	3	4
209	I received technical assistance and it was beneficial	1	2	3	4
2677	I received technical assistance but it did not meet my needs	1	2	3	4
2676	I have received technical assistance in the past, but it took too much time or effort	1	2	3	4

2. A forest management or stewardship plan may be written to help the land owner meet their conservation goals for their forest or woodland.

Dio	l you have a forest management plan in 2023?
213	$_1$ \square Yes - Continue $_3$ \square No - Go to Section 4 on page 7 $_2$ \square Don't Know - Go to Section 4 on page 7
a.	Who was the primary writer? Select one.
	2680 1 🗌 I was
	² Private consultant forester
	3 State or local government forester
	4 🔲 Federal government forester
	₅ □ Other, please specify:
b.	How was the forest management plan funded? Select all that apply.
	²⁶⁸² ☐ I paid for it
	²⁶⁸³ A program paid for it
	2684 Dother, please specify: 2685
c.	Have you taken actions to implement the forest management plan?
	²⁶⁸⁶ 1 Yes 3 No

Section 4 - Forest Stand Improvement and Related Practices

1. Forest stand improvement includes cutting or killing selected trees in the overstory to achieve desired forest conditions. Brush management includes cutting or killing shrubs or other understory vegetation. Woody residue treatment includes practices to manage and/or remove dead or cut down branches, treetops, or slash remaining after forest management activities or natural disturbance.

Based on the definitions above, have you ever implemented forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment activities on land you own or manage?

	2687	1 🗌 Yes
Forest stand improvement		3 🗌 No
	2688	1 🗌 Yes
Brush management		3 🗌 No
	2689	1 🗌 Yes
Woody residue treatment		3 🗌 No

If you answered 'Yes" to any of the above in Item 1, continue to Item 2 on page 8. If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, complete items 1a and 1b below, then go to Section 5 on page 11.

a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment.

I have never done forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment because:

	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
²⁶⁹⁰ There was no conservation need	1	2	3 🗌
Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1	2	3
²⁶⁹² It costs too much money	1	2	3 🗌
²⁶⁹³ Too much time or effort	1	2 🗌	3
²⁶⁹⁴ I did not receive technical assistance	1	2	3 🗌
²⁶⁹⁵ I did not receive financial assistance	1	2 🗌	3
²⁶⁹⁶ Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3 🗌
²⁶⁹⁷ I have a conservation need but am not comfortable doin activities on my own	g these 1	2 🗌	3
²⁶⁹⁸ I have a conservation need but more information would	be helpful 1	2	3

b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never done forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment.

2699

Other reason, specify:

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 5 on page 11.

2. What were your conservation objectives in implementing forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment? Select all that apply.

2700	Protect or improve wildlife habitat
2701	Reduce the risk or severity of wildfire
2702	Improve productivity of timber
2703	Improve yield of non-timber forest products
2704	Support forest health in general
2705	Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland
2706	Sequester or store carbon
2707	Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants

What year did you first do forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment?	2708
a. For the first year of forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, what percentage of your forest or woodland was included?	2709

b. For the first year of forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, did you receive either of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
	³¹⁶ 1 Yes	³¹⁷ 1 Yes	318	319
Forest stand improvement	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%
Brush management (specifically treating	³²⁰ 1 🗌 Yes	³²¹ 1 🗌 Yes	322	323
living woody vegetation)	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%
Woody residue treatment (managing	⁴¹⁶ 1 🗌 Yes	⁴¹⁷ ₁ 🗌 Yes	418	419
and/or removing dead or cut down	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		
branches, treetops, or slash)				%

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

	2710	
Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.		%

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
2711	Addressed conservation need	1	2	3
2712	Used successfully by other woodland owners	1	2	3
2713	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
2714	Anticipated saving time or effort	1	2	3
2715	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3
2716	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3

4. Since the first year you began forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment, have you expanded the acreage where they were applied?

2717

1 🗌 Yes - Continue

³ □ No - Go to Section 5 on page 11

a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive either of the following?

