



The U.S. Forest Monitor: Establishing a Historical Baseline for the Drivers and Climate Impacts of Permanent Forest Loss

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Executive Summary

Forest Loss Trends and the Case for the U.S. Forest Monitor

Forestland at Risk

This report introduces the U.S. Forest Monitor, a new system for tracking permanent forest conversion across the United States and reveals that forest loss is occurring at a significant and increasing scale. The burden of forest loss is unevenly distributed with 11 states representing 70% of all loss nationally.

Forestland provides critical benefits including habitat and biodiversity, clean water and air, outdoor recreation, healthy soils, and climate regulation.

Forests today face many threats, including fire, pest outbreaks and other stressors. Permanent deforestation, the focus of this report, involves the clearing of forests for another land use—like development and cropland—that persists for the long term.

Our analysis finds that between 1990 and 2017 as many as 350,000 acres per year were converted to persistent non-forest—equivalent to losing roughly one football field every two minutes for 28 years. This resulted in approximately 2.3 billion metric tons of CO₂e, including lost potential for future carbon storage (foregone sequestration).

While development-driven forest loss declined following the Great Recession in 2008, rates of forest loss have since begun to increase again. Halting and reversing this trend presents a major opportunity for climate change mitigation while protecting the diverse benefits that forests provide.

Why Monitoring Is Needed

Understanding where forest losses occur and what is driving them is critical for exploring solutions, prioritizing actions, and allocating resources. However, continuous, rigorous, timely monitoring of permanent forest conversion is largely absent in the United States.

This report provides a historical baseline, and establishes the foundation and need for updating data through 2024 and developing ongoing annual tracking to inform policy and land protection strategies.

This information can help make the case for conservation action, target conservation investments, and identify where carbon offset markets may offer the greatest additional climate benefits. The findings are

relevant for groups concerned about the implications of forest loss to biodiversity, clean water, recreation, climate resilience and climate mitigation.

This information is designed, in part, to advance the confidence and effectiveness of avoided forest conversion as a climate solution within or outside of the carbon offset markets and may be particularly relevant to land trusts, U.S. Climate Alliance States and other conservation agencies and organizations seeking to prioritize forestland protection.

Key Findings and Methodology

The U.S. Forest Monitor applies a novel methodology to identify and track persistent forest conversion—distinguishing it from temporary disturbances such as timber harvests or wildfire. The analysis isolates areas where forestland is converted to development or cropland and remains in that state for at least five years, ensuring that only long-term losses are captured.

Using annual land cover data at 30-meter resolution and integrating multiple datasets, the system attributes forest loss to its primary drivers and maps conversion patterns across the United States. This approach enables consistent national tracking while identifying localized hotspots of intensive forest loss.

Applying this methodology, we identified distinct geographic patterns emerging at local, regional, and state scales including 46 development-driven hotspots and 15 cropland-driven hotspots where losses are most concentrated.





Where is Forest Loss Occurring?

Forest loss is not evenly distributed. Development-driven losses are concentrated around urban centers and expanding metropolitan and suburban regions, while cropland expansion accounts for roughly half of all forest loss nationwide but is more spatially diffuse.

A relatively small number of states account for the majority of forest loss. The top 11 states represent approximately 70% of total forest loss. These states are Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama, Virginia, Mississippi, Missouri, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

While the percentage of forest is high across the southeast, three northeastern states were also in the top 10 states that experienced the permanent loss of 2.6% or more of their forestland from 1990 levels—Delaware, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

At finer scales, impacts can be severe. Individual counties lost as much as 40% of their forests from 1990 levels, with the most extreme losses concentrated in rapidly developing regions. Notably, the top three counties with the greatest percentage of forest loss during this period were all located in Virginia.

When evaluated in climate terms, the burden is even more concentrated: half of the forest-loss-related CO₂e emissions are attributable to just six states—Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Florida, Virginia, and Alabama.

Implications and Applications

These findings demonstrate that forest loss is both concentrated and actionable. By identifying where losses are occurring and what is driving them, the U.S. Forest Monitor provides a tool for:

- Targeting land protection and conservation investments
- Informing land use and climate policy
- Supporting state-level climate strategies focused on forests and other natural and working lands
- Directing carbon market efforts to areas of highest additional impact

Looking Ahead

This report establishes a baseline for understanding forest conversion in the United States and demonstrates the value of consistent, high-resolution monitoring. Expanding the U.S. Forest Monitor to include annual updates through 2024 and beyond will be critical to detecting emerging trends, supporting timely intervention, and maximizing the climate and ecological benefits of forest conservation.

Protecting remaining forestland—and preventing further permanent conversion—represents a significant and near-term opportunity for climate action in the United States.

Introduction

Forestland At Risk

Forestland provides wildlife habitat and biodiversity, clean water and air, recreation benefits, healthy soils, and climate regulation services. Conversion of forests to non-forest for persistent uses as cropland or development undercuts those services. Forest conversion accelerates global climate change by releasing CO₂e and diminishing the capacity of forests to sequester additional carbon in the future.



While development and farmlands provide valuable services of their own, it is important to understand tradeoffs with nature and associated consequences for the provision of ecosystem services such as clean water, biodiversity, and climate regulation.

Forests today face many threats, including fire, pest outbreaks, and other stressors. Permanent deforestation, the focus of this report, involves the clearing of forests for long-term conversion to another land use. Our report finds that between 1990 and 2017 as many as 350,000 acres per year were converted to persistent non-forest. Halting and even reversing this trend provides an opportunity for climate mitigation while protecting and restoring the diverse benefits that forests provide.

Across the United States, development and agricultural expansion are reshaping forested landscapes, with lasting consequences for climate regulation, biodiversity, water resources, and the many other benefits forests provide.

The U.S. Forest Monitor was developed to provide a clearer picture of how permanent forest conversion is changing landscapes across the country and to support more informed conservation and policy decisions.

Why Monitoring Is Needed

Understanding where forest losses occur and what is driving them is critical for exploring solutions, prioritizing actions, and allocating resources. Continuous, timely monitoring is needed to help detect and report forest losses as they happen. We focus here on gross forestland conversion rather than net forest change because mature forests generally provide greater ecological and climate benefits than younger forests.

Many monitoring approaches identify forest clearings of all types, including harvests, wildfires, and other natural disturbances that are often followed by forest recovery. As a result, they fail to isolate persistent forest conversion, which has the longest-lasting impacts. Existing approaches also tend to ignore the underlying driver of conversion (e.g., development or cropland expansion).

What the U.S. Forest Monitor Delivers

The U.S. Forest Monitor (USFM) maps forest conversions each year, providing a historical baseline of change. In this first generation, tracking ends in 2017, but a second generation is in development and promises coverage to at least 2024. This platform lays the foundation for ongoing monitoring and tracking to catch emerging patterns as they happen, before it's too late to intervene.

The U.S. Forest Monitor tracks annual forest conversion to development and cropland at a resolution of 30 meters (approximately one-quarter acre per pixel). Analysis identifies deforestation hotspots, reveals emerging trends, and assesses the climate burden of recent deforestation. While many trends show declines in forest loss after 2008, there is increasing evidence that rates of forest loss are increasing once again, illustrating the importance of updated tracking.



How It Works

We detected areas of forest conversion with analysis of annual land cover time series from the U.S. Geological Survey's Land Change Monitoring, Assessment, and Projection (LCMAP) system.

We identified areas initially classified as forest that transitioned to non-forest and remained non-forested for at least five years through the end of the time series. This conservative filter avoids year-to-year fluctuations in land cover classification and isolates areas of persistent forest conversion with high confidence.

We retained only areas converted to development or cropland, two land uses that typically persist for decades. This excludes conversion to classifications such as pasture, shrub/scrub, and barren land, which often revert to forest cover.

We ensured temporal consistency in the pre-conversion (forested) and post-conversion (developed or cropland) land cover assignment and confirmed assignment as conversion with additional land cover (NLCD), wildfire (MTBS) and cropland datasets (CDL).

We assessed climate impacts of deforestation with our National Forest Carbon Monitoring System (NFCMS) data on forest carbon stocks, ongoing carbon sequestration, and albedo change.

This report also identifies hotspot areas where forest losses are most spatially concentrated. Hotspots were identified using a spatial clustering approach designed to isolate regions experiencing intensive and persistent forest conversion for development or cropland expansion. Additional methodological details are provided in Appendix A.

