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# Oregon's Forest Facts

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a presentation by



**OREGON FOREST  
RESOURCES INSTITUTE**

# Who is OFRI ?

The Oregon Forest Resources Institute was created by the state legislature in 1991 to improve public understanding of Oregon's forest resources and to encourage environmentally sound forest management



# OFRI programs

K-12 student and teacher programs  
Landowner workshops  
Public education and outreach  
Public Tours  
Speakers bureau presentations  
Rediscovery Forest at  
the Oregon Garden

[www.oregonforests.org](http://www.oregonforests.org)



# What's so great about forests?

- Oxygen
- Wildlife habitat
- Recreation
- Air filtration
- Aesthetics
- Social needs
- Wood products

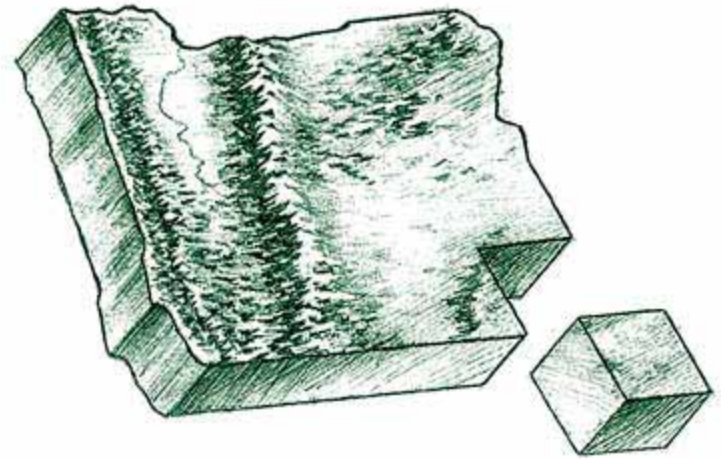


# How much forest is out there?

Oregon has 28 million acres of forestland, or roughly 45% of its total area.

Are we losing forestland?

- Less than 8% of our forestland has been converted to non-forest uses (cities, roads, power lines).