		-		
	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
	³³² 1 Yes	³³³ 1 🗌 Yes	334	335
Forest stand improvement	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%
Brush management (specifically treating	³³⁶ ₁ 🗌 Yes	³³⁷ 1 🗌 Yes	338	339
living woody vegetation)	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%
Woody residue treatment (managing	⁴²⁸ ₁ 🗌 Yes	⁴²⁹ 1 🗌 Yes	430	431
and/or removing dead or cut down	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		
branches, treetops, or slash)				%

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

 b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand your forest stand improvement, brush management, or woody residue treatment?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
2719	Addressed additional conservation needs	1	2	3 🗌
2720	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
2721	Saving time or effort	1	2	3
2722	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3
2723	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3
2724	Previously, the process for getting technical or financial assistance was smooth	1	2	3

Section 5 - Controlled (Prescribed) Burning

1. Controlled or prescribed burning includes controlled fire applied to a predetermined area to meet management objectives.

Based on the definition above, have you ever used controlled/prescribed burning on land you own or manage?

$_{1}$ Yes - Go to Item	۱2
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³ □ No - Complete Items 1a and 1b below, then go to Section 6 on page 15

a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about controlled/prescribed burning.

I have never used controlled or prescribed burning because:

on page 12

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
501	It is not needed in my forest or woodland	1	2	3
503	It is too difficult to get a burn permit	1	2	3
504	I installed firebreaks	1	2	3
505	It costs too much money	1	2	3
2725	Too much time or effort	1	2	3
507	I did not receive technical assistance	1	2	3
508	Financial assistance was not available	1	2	3
509	Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3
2726	Could not find a contractor to do the burn	1	2	3
2727	Potential liability from escaped fire is too high	1	2	3
2728	Smoke would bother nearby residents	1	2	3

b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never used controlled or prescribed burning.

Other reason, specify:

510

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 6 on page 15.

2. Why did you implement controlled or prescribed burning? Select all that apply.

518	Protect or improve wildlife habitat
519	Reduce the risk or severity of wildfire
2729	Improve productivity of timber
2730	Improve yield of non-timber forest products
521	Support forest health in general
522	Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland
2731	Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants
2732	Other, please specify:

b. For the first year, did you receive either of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
	⁵¹³ ₁ 🗌 Yes	⁵¹⁴ 1 🗌 Yes	515	516
Prescribed burning	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement controlled/prescribed burning?

				0
		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
523	Addressed conservation need	1	2	3
524	Used successfully by other woodland owners	1	2	3
2733	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
526	Anticipated saving time or effort	1	2	3
527	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3
528	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3

4. Since the first year you began controlled or prescribed burning, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?

530

1 🗌 Yes - Continue

³ □ No - Go to Section 6 on page 15

a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive either of the following?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	0	
	⁵³¹ ₁ 🗌 Yes	⁵³² 1 🗌 Yes	533	534	
Prescribed burning	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%	

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

	535	
Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources	c	%

b. How important were the following in your decision to expand your controlled/prescribed burning?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimporta
536	Successfully addressed conservation need	1 🗌	2	3
2734	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
538	Saving time or effort	1 🗌	2	3 🗌
539	Availability of technical assistance	1 🗌	2	3 🗌
540	Availability of financial assistance	1 🗌	2 🗌	3 🗌
541	Previously, the process for getting technical or financial assistance was smooth	1	2 🗌	3 🗌

If you reported 100% for Item 5, go to Item 6 on page 14. If you reported less than 100% for Item 5, continue to 5a below.

a. What factors limit your use of controlled burning? Select all that apply

543	
	Some of my forest/woodlands are too close to urban or suburban areas
2735	
	It bothers some neighbors
2736	
	Some areas do not respond well to burning
2737	
	Burning could expose land to soil erosion
2738	545
	Other, please specify:

6.	What is the most recent year when you conducted a controlled or prescribed burn on your	546
	operation? year	

If Item 6 above is 2023, go to Section 6 on page 15. If Item 6 above is less than 2023, continue to 6a below.

a. If you did not implement controlled or prescribed burning in 2023, do you plan to do so again within 3 years?

547

1 🗌 Yes - Go to Section 6 on page 15 3 🗌 No - Continue

b. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements in your decision to stop using controlled/prescribed burning.

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
548	I can no longer find a contractor to do the burn	1	2	3
549	Did not meet conservation need	1	2	3
550	Potential liability from escaped fire is too high	1	2	3
2739	Smoke bothers nearby residents	1	2	3
552	It costs too much money	1	2	3
553	Too much time or effort	1	2	3
554	Technical assistance ended	1	2	3
555	Financial assistance ended	1	2	3
556	Financial assistance did not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3

Section 6 - Establishing Vegetation

1. Have you ever done the following to establish forest vegetation including woody or understory plant communities?

Established trees or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	²⁷⁴⁰ ₁ 3 No
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	2741 ₁ 🗌 Yes ₃ 🗌 No
Planted understory (non-woody) vegetation	2742 ₁ 🗌 Yes 3 🗌 No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above in Item 1, go to Item 2 on page 16. If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, continue to Item 1a.

a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about establishing forest vegetation.