Application Areas

Intended and Appropriate Uses

The U.S. Forest Monitor provides an information system that can elevate awareness of trends and patterns, revealing hotspots of forest loss deserving attention where land protection or other land use or reduced taxation strategies could most effectively avoid the permanent loss of forests. Such information is suitable to aid land managers and policymakers with targeting strategies across large areas.

This information is designed, in part, to advance the confidence and effectiveness of avoided forest conversion as a climate solution within or outside of the carbon offset markets and can inform where forestland protection can offer the greatest additional carbon emissions reductions.

Our data on climate impacts is relevant for state and local accounting for Natural and Working Lands climate assessments and reports, as well as for land

trusts and conservation organizations aiming to assess the climate benefits of forestland protection and conservation.

Limitations

Our conservative approach to mapping forest losses omits some forestland conversions. For example, forest-to-pasture conversions are not included in the present analysis because they are frequently confused with areas of shrublands and savannas, as well as areas with partial tree cover loss. Lands on the margin of being classified as forestland due to low tree cover (e.g., savannas and shrublands) are omitted.

Another limitation is the roughly five-year latency imposed by our careful approach, which requires at least five years sustained as development or agriculture to elevate confidence in detections of persisting conversion. This hampers up-to-date information and is something we aim to partially address with an Early Warning System, as mentioned below.



Early Findings

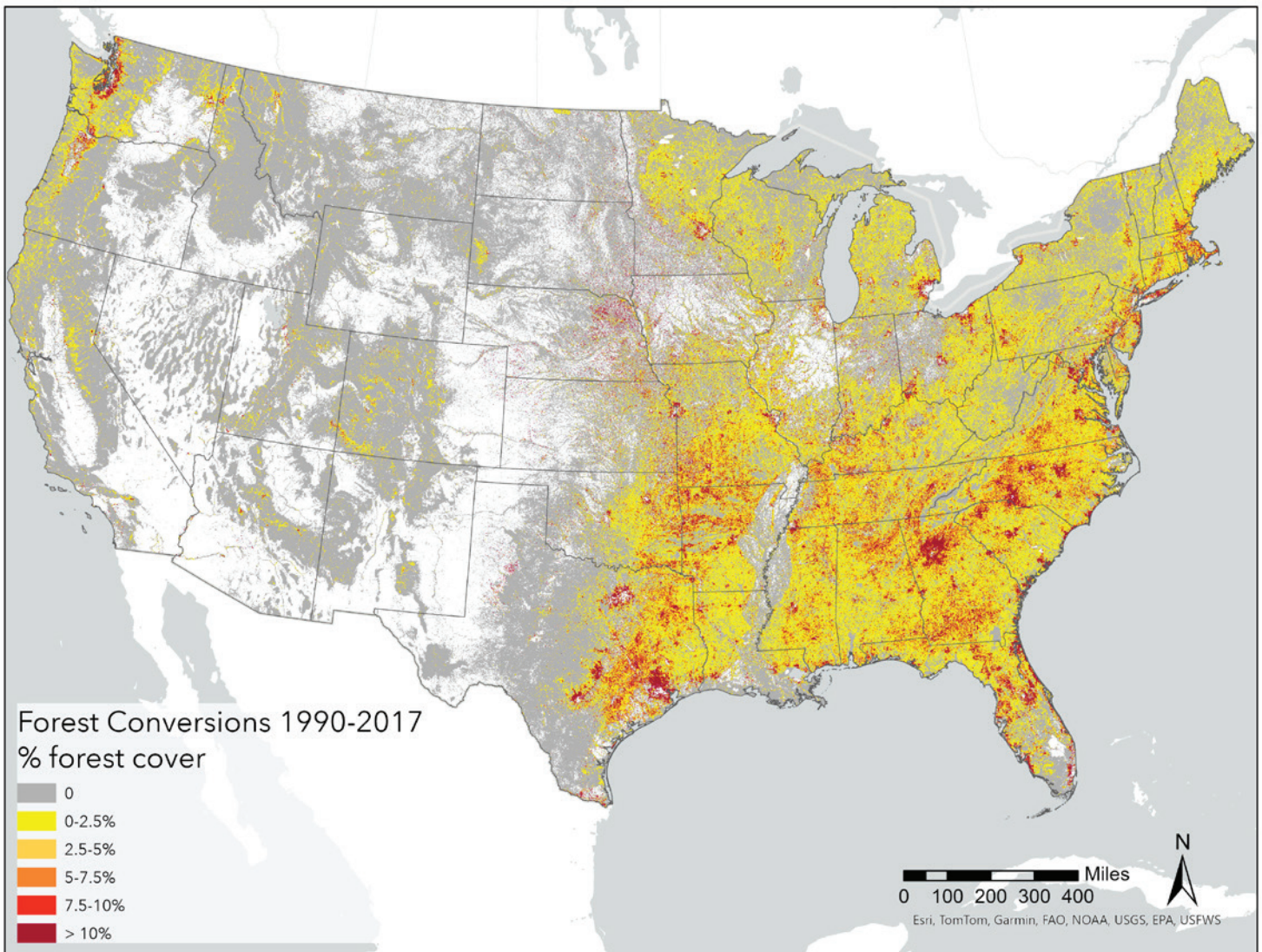
National Perspective

The U.S. Forest Monitor captures national patterns and trends, such as those depicted below. The map displays the percentage of 1990 forest that was converted to developed land or cropland between 1990 and 2017, displayed in roughly 1 km x 1 km grid cells.

Nearly 10 million acres of forestland were lost to development and cropland during this period, equivalent to losing roughly one football field every two minutes for 28 years.

Forest losses are most visibly concentrated around urban centers and their surrounding metropolitan and suburban regions. While cropland expansion accounts for roughly half of all forest losses nationwide, these losses have a more spatially diffuse distribution, so their signature is less visible in the map. Maps for development and cropland forest loss are shown separately in the section on Hotspot Analysis.

Percent of Forest Lost, 1990 to 2017



State-Level Findings

Area of Forestland Loss

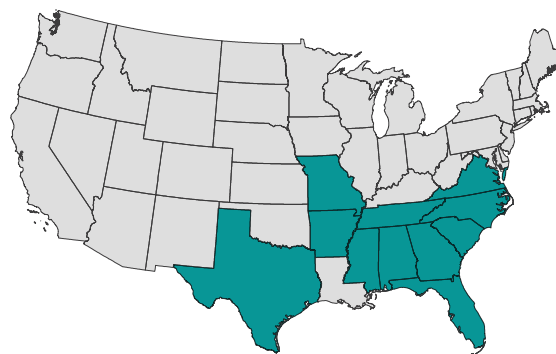
Southern states have the highest amount of permanent forest loss, with half of all conversion occurring in just six states: Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas, and Alabama.

The top 11 states account for approximately 70% of the loss: Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama, Virginia, Mississippi, Missouri, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

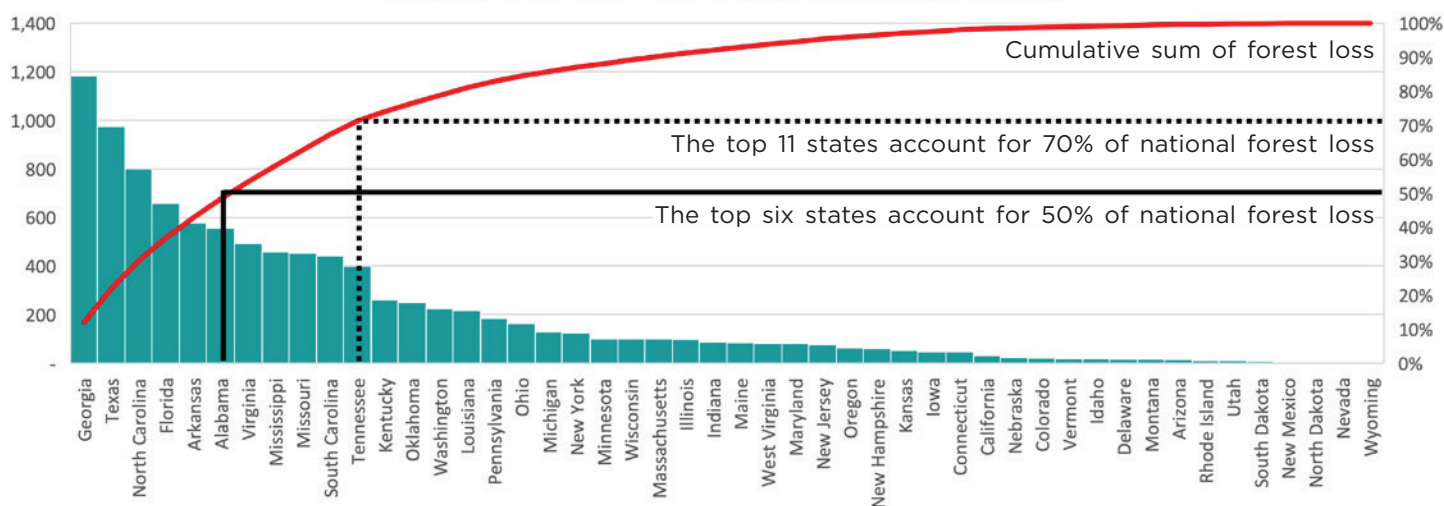
All of the top 13 states are in the southeastern or south central regions of the country.

