



## Forest Agencies in Transition

Global Issues in Governance  
MegaFlorestais  
Grey Towers  
October 2011



# Forest Agencies - History

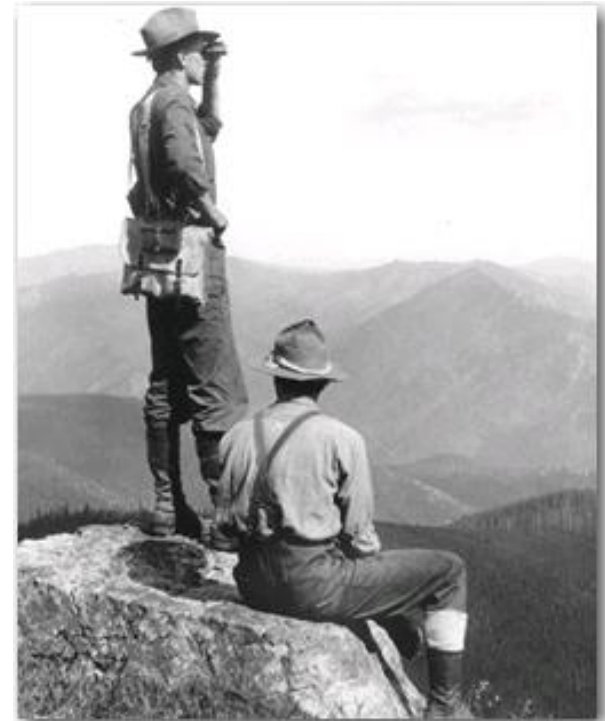
## Created a long time ago:

3 Categories (roughly):

1. European roots (e.g. Russia (1800s); US (1900));
2. Models extended to “colonies”, Asia, Africa, LA;
3. Created anew post revolution (e.g. China, Mexico)

## Lots has changed since then:

1. The purpose of forests— what is expected of agencies
2. Scientific/knowledge basis for forestry
3. Land ownership, political basis for forestry and forest agencies, role of the state

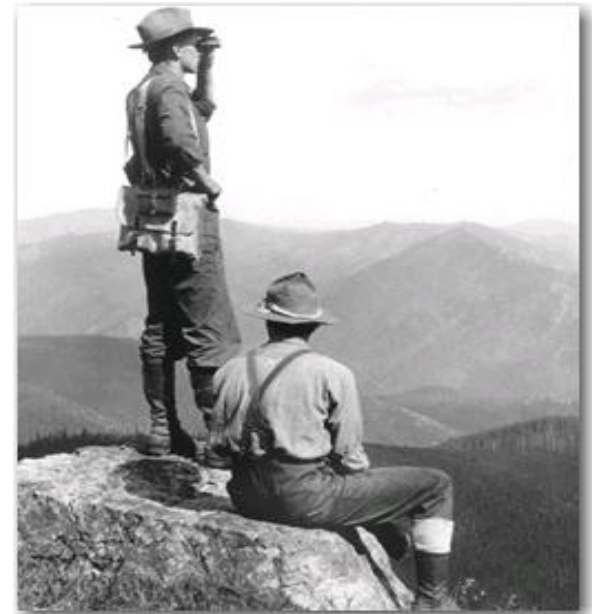


**Lots more will  
change in  
the future...**

# The Purpose of Forests, What is Expected of Forest Agencies

## From:

- Control of territory and resources for the state;
- Conservation/protection – water, wildlife - hunting
- Timber, (avoiding “timber famine”)
- Industrialized production for economic growth of the state



## To:

- Non-timber forest products, bioenergy, peopless recreation etc (often more important than timber)
- “Ecosystem services/management”
- More local “participation”
- Climate change mitigation (e.g. REDD)
- Local jobs, enterprises, development



# Scientific Basis has Changed

## From:

- “professional, modern, science”;
- “we”, foresters, “know it all”

## To:

- Multiple sources, bases of knowledge
- “we all” know
- “knowledge is power”



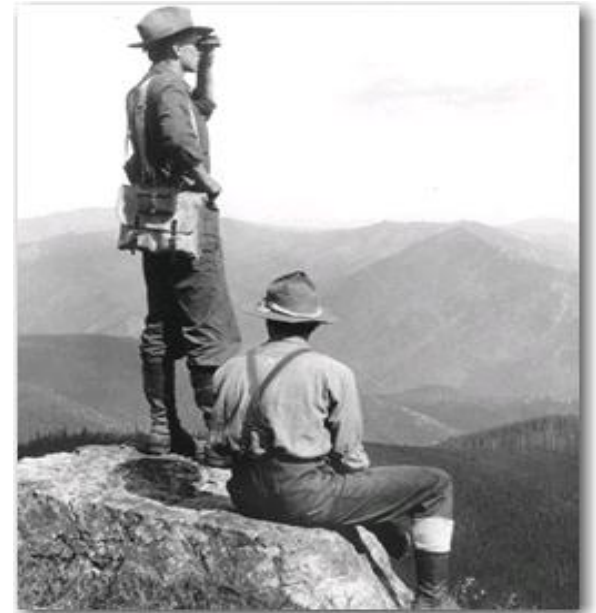
# Land, Political Basis Has Changed

## From:

- Forest owned by the state/public, centralized
- (support to private forests an offshoot)