I have never established or enhanced forest or understory plant communities because:

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
601	There was no conservation need	1	2	3 🗌
602	Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1	2	3 🗌
603	It costs too much money	1	2	3 🗌
2743	Too much time or effort	1	2	3 🗌
605	I did not receive technical assistance	1	2	3 🗌
606	Financial assistance was not available	1	2	3 🗌
607	Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3 🗌

b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never established or enhanced forest or understory plant communities.

Other reason, specify:

608

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 7 on page 19.

2. Why did you establish forest vegetation? Select all that apply.

		014
2140	□ Other, please specify:	
2748	2749	
2747	Reduce impacts of insects, disease, or invasive plants	
0747		
2746	Sequester or store carbon	
613	☐ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the woodland	
	Support forest health in general	
612		
2745	Improve yield of non-timber forest products	
2745	,	
2744	Improve productivity of timber	
	Protect or improve wildlife habitat and/or pollinator habitat	
609		

3.	What year did you first establish forest vegetation?	614
	a. In the first year, on what percentage of your forest or woodland did you establish forest vegetation?	615

b. For the first year, did you receive any of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Establishing tree or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	616 1 🗌 Yes 3 🗌 No	617 1 🗌 Yes 3 🗌 No	618	619 %
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	620 1 🗌 Yes 3 🗌 No	621 ₁	622	623 %
Planting understory (non-woody) vegetation	624 ₁	625 ₁ 🗌 Yes ₃ 🗌 No	626	627 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

	628
Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources	%

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
629	Addressed conservation need	1	2	3
630	Used successfully by other woodland owners	1	2	3
2750	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
632	Anticipated saving time or effort	1	2	3
633	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3
634	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to establish forest vegetation?

- 4. Since the first year you established forest vegetation, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?
 - 635
- 1 Yes Continue

 $_3 \square$ No - Go to Section 7 on page 19

a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive technical or financial assistance?

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance?
Establishing tree or shrubs using seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration	⁶³⁶ ₁	⁶³⁷ ₁	638	639 %
Site preparation to improve chances of tree or shrub establishment	⁶⁴⁰ 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	⁶⁴¹ ₁	642	643 %
Planting understory (non-woody) vegetation	⁶⁴⁴ 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No	⁶⁴⁵ ₁ Yes ₃ No	646	647 %

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

	648	
Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources.	%)

b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand this activity?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
649	Successfully addressed conservation need	1	2	3
2751	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3
652	Saving time or effort	1	2	3
653	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3
654	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3

Section 7 - Wildlife Habitat Management

1. Wildlife habitat management practices include providing and maintaining habitats to enable wildlife movement and/or provide food and cover for wildlife.

Have you ever taken any of the following actions to protect or enhance wildlife habitat on your forest or woodland?

	²⁷⁵² ₁ 🗌 Yes
Left standing or down dead trees as dens for wildlife	3 🗌 No
	²⁷⁵³ ₁ 🗌 Yes
Created small brush piles for animal shelter	3 🗌 No
	²⁷⁵⁴ ₁ 🗌 Yes
Delayed forest management activities to protect birds, bats, etc.	3 🗌 No
Protected streams from erosion by using best management practices during forest	²⁷⁵⁵ ₁ 🗌 Yes
management activities	3 🗌 No
	²⁷⁵⁶ ₁ 🗌 Yes
Planted areas with wildlife-friendly vegetation	3 🗌 No
	²⁷⁵⁷ ₁ 🗌 Yes
Controlled undesirable plants to improve quality or connectivity of wildlife habitat	3 🗌 No
	²⁷⁵⁸ ₁ 🗌 Yes
Used fencing to protect native tree species from deer browse, etc.	3 🗌 No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above in Item 1, go to Item 2 on page 20. If you answered 'No' to all of the above in Item 1, go to Item 1a on page 20.

a. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements about wildlife habitat management practices.

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
701	There was no conservation need	1	2	3
702	Attempts by other woodland owners were unsuccessful	1	2	3
703	It costs too much money	1	2	3
2759	Too much time or effort	1	2	3
705	I did not receive technical assistance	1	2	3
706	Financial assistance was not available	1	2	3
707	Financial assistance would not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3

I have never established wildlife habitat management practices because:

b. Please specify any additional reason why you have never established wildlife habitat management practices.