Six of the top 20 states are from outside the southern region, including Washington, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, New York, and Minnesota.

Top 11 States for Amount of Forest Loss



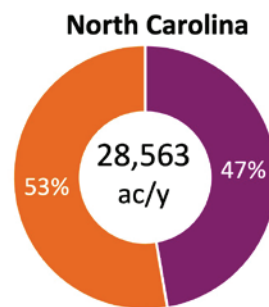
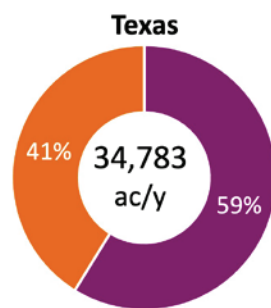
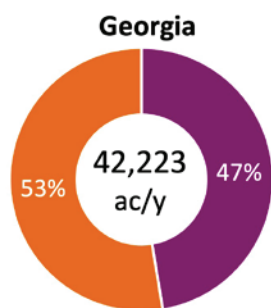
Area of Forest Loss 1990 to 2017 (thousands of acres)



All 10 of the states with the greatest area of forest loss are in southern regions. Together they account for 67% of the national loss.

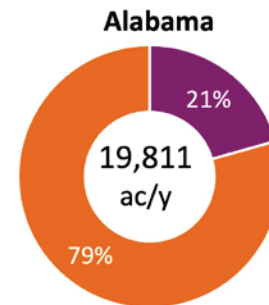
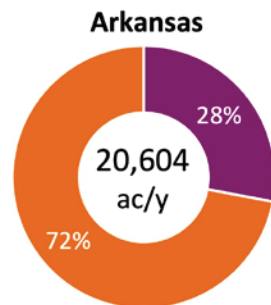
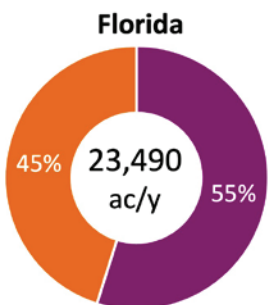
Loss rates are as high as 42,000 acres per year—the equivalent of losing an area the size of Washington, D.C. each year.

Many have a roughly 50:50 split between loss to development versus cropland, while others see more in cropland expansion.

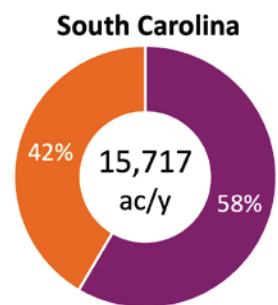
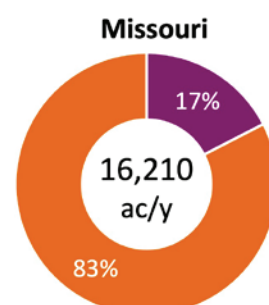
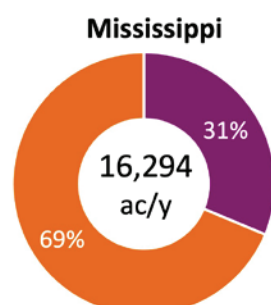
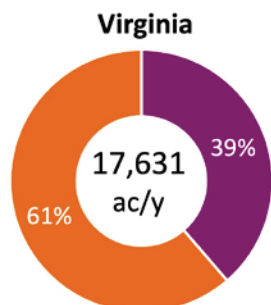


Drivers of Forest Loss in the Top 10 States

67% of National Loss
all in southern states
350,000 ac/y nationally



Cropland
 Development





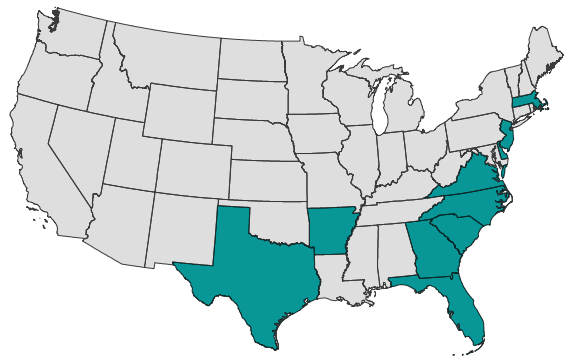
Percentage of Forestland Lost

The 10 states with the largest percentage of forestland lost to permanent conversion include many of the same southern states: Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, South Carolina, Texas, Arkansas, and Virginia (green shaded at right).

Some northeastern states stand out as well, including Delaware, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

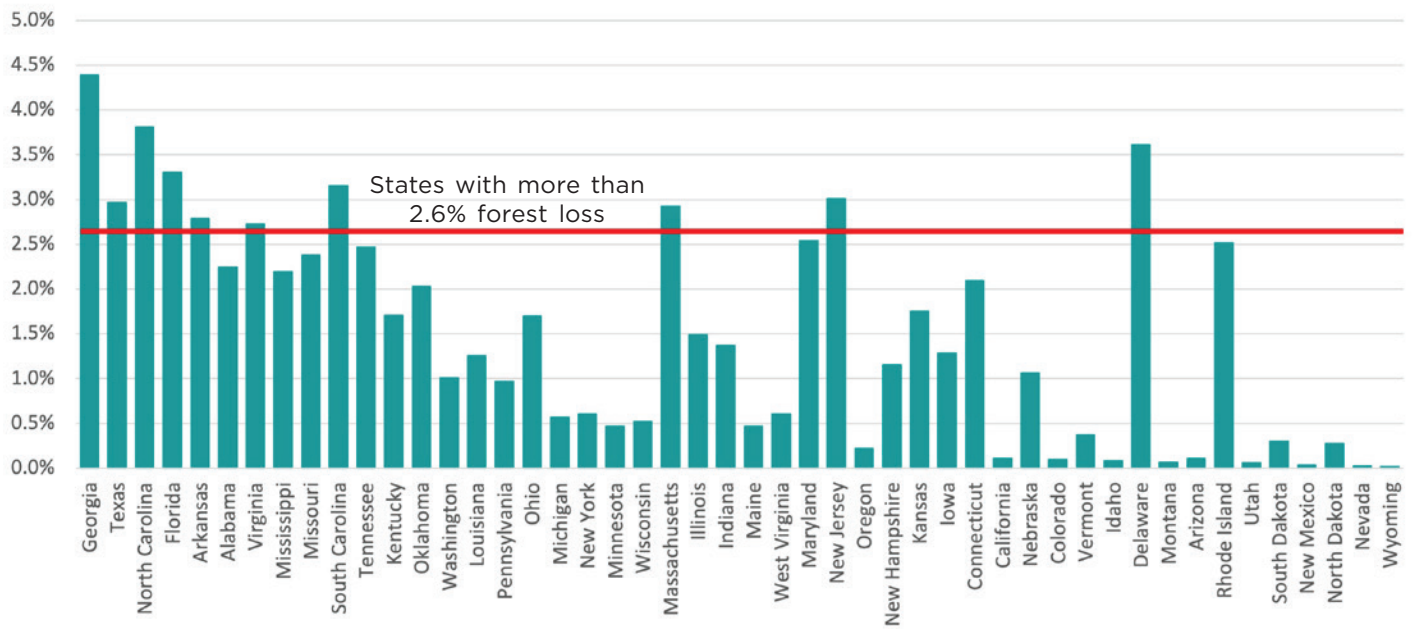
Each of these states has seen conversion and permanent loss of 2.7% or more of their 1990 forestland, with over 4% in Georgia.