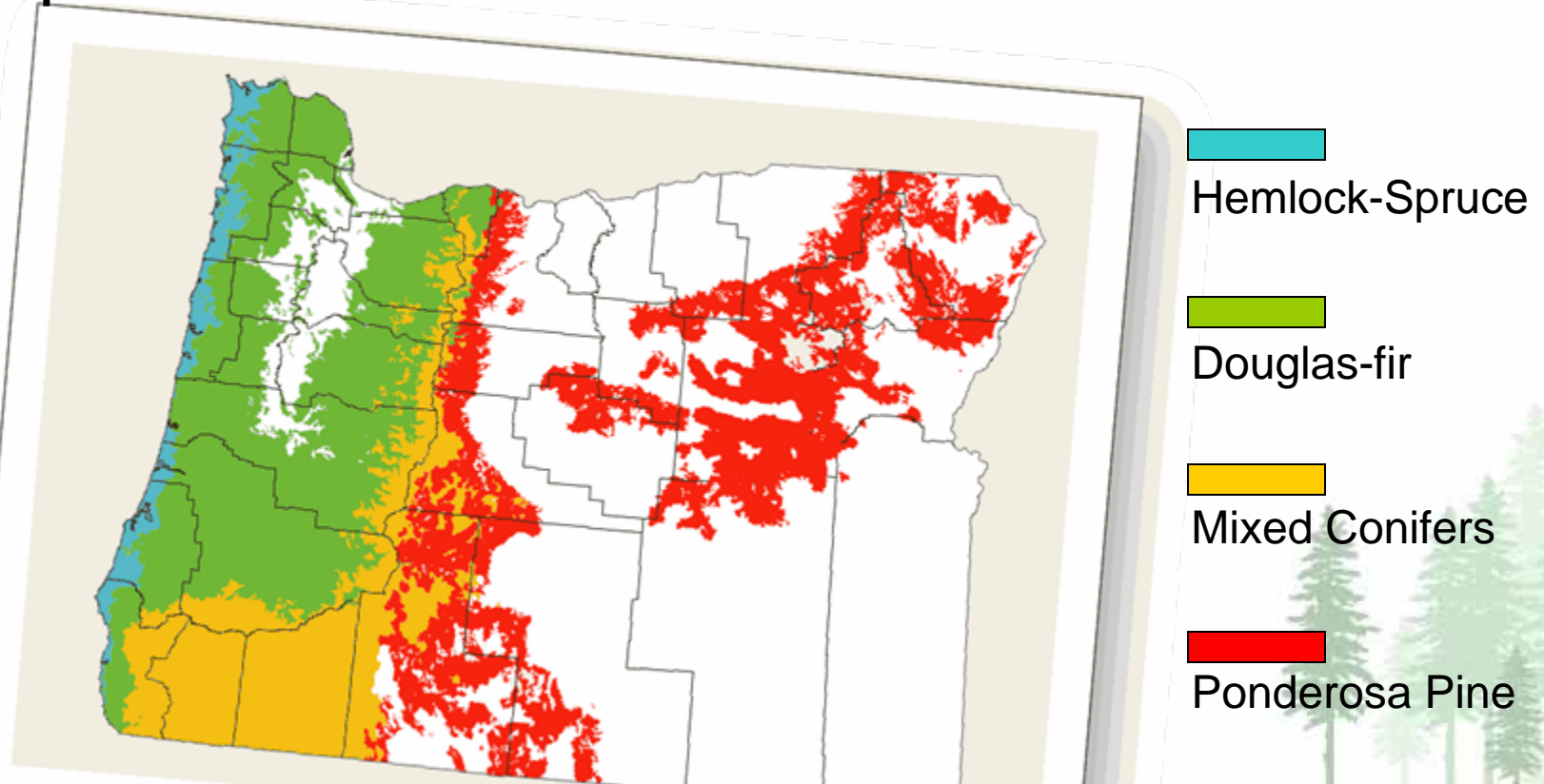


# What types of forest ?

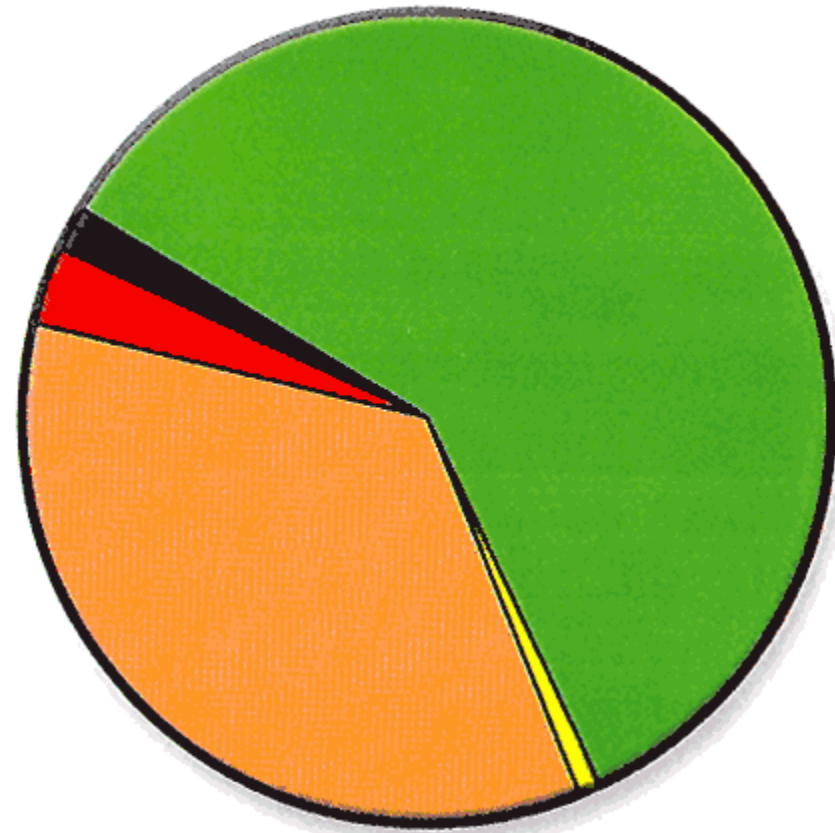
West of the Cascades = Douglas-fir dominates

