

Evaluating Economic Tools that Promote Ecosystem Goods and Services from Private Forests

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A McIntire-Stennis supported project

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The University of Minnesota is evaluating different economic and policy tools that are used to promote a range of ecosystem goods and services from the nation's family forest lands.

The approximately 11 million individuals, families, and family trusts, estates, and partnerships collectively own and manage approximately 36%, or 290 million acres, of forest land in the United States. These forests are a major supplier of timber, as well as an important source of nontimber goods and services such as wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, and provide import air and water, soil stabilization, nutrient retention and cycling, and carbon sequestration.

Researchers are evaluating the effectiveness of different strategies for promoting long-term investments in and stewardship of the nation's family forests for the many timber and non-timber benefits they provide.



Photo credit: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.



COLLABORATION

The Department of Forest Resources and its collaborators are identifying ways for effectively encouraging family forest land stewardship.



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Collaborators representing federal and state agencies, national and international universities, and family forest landowner groups.

IMPACT

Key findings from this work are delivered to policymakers, natural resource management agencies, forest landowner groups, and family landowners.



37%

of Minnesota's forests are family owned.



200,000

owners of family forest land in Minnesota.



60%

of timber harvested in the U.S. comes from family forest lands.