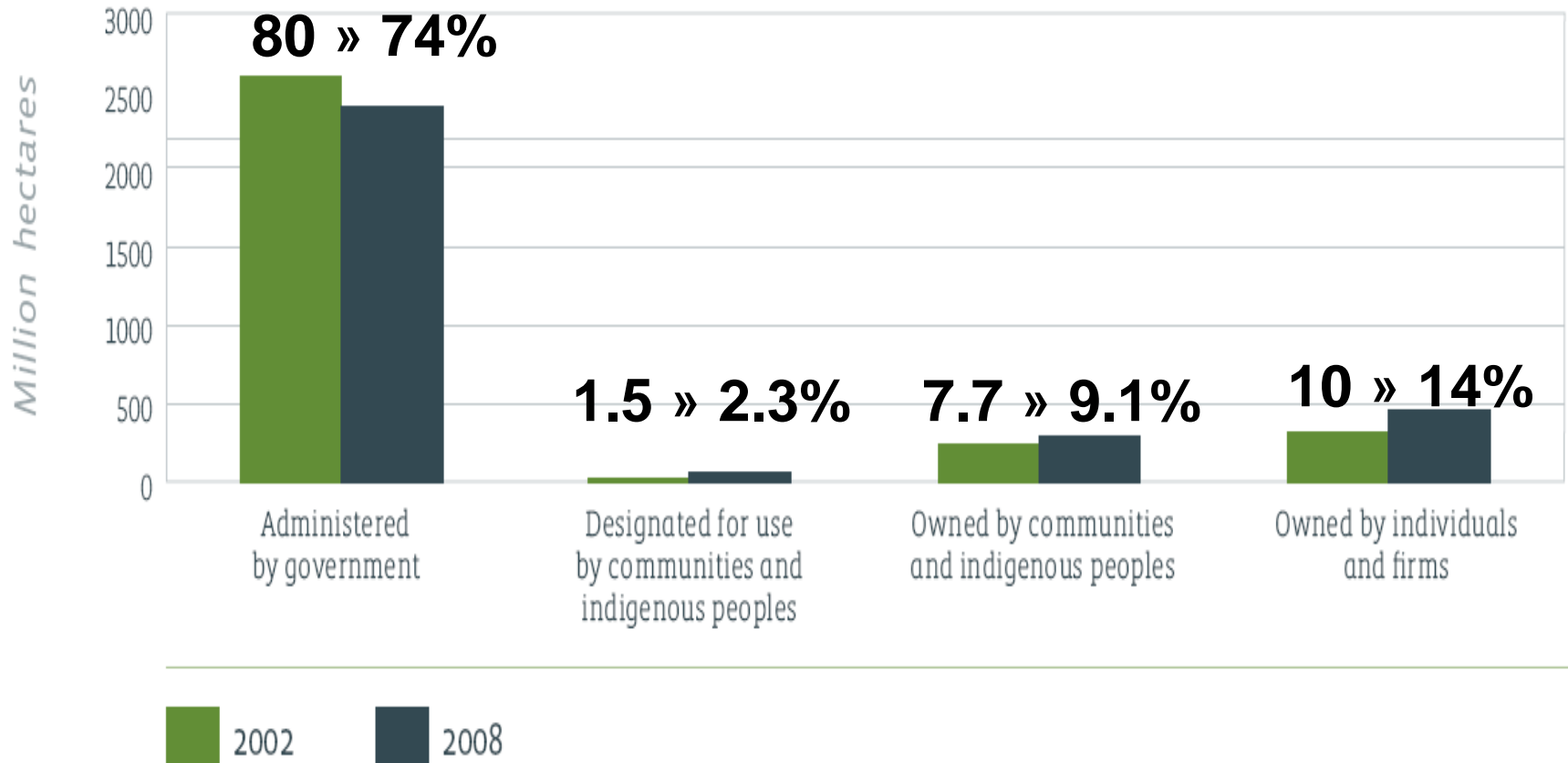
## To:

- Forest owned by many different entities
- Recognition of land rights, “territories of Indigenous Peoples”; “decentralized” – to states, households
- Democratization: citizen voice/choice, transparency, accountability
- Agency as reflexive, supporter of local