East of the Cascades = Pine dominates

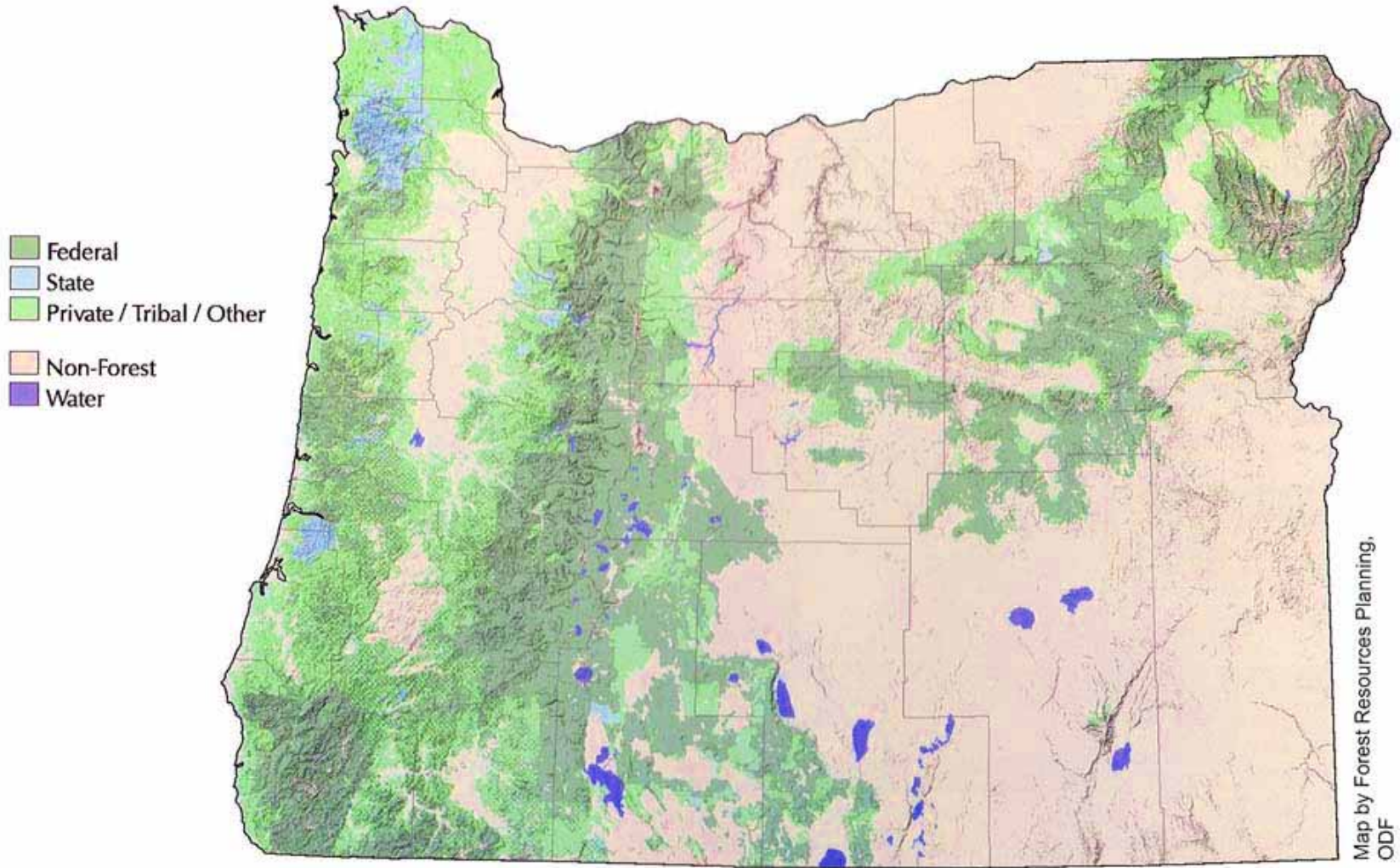
Species variation exists across the state



# Who owns the forest ?



# Forest ownership map



Map by Forest Resources Planning,  
ODF

# What is forest management ?

Forest management is a process of planning, planting, growing, thinning and harvesting forest stands to achieve the diverse objectives of landowners and society.



