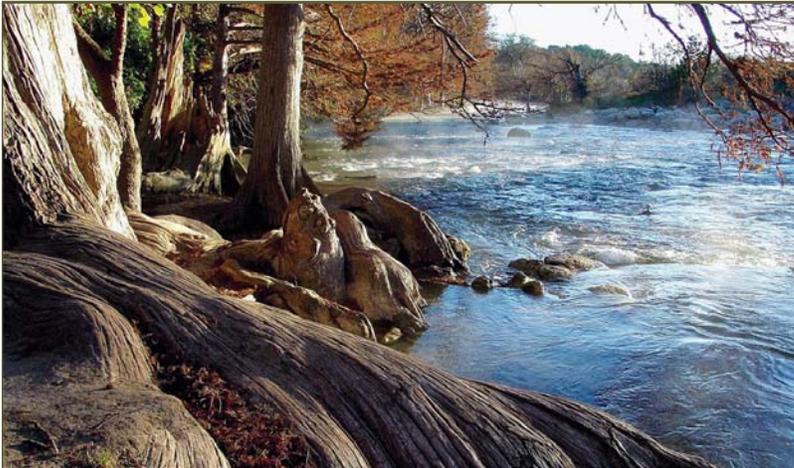




Texas, 2010

James W. Bentley



Guadalupe River State Park, Comel County, TX. (photo by Ron Billings, Texas Forest Service)

FOREST INVENTORY & ANALYSIS FACTSHEET



The Nation's Forest Census

Forested Area

Total forest area amounted to 62.4 million acres and covers 37 percent of the surveyed land area (table 1). Twenty-three percent, or 14.4 million acres, of the forest area was considered available for timber production and known as timberland. The remaining forest area is reserved forest land where timber removals are prohibited by law or unproductive forest land (produces < 20 cubic feet per acre per year).

Issue—January 2012

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Introduction

This science update summarizes the findings of the statewide annual inventory conducted by the Southern Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program in cooperation with the Texas Forest Service of the forest resource attributes in Texas. The 254 counties of Texas are consolidated into seven FIA survey units – southeast (unit 1), northeast (unit 2), north central (unit 3), south (unit 4), west central (unit 5), northwest (unit 6), and west (unit 7). East Texas is made-up of units 1 and 2, while the central and west Texas consists of units 3 thru 7 (fig. 1). This overview represents the 2006-10 moving average for east Texas and 70 percent of the first forest survey for central and west Texas. The 2010 survey provides a remeasurement of annual inventory plots for east Texas and the initial establishment of plots in central and west Texas.

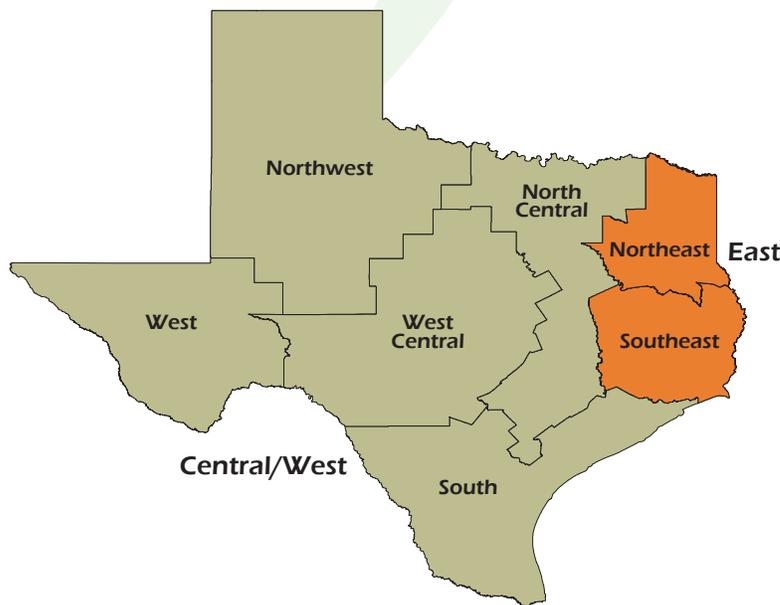


Figure 1—Survey units of east and central/west Texas, 2010.