**Top 10 States for
Percent of Forest Loss**





Percent of 1990 Forest Lost By 2017 (% over 28 years)



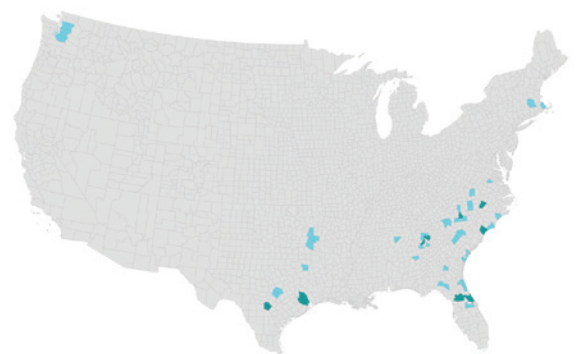
County-Level Findings

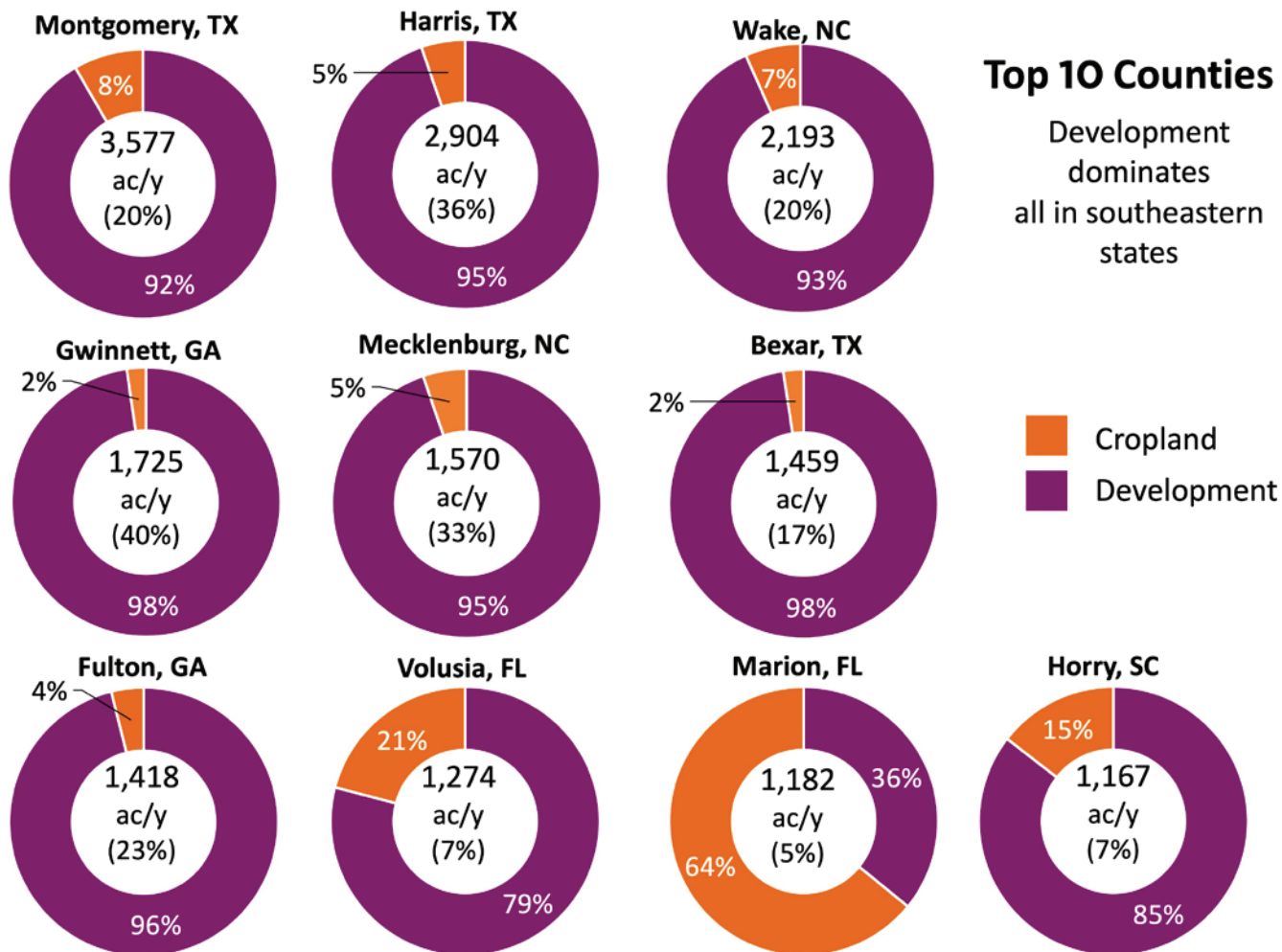
The counties with the highest rates of forest loss (green at right) are nearly all located in the southeastern United States with a few in the Pacific Northwest. Nearly all are located close to rapidly expanding urban centers.

Some counties lost as much as 40% of their initial 1990 forestland in just a few decades.

The top 50 counties (green and light blue) are also clustered in the Southeast.

Top 50 Counties for Amount of Forest Loss

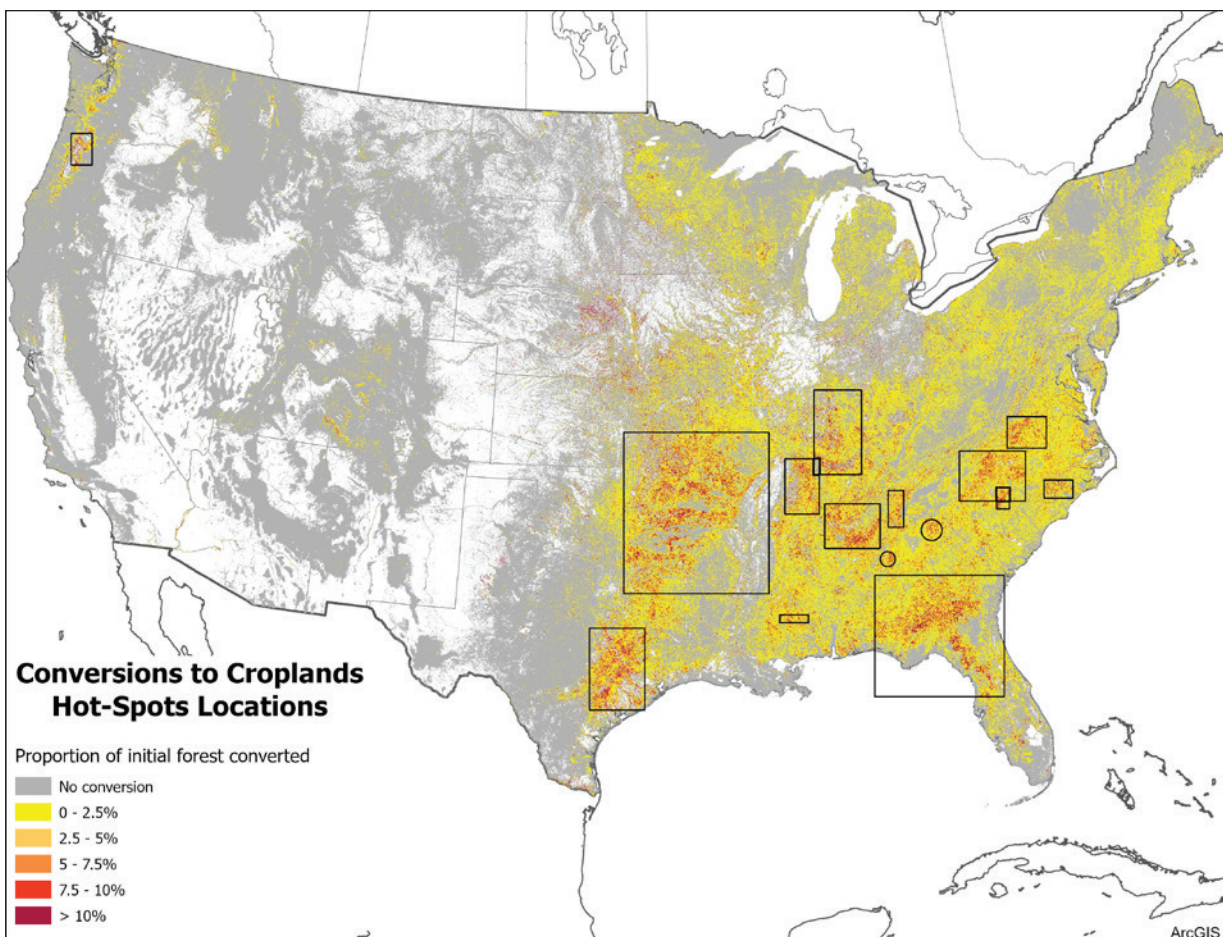
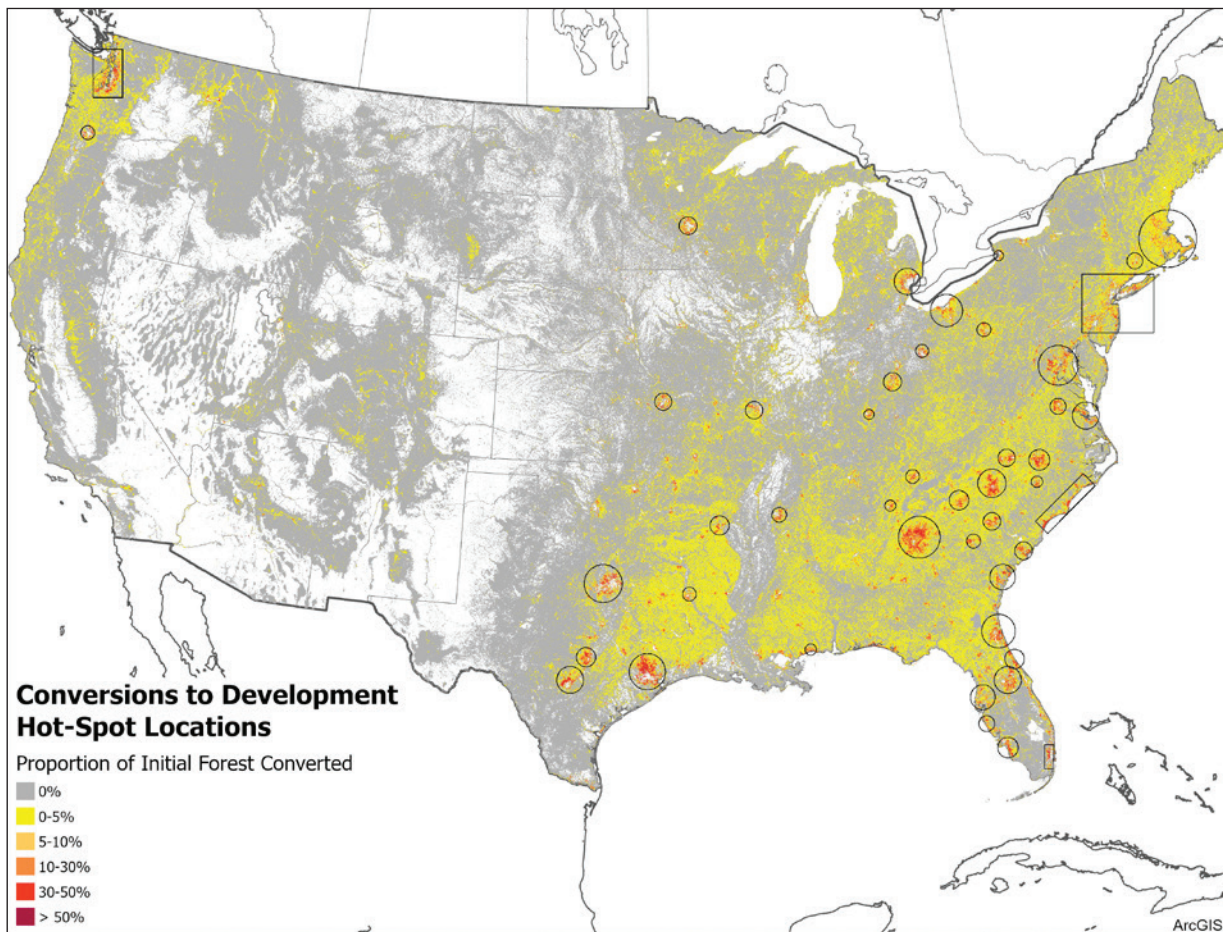