# What kind of management is there?



## **Reserve**

Older habitat and limited harvest objectives



## **Multi-resource**

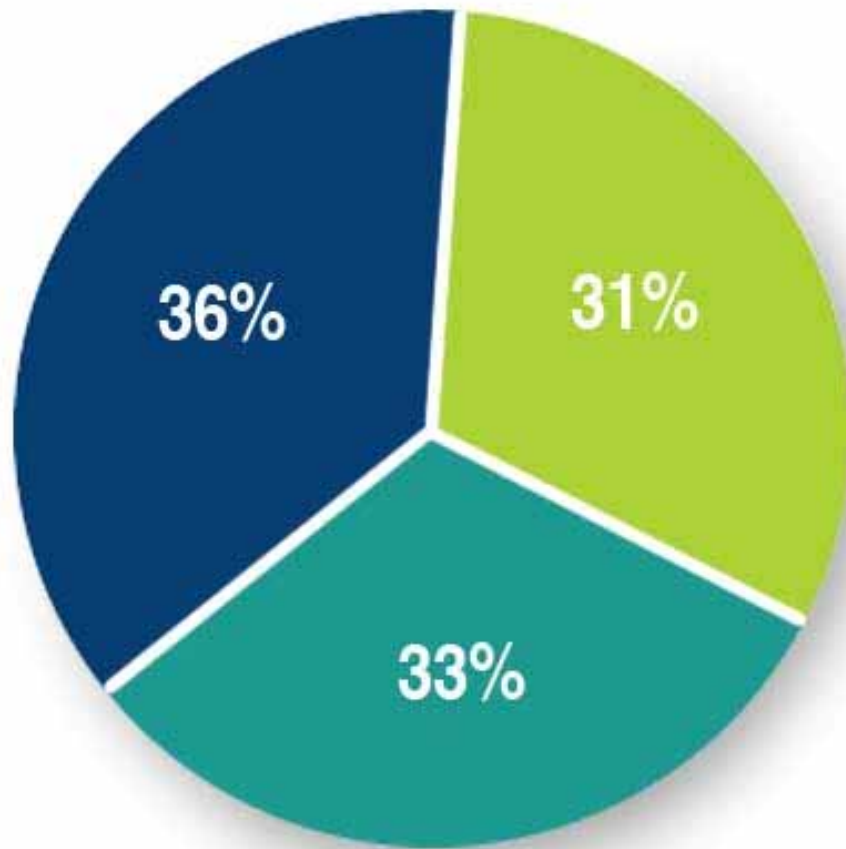
Environmental, social and commercial harvest objectives



## **Wood production**

Actively managed for wood production

# Oregon's forest management



## **Reserve**

Older habitat, wilderness and aesthetics

## **Multi-Resource**

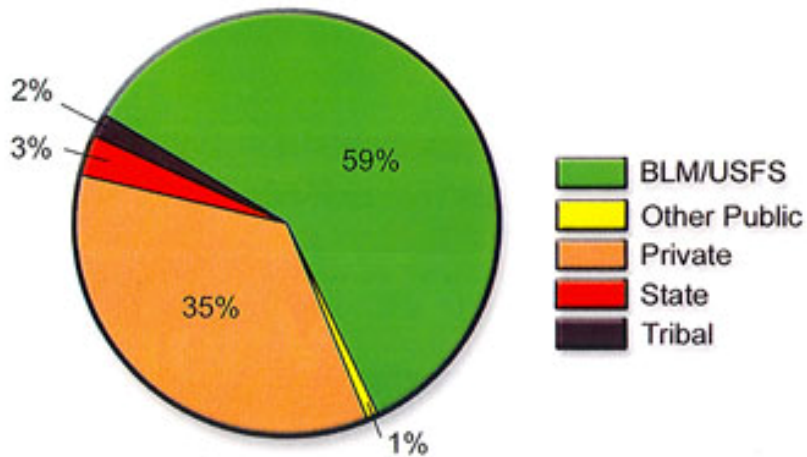
Timber production is allowed. Land is managed for other resources as well