Table 1—Area by land class and region, Texas, 2010

Land class	Total	Central/ West	
		East	West
<i>million acres</i>			
Forest land			
Timberland	14.37	11.98	2.39
Other/reserved	48.08	0.18	47.90
Total forest land	62.44	12.15	50.29
Nonforest land	104.52	9.33	95.19
Total land area	166.96	21.49	145.48
Percent forested	37%	57%	35%

Numbers in rows and columns may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Inventory Volume

Results from the 2010 inventory show all-live volume on forest land at 32.5 billion cubic feet (table 2). Sixty-one percent of this volume is on timberland, which is concentrated mainly in east Texas. The remaining 39 percent, or 12.8 billion cubic feet, is from reserved or unproductive forest land.

Table 2—Volume by land class and region, Texas, 2010

Land class	Total	Central/ West	
		East	West
<i>billion cubic feet</i>			
Timberland	19.69	17.34	2.35
Other forest land	12.34	0.01	12.33
Other/reserved	0.43	0.31	0.11
Total volume	32.45	17.66	14.80

Numbers in rows and columns may not sum to totals due to rounding.



EAST TEXAS, 2010

East Texas Forested Area

Total forest area amounted to 12.1 million acres in 2010 and occupied 57 percent of the land area in east Texas (table 3). Nearly 12.0 million acres, or 99 percent, of the forest land is considered timberland. The area of forest land in east Texas has remained relatively stable.

Table 3—Area by land class and survey year, east Texas

Land class	1992	2003	2008	2010
	<i>million acres</i>			
Forest land				
Timberland	11.77	11.66	11.96	11.98
Other/reserved	0.17	0.21	0.16	0.18
Total forest land	11.94	11.96	12.13	12.15
Nonforest land	9.65	9.59	9.35	9.33
Total land area	21.59	21.46	21.48	21.49
Percent forested	55	55	56	57

Numbers in rows and columns may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Forest Ownership

East Texas has undergone major shifts in private ownership this past decade, primarily a transfer of land from forest industry to nonindustrial private owners. Nonindustrial private landowners control the majority (52 percent) of east Texas' 12.0 million acres of timberland, and another 29 percent is controlled by private corporations, an increase of 8 percent since the 2008 survey (fig. 2). Forest industry continues to decline as this group owns 10 percent of the timberland. Only 9 percent of east Texas' timberland is publicly owned and includes national forest lands, other Federal land, State, and local lands.

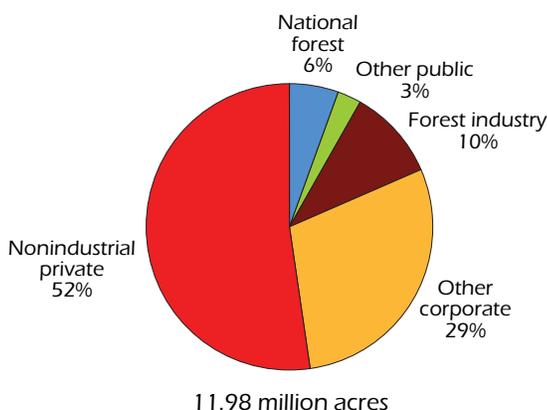


Figure 2—Timberland by ownership class, east Texas, 2010.

Forest-Type Composition

Hardwood timber types comprise the majority of timberland area in east Texas, accounting for 6.6 million acres (fig. 3). Softwood forest types occupy 5.3 million acres of east Texas' timberland area. Loblolly-shortleaf pine is the most abundant timber-type group with 5.1 million acres and comprises the majority (96 percent) of all softwood forest types. East Texas' softwood timberland area is split nearly equally between natural pine stands (2.6 million acres) and planted pine stands (2.7 million acres). Oak-hickory is the predominant hardwood forest-type group with 2.9 million acres, followed by oak-pine (1.5 million acres) and oak-gum-cypress (1.4 million acres).