Hotspot Analysis

These concentrated patterns of forest loss become even more apparent through hotspot analysis. Forest loss is often spatially concentrated, making hotspots a helpful way to understand and address patterns of forest loss.

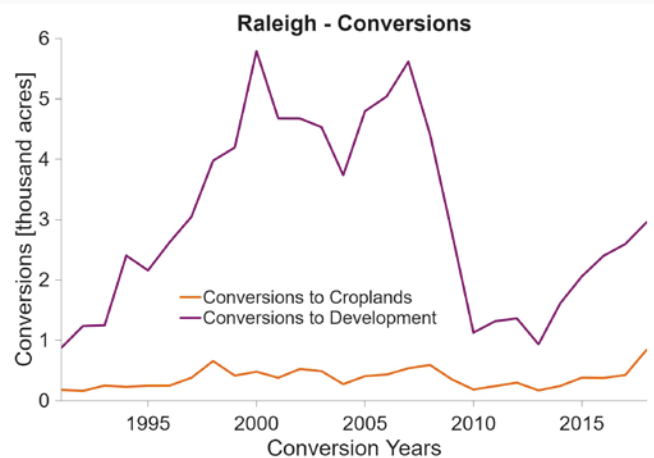
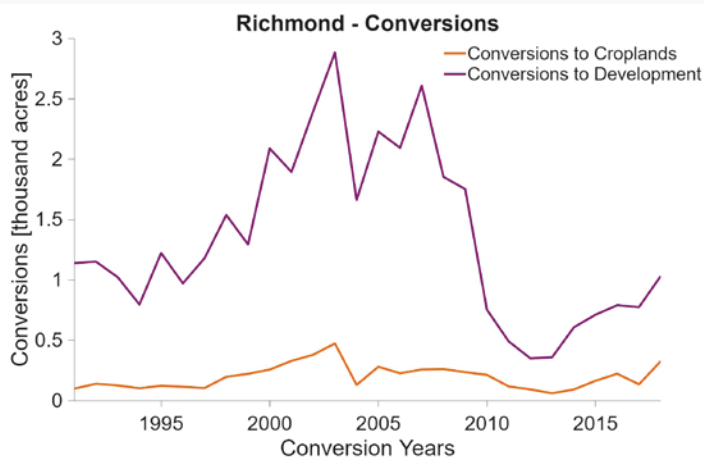
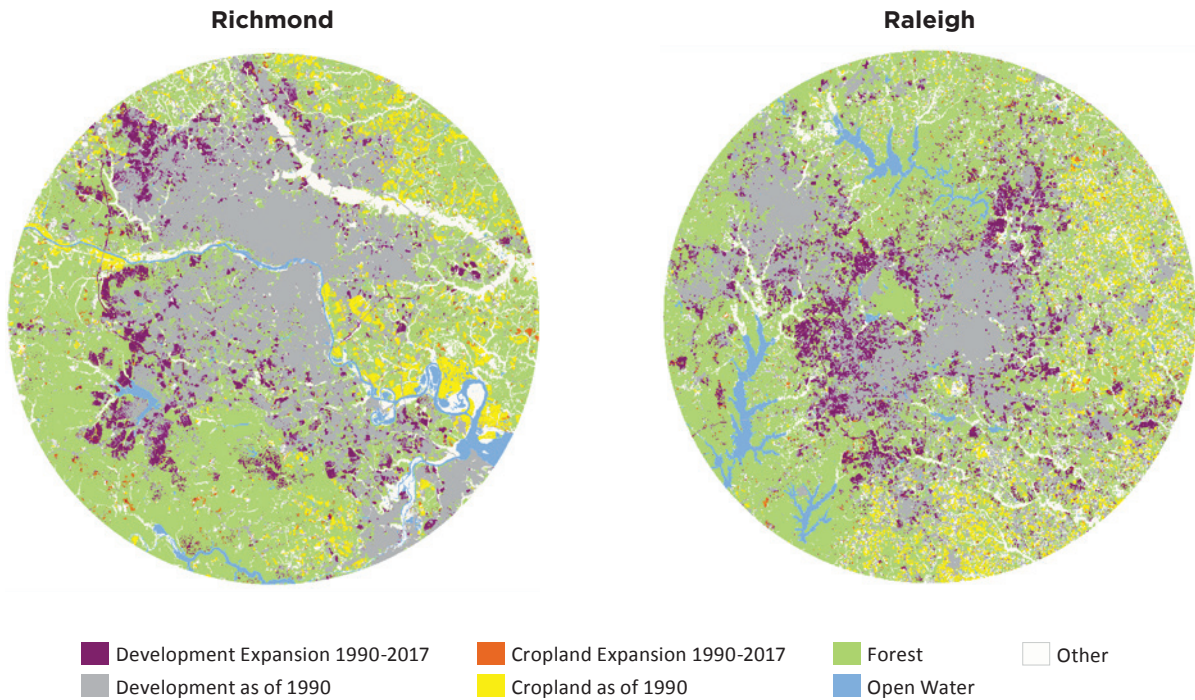
Hotspots encompass focal areas of forest loss with the most concentrated losses, identified separately for conversion to development and cropland, with 46 development-driven hotspots and 15 cropland-driven hotspots. Forest loss outside of hotspots can also be important where it impacts large intact forested areas. This is an area for further inquiry going forward.