## **Wood Production**

Actively managed for wood production

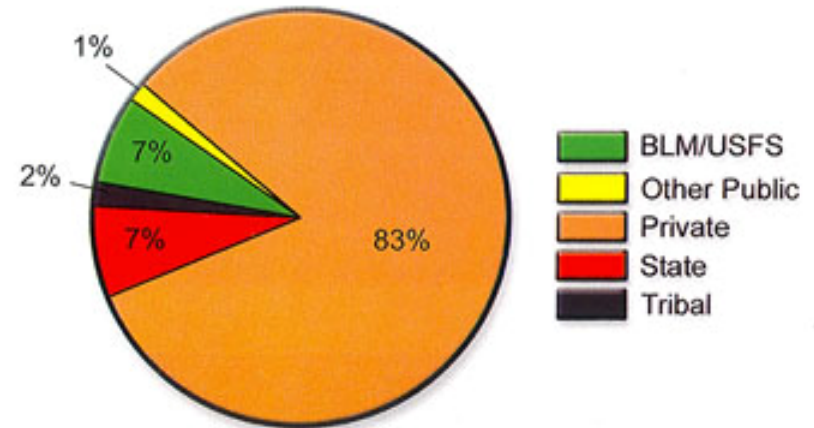
# Where do we get our wood?

## Forest Land Ownership\*



\*Percent of all forestland in Oregon

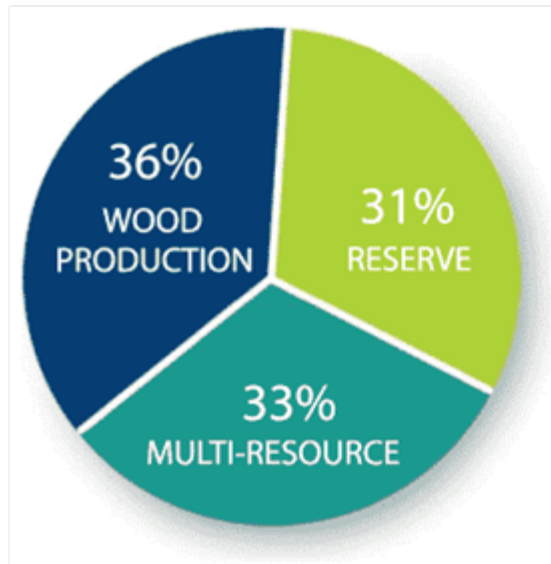
## Harvest By Ownership (2003)\*



\*Percent of all timber harvested in 2003

# Is management diversity important?

All three types of forestland management strategies make a major contribution to the environmental, economic and social values of all Oregonians.



***It takes all three to create long-term forest sustainability***

# Forests economics: Employment

A wide variety of professionals work in Oregon's forests.....

- Foresters
- Scientists
- GIS/GPS
- Loggers
- Planners
- Forestry Educators
- Mill Workers

Over 85,000 direct living-wage jobs



# Forests economics: Financial

\$2.8 billion contribution annually

Oregon = U.S. softwood lumber leader



# Protecting our forests

Thanks to the **Oregon Forest Practices Act** of 1971, Oregon became the first state to create a comprehensive set of laws governing the practice of forestry.

Standards of practice and protection were set for all forestland owners -- including large, commercial landowners as well as family forest owners.