Other reason, specify:

After completing Items 1a and 1b above, go to Section 8 on page 24.

2. Why did you implement wildlife habitat management practices? Select all that apply.

708

- ⁷¹⁰ Support overall forest health
 ⁷¹¹ Maintain or improve scenery or beauty of the forest or woodland
 ²⁷⁶⁰ For hunting
 ²⁷⁶¹ For wildlife photography
 ²⁷⁶² Support songbird habitat and bird watching
 ²⁷⁶³ Establish pollinator habitat
 ²⁷⁶⁴ Improve fish, reptile, or amphibian habitat
 - Aiding in wildlife habitat connectivity

What year did you first implement wildlife habitat management practices on your operation?	712
a. In the first year, on what percentage of your forest or woodland did you implement wildlife habitat management practices?	713 %

b. For the first year, did you receive any of the following:

	Did you receive technical assistance?	Did you receive financial assistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Wildlife habitat management	⁷¹⁴ 1 🗌 Yes	⁷¹⁵ ₁ 🗌 Yes	716	717
INCLUDE installing structures or planting trees, shrubs, or grasses to attract wildlife to an area, delaying forest management activities to protect wildlife, monitoring for species, or other activities to manage existing habitat	3 🗌 No	3 🗌 No		%

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

	718
Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources	%

c. How important were the following factors in your decision to implement wildlife habitat management practices on your operation?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
719	Addressed conservation need	1	2	3 🗌
720	Used successfully by other woodland owners	1	2	3 🗌
2766	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	3 🗌
722	Anticipated saving time or effort	1	2	3 🗌
723	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	3 🗌
724	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	3 🗌

4. Since the first year you implemented wildlife habitat management practices, have you expanded the acreage for this activity?

725

- 1 🗌 Yes Continue
- $_3 \square$ No Go to Section 8 on page 24
- a. For the expanded acreage, did you receive technical or financial assistance?

	te	/ou receive echnical sistance?		you receive financial ssistance?	How many acres had financial assistance?	Percentage of total cost covered by financial assistance
Wildlife habitat management	726	1 🗌 Yes	727	1 🗌 Yes	728	729
INCLUDE installing structures or planting		3 🗌 No		3 🗌 No		%
trees, shrubs, or grasses to attract wildlife to an area, delaying forest management activities to protect wildlife, monitoring for species, or other activities to manage existing habitat						

i. If you received financial assistance, what percentage was from federal sources?

INCLUDE Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish & Wildlife Service.

EXCLUDE assistance from state or local agencies.

Enter 0 if no financial assistance was received from federal sources. %

730

b. How important were the following factors in your decision to expand wildlife habitat management practices on your operation?

		Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant
731	Successfully addressed conservation need (wildlife numbers increased or habitat improved)	1	2	3 🗌
2767	Improve future economic value of forest/woodland	1	2	з 🗌
734	Saving time or effort	1	2	3 🗌
735	Availability of technical assistance	1	2	з 🗌
736	Availability of financial assistance	1	2	з 🗌

In what year did you last implement wildlife habitat management on your forest or woodland? (Enter most recent year)	737
If Item 5 above is 2023, go to Section 8 on page 24. If Item 5 above is less than 2023, continue to 5a below.	

a. If you did not implement wildlife habitat management in 2023, do you plan to do so again within 3 years?

1 🗌 Yes - Go to Section 8 on page 24

3 🗌 No - Continue

b. Please report your agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

I stopped implementing wildlife habitat management practices because:

		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree
739	Did not meet conservation need (wildlife numbers or use did not increase, or habitat did not improve)	1	2	3 🗌
740	It costs too much money	1	2	3 🗌
741	Too much time or effort	1	2	3 🗌
742	Technical assistance ended	1	2	3 🗌
743	Financial assistance ended	1	2	3
744	Financial assistance did not cover enough of the cost	1	2	3 🗌

Section 8 - Conservation Stewardship Program Participation

- 1. Are you or have you ever been enrolled in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)?
 - ⁸⁰⁰ $_{1}$ \square Yes Continue $_{3}$ \square No Go to Section 9 on page 25
 - a. Have you received financial assistance through the CSP for the enhancement of an annual practice on land you own or manage?
 - 1 🗌 Yes Continue

801

- $_3$ \Box No Go to Section 9 on page 25
- b. Please fill out the table for the number of acres where you received financial assistance through CSP for applying an enhancement on any of the following practices.