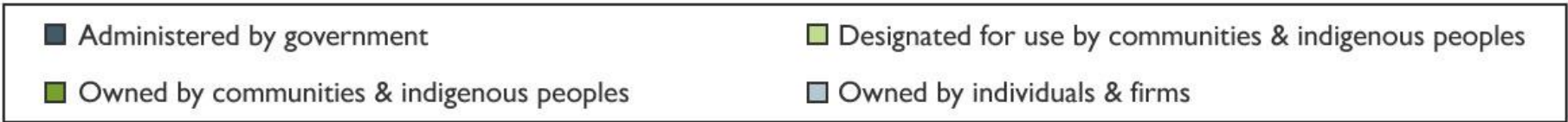
# Status of Forest Land Rights – State Dominated but Changing

FOREST TENURE DISTRIBUTION BY TENURE CATEGORY IN 25 OF THE 30 MOST-FORESTED COUNTRIES, 2002–2008

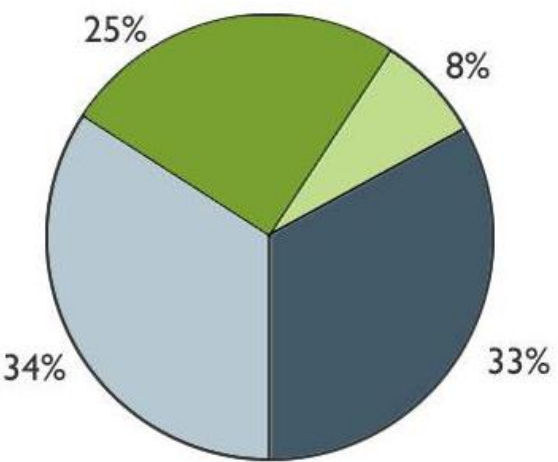


Source: Sunderlin, W., J.Hatcher and M. Liddle. 2008. *From Exclusion to Ownership?: Challenges and Opportunities in Advancing Forest Tenure Reform*. Washington D.C.: Rights and Resources Initiative.

# Rights by Region – Asia and Africa Behind

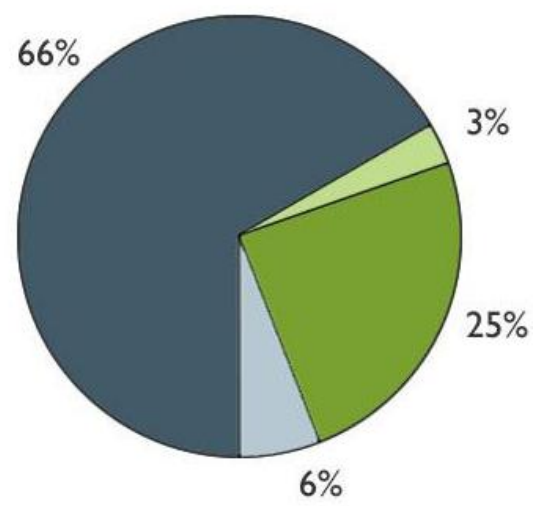


**Fig. 1: Latin America**



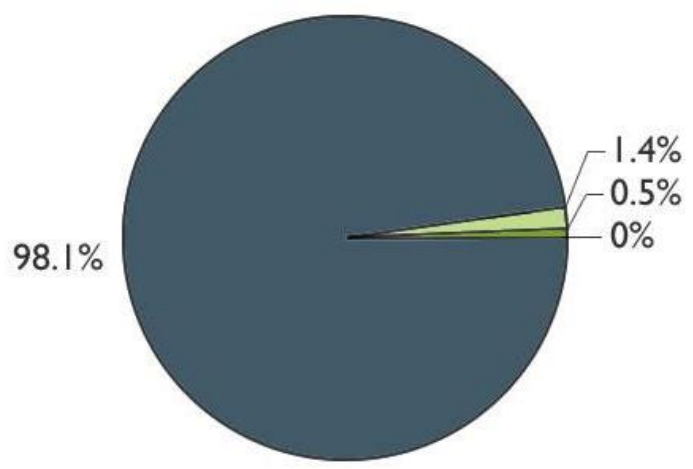
(Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia & Venezuela; accounts for 78% of Latin American forests.)

**Fig. 2: Asia**



(China, Australia, Indonesia, India, Myanmar, PNG & Japan; accounts for 78% of Asian forests.)

**Fig. 3: Africa**



(DRC, Sudan, Angola, Zambia, Tanzania, CAR, Congo, Gabon & Cameroon; accounts for 67% of African forests.)