# The Oregon Forest Practices Act

## 1. Requires prompt reforestation after harvest



- Every year, between 40-50 million trees are replanted
- Landowners have 12 months to begin replanting
- Reforestation compliance now near 100%

# The Oregon Forest Practices Act

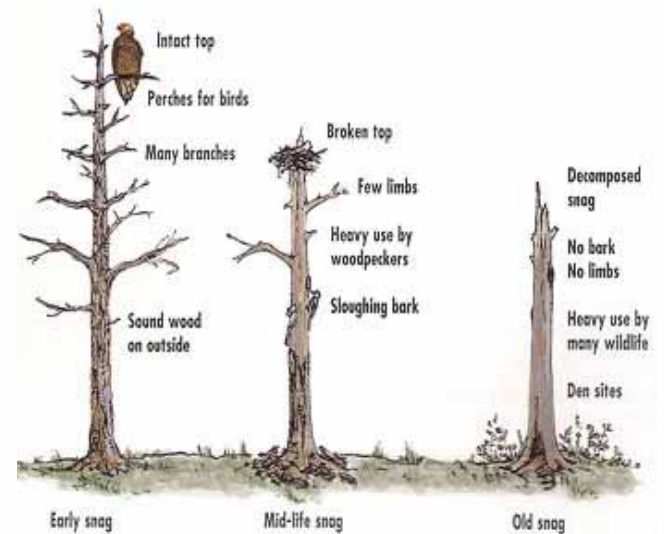
## 2. Protects water resources



- Harvest is restricted within a certain distance from stream sides to ensure proper habitat and stream health
- Applications of herbicides and fertilizer is restricted near streams

# The Oregon Forest Practices Act

## 3. Protects wildlife habitat



- Requires leaving a certain number of green trees, snags and logs per acre of harvest
- Harvest is restricted in areas of sensitive bird nesting, roosting or watering sites.
- Landowners must be responsive to the nesting and feeding needs of a wide variety of wildlife

# Today's forest issues

## *Forestry Values and Beliefs: Benchmark Survey of Oregonians*

**June 2006**

Survey Research Conducted by:  
**Davis, Hibbitts M<sup>c</sup>Caig, Inc.**



# Today's forest issues

1. Water quality
2. Fish and wildlife habitat
3. Losing forestland to development
4. Fire
5. Soil erosion



# Other news from the forest

## Woody biomass

- Improve forest health, fire resiliency and wildlife habitat
- Create renewable energy alternatives  
Revitalize rural economies

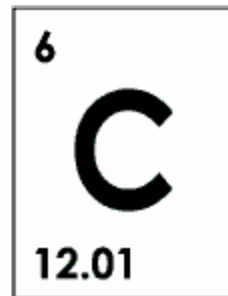


# Other news from the forest

## Carbon and climate change

Forests can help reduce CO<sub>2</sub> by

- Preventing fire
- Keeping forestlands in forests
- Planting new forests
- Using wood products rather than steel or concrete