For each hotspot, we produced more detailed maps of land cover and forestland loss and analyzed annual time series to display trends.

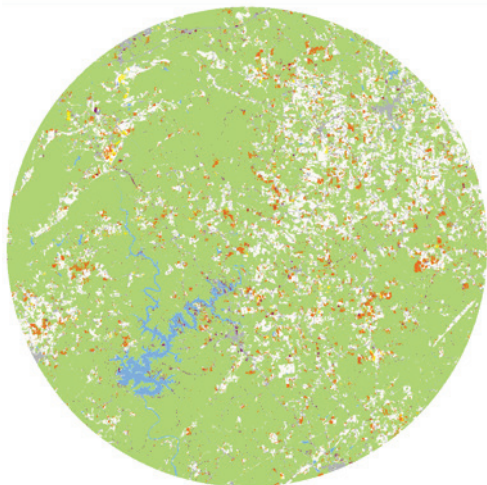
Areas of recent conversion (1990–2017) are often in close proximity to prior development and cropland expansions pre-1990. This means that past forest loss is a good indicator of future forest loss.

Example Hotspot Tracking in Areas of Intensive Conversion for Development



Example Hotspot Tracking in Areas of Intensive Conversion for Cropland Expansion

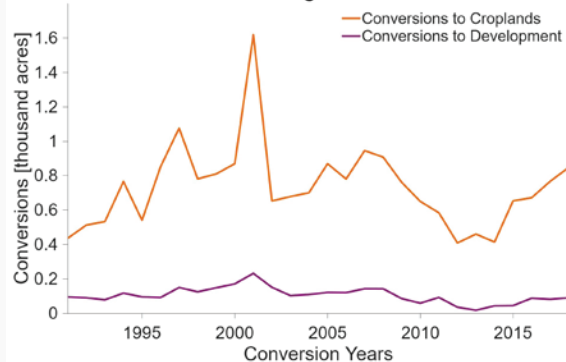
Alabama-Georgia



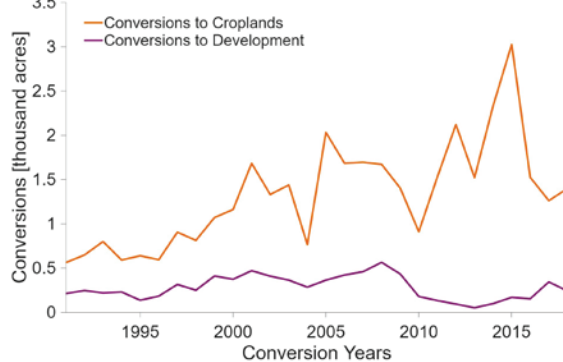
North Carolina-South Carolina



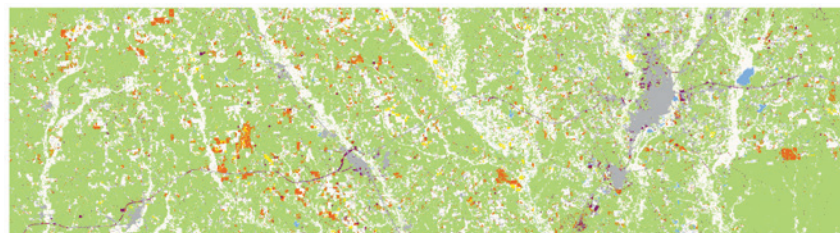
Alabama-Georgia - Conversions



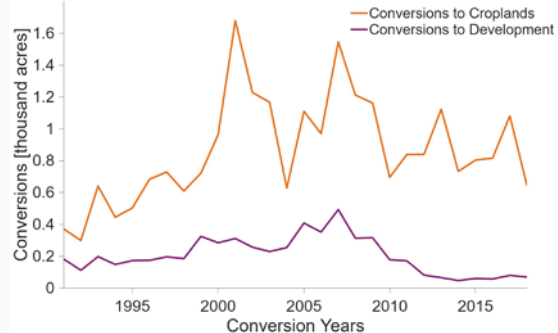
North Carolina-South Carolina - Conversions



Mississippi



Mississippi - Conversions



Carbon and Climate Impact Analysis

National

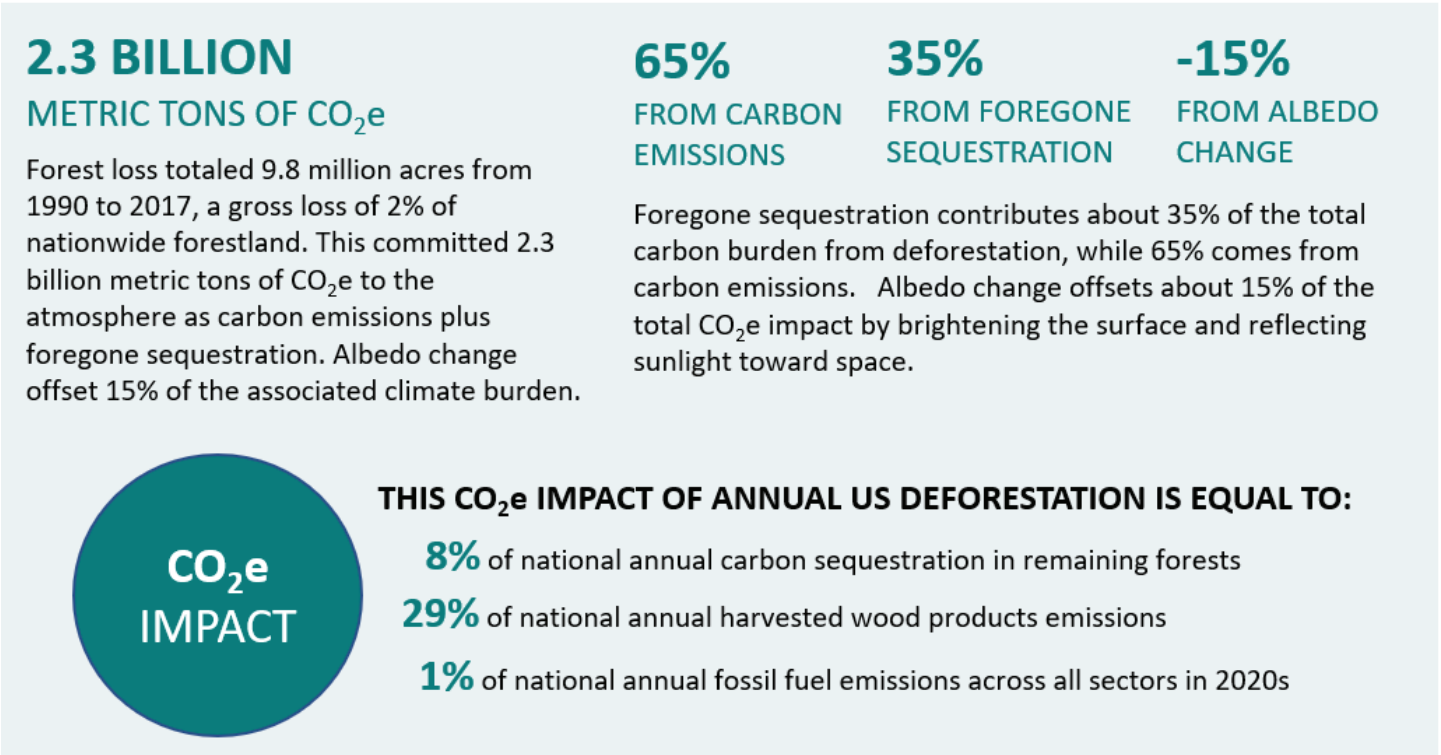
Forest conversion has significant climate implications at the national scale. Between 1990 and 2017, forest loss totaled approximately 9.8 million acres nationwide—representing a gross loss of roughly 2% of U.S. forestland. This resulted in an estimated 2.3 billion metric tons of CO₂e committed to the atmosphere through both direct carbon emissions and the loss of expected future carbon sequestration.

The climate burden associated with forest conversion is driven by multiple factors. Approximately 65% of total CO₂e impacts result from direct carbon emissions, while roughly 35% comes from foregone sequestration. These impacts are partially offset by

albedo change, which reduces the total climate burden by approximately 15% due to an increased amount of sunlight reflected back into space.