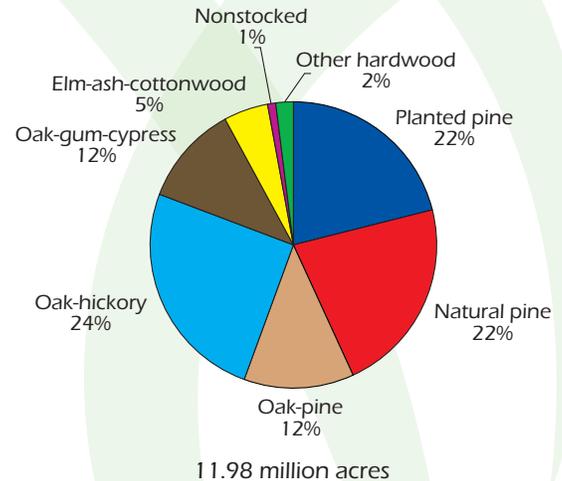


Figure 3—Timberland by major forest-type groups, east Texas, 2010.

Inventory Volume

Total all-live volume on timberland was 17.3 billion cubic feet, remaining relatively stable since the 2008 survey (fig. 4). All-live volume in softwood species amounted to 9.7 billion cubic feet, while hardwood species total 7.7 billion cubic feet. Loblolly-shortleaf pine group accounted for 9.0 billion cubic feet (93 percent) of the all-live softwood volume.

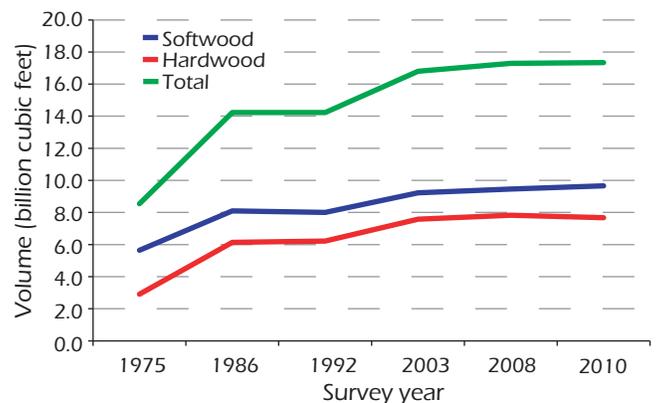


Figure 4—Volume of live trees on timberland by species group and survey year, east Texas.



All-live volume of softwoods has increased in nearly all diameter classes since 2008 (fig. 5). Volume by 2-inch diameter class shows the majority (60 percent) is centered within the 7.0- to 16.9-inch diameter classes. All-live volume of hardwoods by diameter class has remained fairly stable since 2003 (fig. 6).

Annual Growth, Removals, and Mortality

In 2010, total net annual growth for all-live trees on timberland was 779.5 million cubic feet (fig. 7). Total annual removals for all-live trees on timberland were 688.4 million cubic feet per year for the same time period, while mortality averaged 213.1 million cubic feet per year. Net growth for all-live softwood species on timberland averaged 600.2 million cubic feet per year, and annual softwood removals averaged 521.5 million cubic feet per year. Net annual growth for hardwood species averaged 179.3 million cubic feet per year. Average annual removals of hardwood species averaged 166.9 million cubic feet per year.