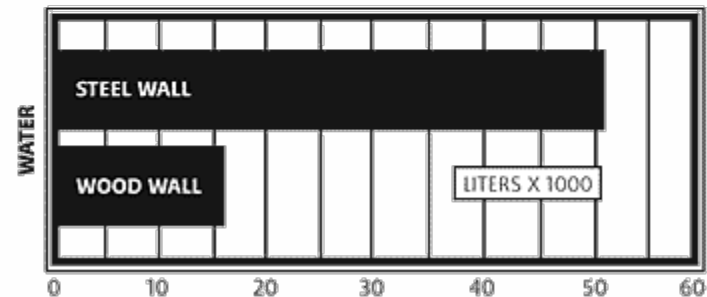
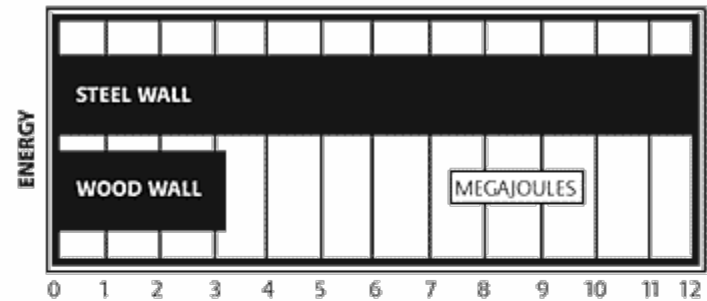
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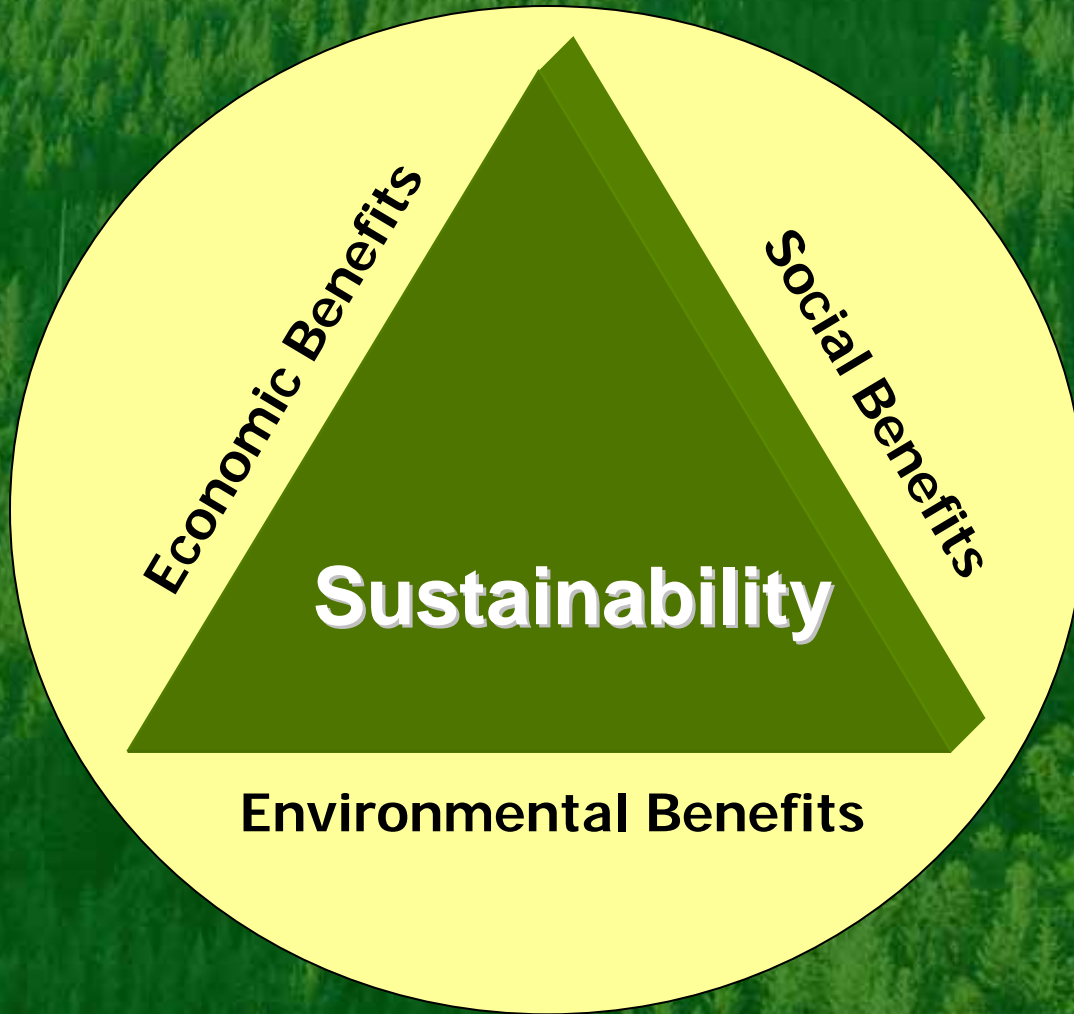
## Forest products in a “green” economy

Renewable  
and recyclable

Less energy and  
water to produce  
than steel & cement

Provide habitat and protect water quality





# Thank You!

Any questions?