The annual climate impact of permanent forest conversion is substantial when compared with other national carbon fluxes. Annual U.S. deforestation is equivalent to approximately 8% of the annual carbon sequestration occurring in remaining U.S. forests, 29% of annual emissions from harvested wood products, or roughly 1% of total annual U.S. fossil fuel emissions across all sectors in the 2020s.

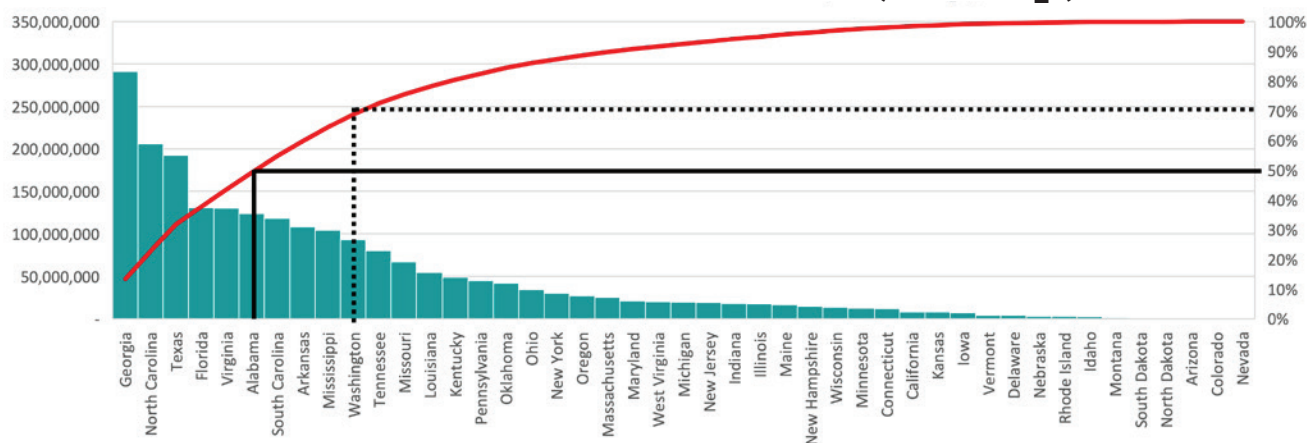
These findings demonstrate that permanent forest conversion represents not only a land-use challenge, but also a meaningful and ongoing climate mitigation opportunity.



State-Level

Half of the CO₂e climate burden is contributed by forest losses in just six states: Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Florida, Virginia, and Alabama. When we add South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Washington, 70% of the CO₂e climate burden is encompassed. State rankings shift when we consider the largest contributions to climate burden because of variations in forest carbon stocks, stock potential, and albedo change with forest conversion. For example, while Washington state ranks 14th for amount of forest loss it ranks 10th for carbon burden due to the high carbon storage of the state’s western forests.

Climate Burden of Forest Loss 1990 to 2017 (tonnes CO₂e)



Opportunities to Advance the U.S. Forest Watch

Tracking System Extensions

Over the coming year, we will be updating the tracking system to 2024 with the latest data and adjusting methods to address a change in data source from LCMAP to the National Land Cover Database (NLCD).

Working with partners at the OSI and The Nature Conservancy, we are building more advanced visualization and information display through USForestMonitor.org, an interactive web interface allowing users to explore patterns in their region of interest.

Early Warning System

We are currently exploring a deforestation early warning system that identifies areas that might be undergoing conversion but for which we have lower-confidence detections.

The idea is to flag areas of probable conversion where we see forest conversion to a developed or cropland class in the most recent years of record.

Additional confidence is expected for areas of forest loss that appear in close proximity to areas with historically high conversion rates.

State-Level Reports

State-level reports can provide a more detailed view of how forest conversion patterns, development pressures, and climate impacts vary within a single state. These briefings can help states, conservation organizations, and policymakers identify priority areas for land protection, climate mitigation, and targeted intervention strategies.

By combining forest conversion, hotspot, and carbon impact analyses, these reports can support state Natural and Working Lands assessments, land-use planning, and conservation investment decisions.

See Appendix C for an example state-level briefing.

Expanding to Assess Loss of Co-Benefits

Collaboration with partners in the Forest Carbon Data Partnership—including The Open Space Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, Land Trust Alliance, and American Forests—promises to expand impact by adding assessment of how forest loss is affecting co-benefits beyond climate services that forests provide, such as clean water, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and recreation.

Initial characterization of some of these co-benefits will be built into visualizations and information delivery with interactive web display available on USForestMonitor.org.

Ongoing Needs

Ongoing support and funding will be required to maintain the U.S. Forest Monitor, expand its new online interface (usforestmonitor.org), publish key findings, and support practitioners utilizing this data for climate and conservation policy and practice. A formal accuracy assessment of the forest conversion mapping remains an important future priority. Such an assessment would help quantify uncertainty associated with missed detections, false detections, and the assignment of forest conversion drivers. Additional discussion of accuracy assessment considerations is provided in Appendix B.



Conclusion

This report demonstrates that permanent forest conversion is occurring at significant scale across the United States, with substantial implications for climate mitigation and the many ecological benefits forests provide. The findings also show that these losses are concentrated in specific regions and hotspots, creating opportunities for more targeted conservation and policy responses.

By providing consistent, high-resolution tracking of persistent forest conversion, the U.S. Forest Loss Monitor establishes a foundation for improved monitoring, planning, and decision-making. Continued updates and expansion of the system will help identify emerging trends, support land protection efforts, and inform state and regional climate strategies.

As pressures on forests continue to grow, sustained monitoring and coordinated action will be essential for ensuring effective policies and conservation interventions.

Appendix

Appendix A. Hotspot Identification Methodology

Hotspots were developed to identify regions experiencing the most spatially concentrated and long-term forest conversion across the United States. Separate hotspot analyses were conducted for conversion to development and/or cropland.

To identify hotspots, we first created a 10 km × 10 km resolution map summarizing forest conversion across the study area. Only grid cells with at least 10% initial forest cover and at least 5% conversion of that initial forest area were retained for analysis.

Clusters of at least eight grid cells meeting these criteria were then identified as candidate hotspot regions. Polygons were fit around these clusters to delineate broader areas experiencing intensive forest loss.

An automated polygon-growing routine was subsequently applied to identify the smallest overall regions of concentrated forest conversion within a threshold maximum distance.

This approach allows hotspot boundaries to reflect concentrated patterns of long-term forest conversion while minimizing the inclusion of surrounding low-conversion areas.

B. Accuracy Assessment Considerations

A formal accuracy assessment of the U.S. Forest Monitor forest conversion mapping remains an important future priority. Such an assessment would help quantify uncertainty associated with missed detections of forest loss, false detections of forest loss, and the assignment of forest conversions to development or cropland.

A comprehensive accuracy assessment effort would require extensive regional-to-national data collection to gather high-quality, independent reference data on the locations and timing of forest conversion events. These data would need to support evaluation at the 30 m × 30 m pixel scale used in the U.S. Forest Monitor system.

Additional accuracy assessment could also help assess areas where classification may be more challenging, including lands with partial tree cover, lands near the margin of being classified as forestland, and land-cover categories such as pasture, shrub/scrub, and barren land that may revert to forest cover.

Such an effort is not currently funded, but future support could enable a more complete assessment of forest loss omission and commission errors and improve confidence in the assignment of forest conversion to development or cropland.

C. Example State-Level Briefing (Pennsylvania)

(See pgs. 21-22 images)

Appendix C.



Pennsylvania



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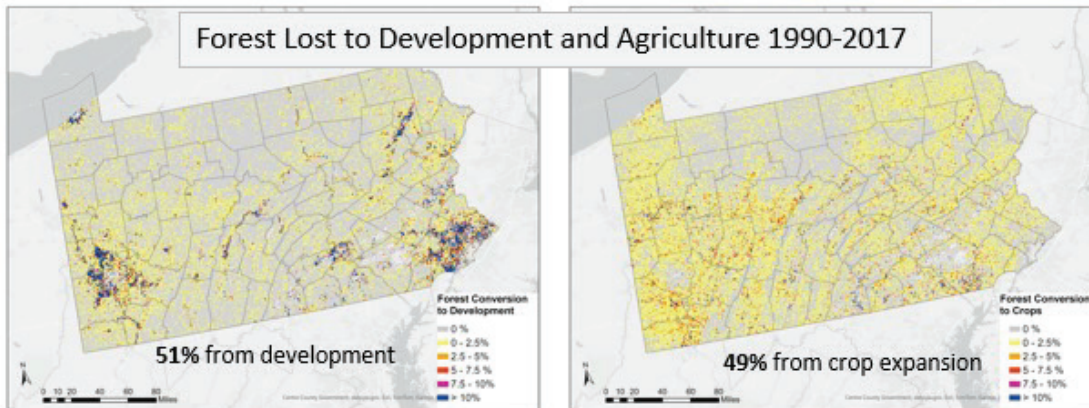
Developed by Dr. Christopher Williams cwilliams@clarku.edu of Clark University for the Open Space Institute (lead funders).