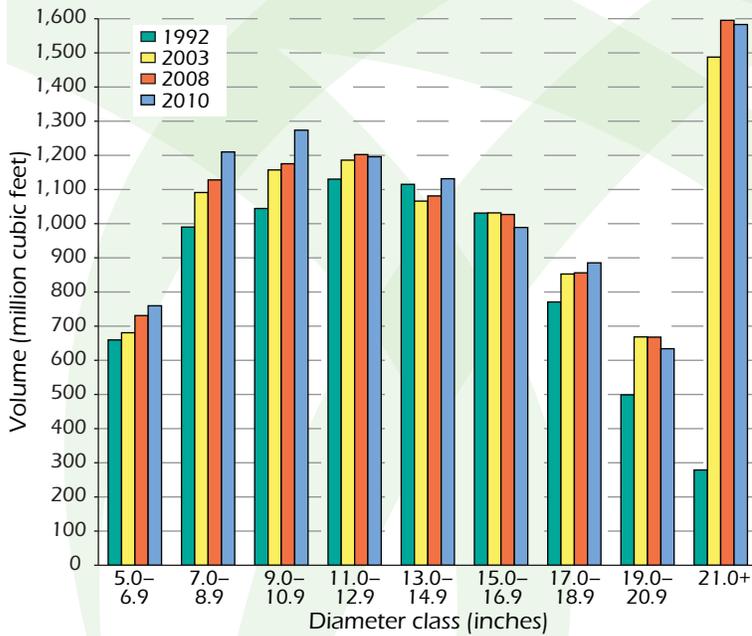


Figure 5—Softwood volume by diameter class and survey year on timberland, east Texas.

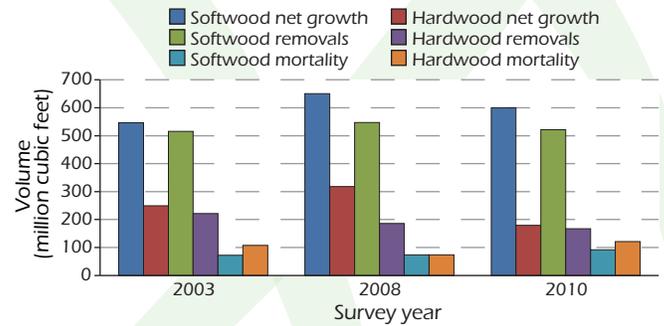


Figure 7—All-live net growth, removals, and mortality by survey year, east Texas.

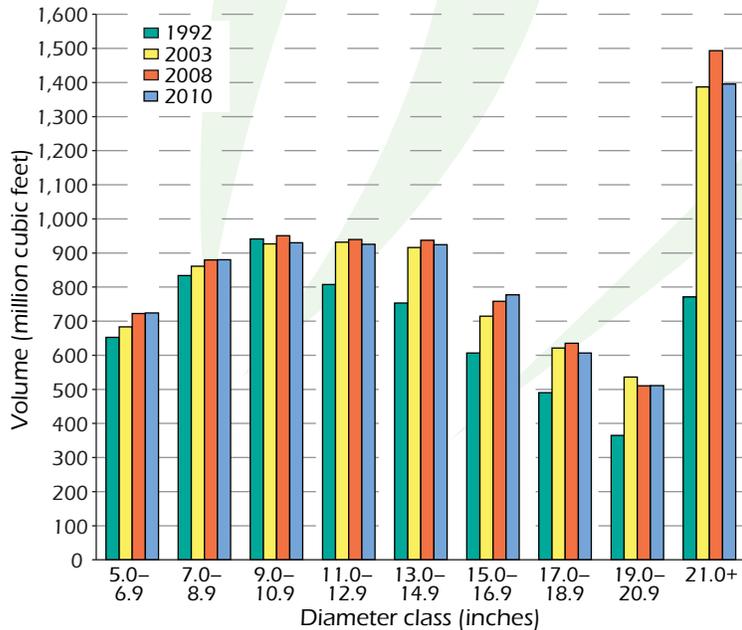


Figure 6—Hardwood volume by diameter class and survey year on timberland, east Texas.



Sweetgum with frost in Sabine County, TX. (photo by Ron Billings, Texas Forest Service)



Central and West Texas Forested Area

Total forest area amounted to 50.3 million acres in 2010 and occupied 35 percent of the land area in central and west Texas (table 1). Less than 5 percent, or 2.4 million acres, of the forest area was considered available for timber production and known as timberland. The remaining 47.9 million acres is either reserved forest land where timber removals are prohibited by law or unproductive forest land (produces <20 cubic feet per acre per year).

Forest Ownership

Nonindustrial private landowners control the majority (73 percent) of central and west Texas' 50.3 million acres of forest land, and another 22 percent is controlled by private corporations (fig. 8). Only 5 percent of central and west Texas' forest land is publicly owned and includes national forest lands, other Federal land, State, and local lands. Forest industry controls <1 percent of the forest land.

