2010 Massachusetts Woodland Owner SurveyAttitudes Towards Biomass Harvesting

FFRC Research Paper No. 2011-01

The attached survey summary reflects statistics from all respondents to the 2010 Massachusetts Woodland Owner Survey on attitudes towards biomass harvesting. This summary report was provided to survey respondents who were interested in receiving results.



2010 Massachusetts Woodland Owner Survey

Attitudes Towards Biomass Harvesting

Facts about Respondents

- † 429 woodland owners responded to the survey, or 47% of all who received the survey
- T Most people (67%) live on their woodland
- 73% of respondents were older than 55 years old
- 74% were male

Reasons for Owning Woodland

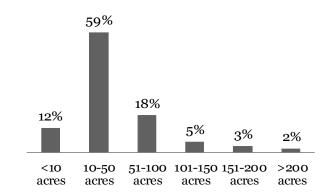
- **At least half** of all respondents said that the following are **very important** reasons to own their woodland:
 - To enjoy beauty or scenery
 - For privacy
 - As part of a home or vacation home

Harvesting History & Future Harvesting Plans

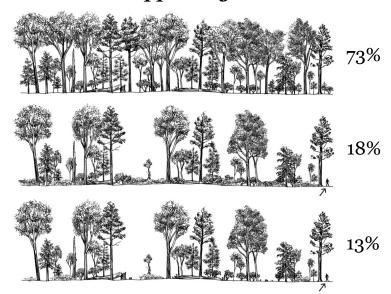
- **† 42%** said that **trees have been harvested** and sold from their land since they owned it.
- 7 51% said they planned on harvesting and selling trees from their land in the future.

Amount of Woodland Owned

The Most respondents own less than 50 acres:



Most Appealing Picture



Biomass Opinion Questions

| Using residual woody biomass for energy could positively impact the local economy | 45% agreed |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Harvesting residual woody biomass can be a supply of renewable energy | 59% agreed |
| Leaving residual woody biomass on my property is important to wildlife habitat | 49% agreed |
| Removing residual woody biomass from my property depletes soil nutrients | 49% agreed |
| Using residual woody biomass will increase air pollution | 35% agreed |
| Harvesting residual woody biomass will result in significant deforestation | 31% agreed |
| Using residual woody biomass for energy could positively impact US' ability to deal with climate change | 35% agreed |