Deforestation (permanent forest loss) is a direct source of carbon emissions, releasing carbon stored in trees and roots into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. It also removes one of the best tools we have for pulling carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (carbon sequestration). Thus, slowing the pace of forest loss (avoiding deforestation) is an opportunity to both reduce and remove carbon emissions in the fight against climate change.

A 2025 study by Clark University scientists mapped deforestation across the country and quantified associated carbon emissions, foregone sequestration, and albedo change CO₂e flux. This info sheet presents state-level findings.



Forest Lost to Development and Agriculture 1990-2017



1.5 MILLION

METRIC TONS OF CO₂e PER YEAR

Forest loss averaged 6,111 acres per year in the 2010s, committing 1.5 million metric tons of CO₂e to the atmosphere as carbon emissions plus foregone sequestration each year. Over a decade, that's a loss of about 0.3% of the 19 million acres of statewide forestland.

79%

**FROM CARBON
EMISSIONS**

21%

**FROM FOREGONE
SEQUESTRATION**

-8%

**FROM ALBEDO
CHANGE**

Foregone sequestration contributes about 21% of the total carbon burden from deforestation, while 79% comes from carbon emissions. Albedo change offsets about 8% of the total CO₂e impact by brightening the surface and reflecting sunlight toward space.



THIS CO₂e IMPACT OF DEFORESTATION IS EQUAL TO:

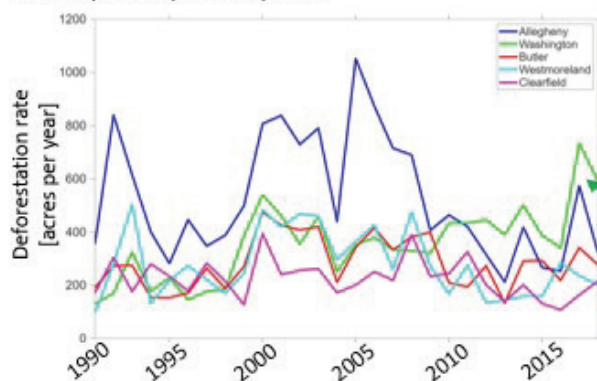
7% of statewide annual carbon sequestration in remaining forests

62% of statewide annual harvested wood products emissions

0.6% of statewide annual fossil fuel emissions across all sectors (2018)

Appendix C.

Annual Deforestation of Top Five Counties Development plus Cropland

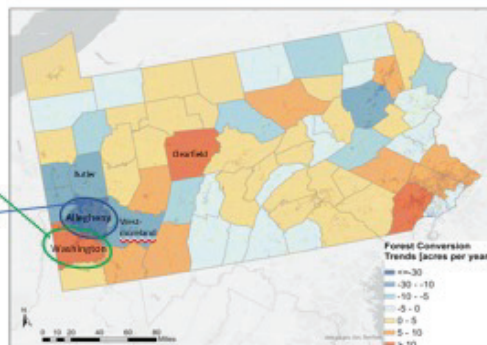


24%

FROM TOP FIVE COUNTIES

A quarter of forest loss occurred within just five counties. Allegheny county lost 7% of its forestland, Washington county lost over 5%, and Butler and Westmoreland lost more than 4%.

Trend in Deforestation Loss rate in (2005-2017) minus (1990-2004)

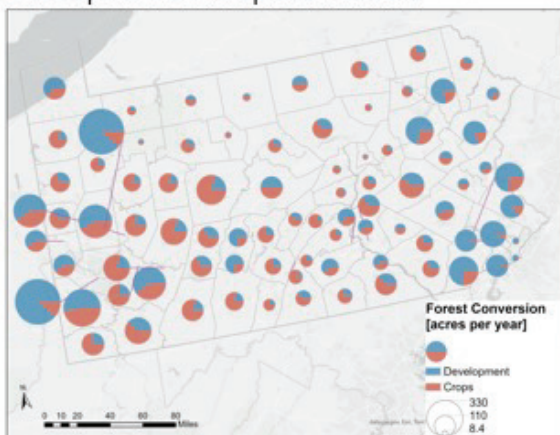


>10%

INCREASE IN LOSS FOR SOME COUNTIES

Deforestation has slowed in some counties but accelerated in others. Allegheny, Butler, and Westmoreland saw declines, while adjacent Washington saw an increase. Clearfield experienced an uptick in cropland.

Drivers of Loss by County Development and Cropland Fractions

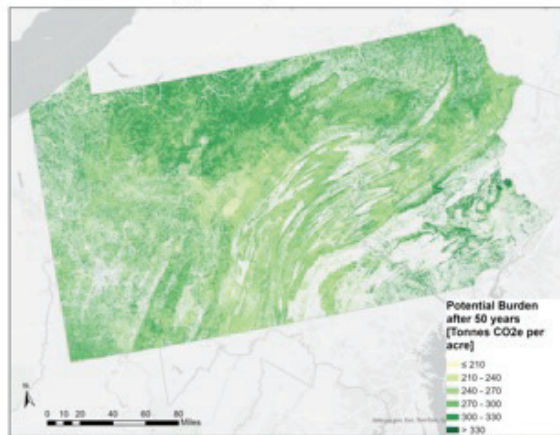


50-50

SPLIT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CROPLAND

Deforestation in the state is evenly split between development and cropland expansion, but there are clear patterns of development being concentrated near urban areas and roads.

CO₂e Impact of Deforestation Emissions + Foregone Sequestration + Albedo Offset



270

METRIC TONS CO₂e PER ACRE

Deforestation of today's forest imposes an average climate burden of 270 million metric tons of CO₂e per acre. That equates to 675 thousand miles of gas-fueled driving.



Report Leadership

Clark University, School of Climate, Environment, and Society

Founded at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, the School of Climate, Environment, and Society advances interdisciplinary research, teaching, and community engagement focused on climate change, sustainability, environmental justice, and resilient futures. Drawing expertise from the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, business, and geospatial sciences, the school prepares students and researchers to develop human-centered solutions to complex global challenges at local, regional, and planetary scales.

The Open Space Institute

The Open Space Institute is a national leader in land conservation and efforts to make parks and other protected land more welcoming for all. Since 1974, OSI has partnered in the protection of more than 2.5 million at-risk and environmentally sensitive acres in the eastern United States. OSI's land protection promotes clean air and water, improves access to recreation, provides wildlife habitat, strengthens communities, and combats the devastating impacts of climate change and extreme weather. By safeguarding lands that store carbon, protect clean water sources, limit the impacts of flooding and other environmental hazards, and strengthen resilience to extreme weather, OSI helps people, communities, and ecosystems adapt to a changing climate while also mitigating the effects of climate change, expanding public access to nature, and preserving wildlife habitat. In recent years, OSI has led the field in the development of interactive tools and resources for land trusts, public agencies, and others that translate climate data and science to target conservation investments for the greatest environmental benefits. Visit OSI at openspaceinstitute.org.

The Forest Carbon Data Partnership

The Forest Carbon Data Partnership is led by the Open Space Institute and supported by the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, Land Trust Alliance, American Forests, and Clark University. The Forest Carbon Data partnership created and maintains the U.S. Forest Monitor (usforestmonitor.org), an initiative and public resource established to advance the science, tools, and collaborative strategies needed to better understand and respond to forest loss across the United States. By combining expertise in climate science, conservation, land protection, and policy, the partnership aims to support more informed decisions that protect forests, strengthen climate resilience, and sustain the ecological benefits forests provide for future generations.

Doris Duke Foundation

The project is funded in part by a Doris Duke Foundation initiative aimed at unlocking forests as an essential climate solution, with a \$1 million lead grant from the Doris Duke Foundation supporting the effort through March 2028, with additional investment from The Great Island Foundation, Jane's Trust Foundation, J.M. Kaplan Fund, van Beuren Charitable Foundation, and individual contributors.