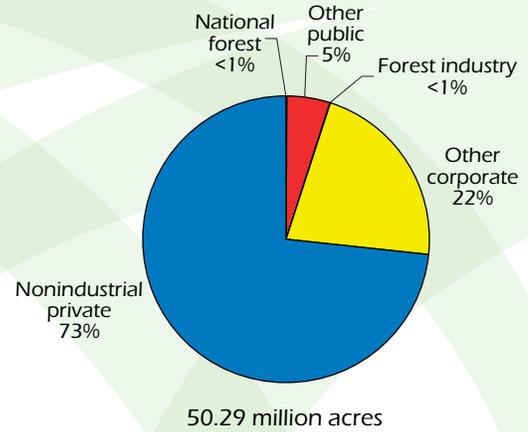


Figure 8—Forest land by ownership class, central and west Texas, 2008.

Salt cedar on Rio Grande in Presidio County, TX.
(photo by Ron Billings, Texas Forest Service)





Forest-Type Composition

Hardwood timber types comprise the majority of forest land area in central and west Texas, accounting for 37.0 million acres (fig. 9). Softwood forest types occupy 10.0 million acres of central and west Texas' forest land area. Woodland hardwoods are the most abundant forest-type group with 29.9 million acres. Oak-hickory forest type accounts for another 20 percent or 10.2 million acres. Pinyon-juniper is the predominant softwood forest-type group with 9.8 million acres, accounting for 98 percent of the softwood forest-type group.

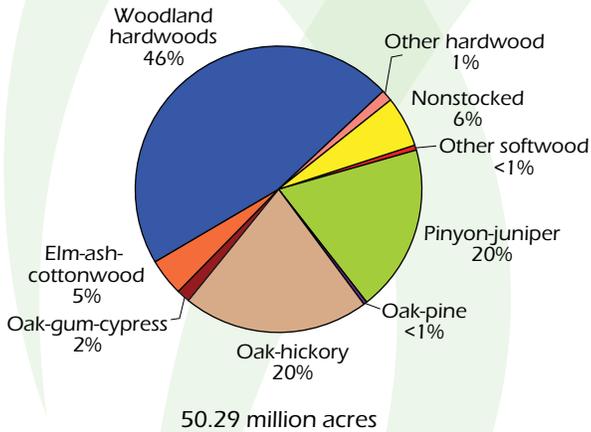


Figure 9—Forest land by major forest-type groups, central and west Texas, 2008.

Inventory Volume

The 2010 inventory shows all-live volume on forest land at 14.8 billion cubic feet for central and west Texas. All-live volume of hardwood amounts to 10.6 billion cubic feet, while softwood totals 4.2 billion cubic feet. Volume by 2-inch diameter class shows the majority of the total volume (67 percent) is within the 5.0- to 14.9-inch diameter classes (fig. 10). Within this range of diameter classes, there is 66 percent of the hardwood volume and 72 percent of the softwood volume.

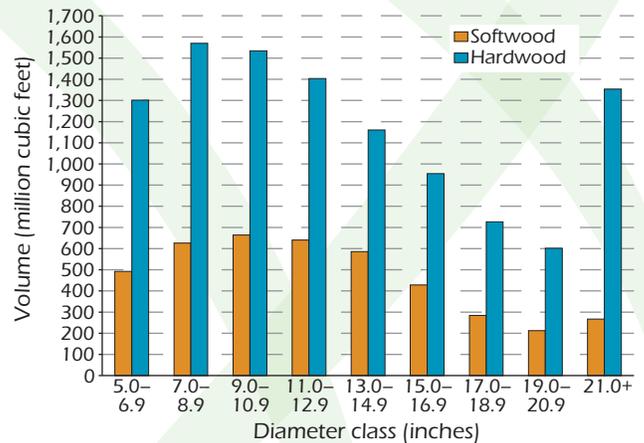


Figure 10—Volume of softwood and hardwood by diameter class on forest land, central and west Texas, 2008.

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Live oak in Washington County. (photo by Ron Billings, Texas Forest Service)

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