	Acres	Percentage of Cost Covered by CSP Payment
Maintaining and improving forest soil quality - INCLUDE activities to minimize compaction from heavy equipment, limit soil disturbance, maintain canopy cover, and retain fallen trees or other woody material for	802	803
soil cover and carbon cycling.		%
Wildlife habitat establishment, improvement, or management - INCLUDE any planting, harvesting, patch burning, raking, silvopasturing, or other forest management activities intended to support habitat for wildlife	804	805
including pollinators.		%
Planting trees or managing for carbon sequestration - INCLUDE increasing stocking level in forest stands not fully stocked, establishing forest stands on open lands, applying uneven-aged management, using longer harvest rotations, and retaining down trees and woody debris intended to increase carbon storage on-site.	806	807
Carbon storage on-site.		%
Wildfire risk reduction activities - INCLUDE prescribed burning, thinning forest stands to reduce stand density and fuel, managing understory plants to create a gap between ground cover and the canopy, or controlling	808	809
invasive species.		%
Planting trees or managing for agro-forestry - INCLUDE planting for silvopasture, increase riparian forest buffer width, adding food-producing	2768	2769
trees/shrubs, cultural plantings, etc.		%
Planting trees or managing for non-timber forest products - INCLUDE	2770	2771
cultural plantings, sugar bush management, raking for pine straw, etc.		%
Other forest stand improvement activities	812	813 %
Other tree or shrub planting activities	814	815 %

Secti	ion 9 - Demographics
1. P	lease answer the following for the forest or woodland owner or manager.
a.	. What is your sex? ⁹¹⁰ ₁ □ Male
b.	₂ ☐ Female . What was your age on December 31, 2023?
C.	Are you of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin? ⁹¹² ₁ □ Yes ₃ □ No
d.	 What is your race? Select all that apply. ⁹¹³ White ⁹¹⁴ Black or African American ⁹¹⁵ American Indian or Alaska Native ⁹¹⁶ Asian ⁹¹⁷ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
e.	 Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard? ⁹¹⁸ Never served in the military Only on active duty for training in the Reserves or National Guard Now on active duty On active duty in the past, but not now

з 🗌 No

2. Are you retired from forestry, farming or ranching?

1212

1 🗌 Yes

- 3. What is the highest level of formal education you have achieved?
 - 922
- $_1$ \square Less than high school diploma
- ² High school
- ³ Some college (include associates degree)
- ⁴ General Four-year college graduate and beyond
- 4. In 2023, which category below best describes your ownership? Select only one.

2772

- $_1$ \Box Individual ownership
- 2 Joint, with husband or wife
- ³ Joint, such as with other family members or friends
- 4 🗌 Family partnership or family LLC or LLP
- 5 🗌 Family trust or estate
- ₆ Corporation or business
- 7 🗌 Grazing association, government facility or American Indian reservation
- ⁹²⁹ ⁸ Other, specify type:

		2773
a.	How many people are a part of this ownership, including you? (Enter number)	

Section 10 - Conclusion

- 1. Has this operation (name on label) been sold, or turned over to someone else?
 - $_1$ \square Yes Identify the new operator(s) below $_3$ \square No Go to Item 2

Operator Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone: ()	Check if cell	phone

1511

- 2. Comments related to the information you reported:
- 3. Contact Information:

Operator Email:		Operator Phone:				
9929	Check to receive results by email	9918	Check if cell phone			
		()				
Operation Email: (if different from above)	Operation Phone: (if different from above)					
9937	Check to receive	9936	Check if			

	results by email		cell phone
		()	

Respondent Name:	Respondent Phone: (if diffe	rent from	abo\	/e)		
9912	9911	Check if cell phone		MM	DD	ΥY
	()		Date:			

This completes the survey. The results will be available on the release date at nass.usda.gov/results. Thank you for your help. Use this Space for Notes and Comments.

Response Respondent		Mode		Enum. E	Eval. R. U	R. Unit Change	e Office Use for POID						
1-Comp 2-R 3-Inac 4-Office Hold 5-R – Est 6-Inac – Est 7-Off Hold – Est	9901	1-Op/Mgr 2-Spouse 3-Acct/Bkpr 4-Partner 9-Other	9902	1-PASI (Mail) 2-PATI (Tel) 3-PAPI (Face-to- Face) 6-Email 7-Fax 19-Other	9903	9998	9900	9921		9989 9907	 Opti 9908	 onal Use 9906	9916