

# The Benefits of Family Forests



## Forestry in Montana

**Landcover:** Montana has an estimated 15.8 million acres of forestland.

**Ownership:** Over 3.6 million acres of Montana’s forestland are owned by 38,000 family forest owners.

**Certified Tree Farms:** There are 427 certified tree farms in the ATFS program for a total of 176,167 acres.

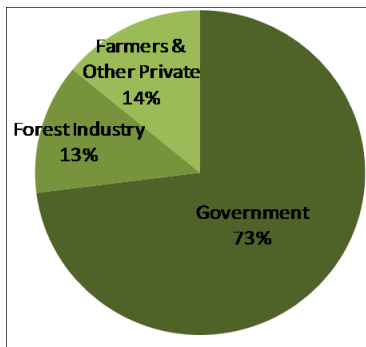
**Jobs:** The forest products industry employs 11,091 workers, or almost 35% of the manufacturing workforce—making it the largest manufacturing sector in the state. The industry provides an annual payroll of \$252 million.

**Wood:** In 2007, 75% of total timber harvested in Montana came from private lands (38% from non-industrial private owners), while only 14% came from national forests.

**Wildlife:** Montana forests are habitat for 3 species listed as endangered under the ESA: the grizzly bear, canada lynx, and the bull trout.

**Recreation:** There are 197,000 licensed hunters in Montana who benefit from well-managed forests.

State Timberland Ownership



Acreeage & Ownership of Forestland by District

Congressional District	Total	Family Owned	Public	Private Industry
MT 00 Denny Rehberg ®	25,590,792	3,514,269	18,673,617	3,402,906

## National Statistics and Facts

**Landcover:** More than half (56%) of the nation’s forests are privately owned.

**Jobs:** Every 1,000 acres of private forests supports eight well-paying jobs.; each job created in private forests creates an additional 2.95 jobs.

**Carbon:** Wood building materials—the majority of which are from private forests—reduce energy use and carbon emissions in manufacturing from 70% to 88%.

**Wood:** Family forests are the economic lynchpin of small towns and rural areas around the nation.

**Water:** More than 25% of our drinking water originates in private forests.

**Wildlife:** 60% of all at-risk species rely on America’s private forests.



American Forest Foundation

*The American Forest Foundation is a non-profit organization that gives people the tools they need to be effective stewards of America’s natural heritage. We work with educators, family woodlands owners, and partners in every state to keep our forests healthy and our children well-prepared for the future they will inherit. We grow stewardship every day.*