# Implications for Agencies

1<sup>st</sup> – change in forest purpose, relatively easy to react to

2<sup>nd</sup> – change in forest science/knowledge, harder, but “logical”, can adapt

3<sup>rd</sup> – land ownership and democratization –

transformative, much, much more challenging

- Can be fundamentally disempowering to public agencies



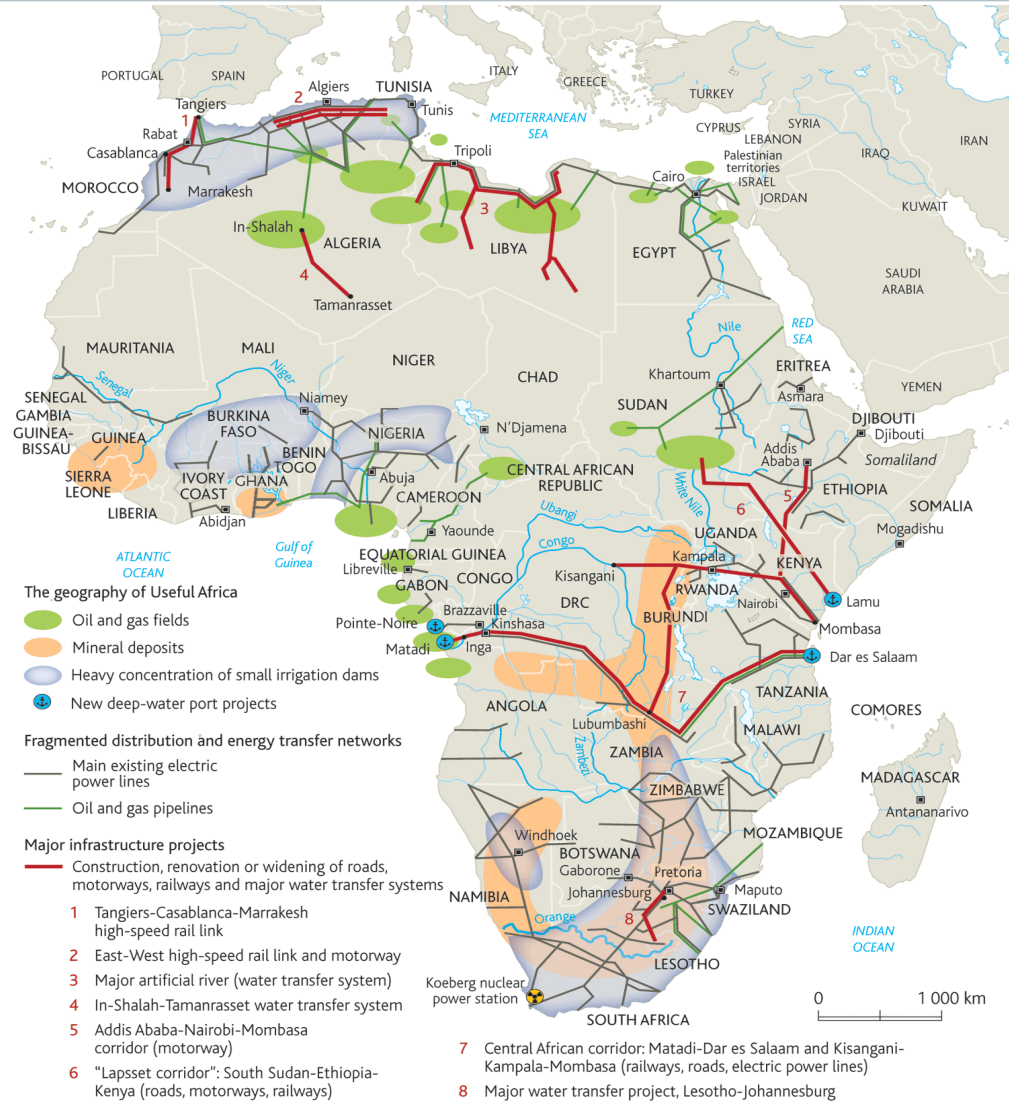
# Lots More Change in the Future

- population growth – 9 billion?
- Food insecurity and need to double agricultural production by 2050?
- booming demand for bioenergy, mining
- increased rural population, especially youth
- increased risk of violent conflict
- disasters, disruptions with climate change
- Changes in trade, international institutions with the growing importance of the “middle income” countries – Brazil, China, India, Russia

# Example: Capital Investments in Africa

From now to 2030, a projected 25 trillion dollars will be invested in infrastructure in developing countries. (Cohen and Steers 2009)

*“There will be hundreds of billions of dollars of infrastructure investment over the next decade or so in Africa, in ports, rail, roads, mining, hydroelectric, to exploit the resources and bring them to market.” (IFC, May 2011)*



# Example: Oil/Gas on Indigenous Territories, Peru



# Implications for Forest Agencies?

So:

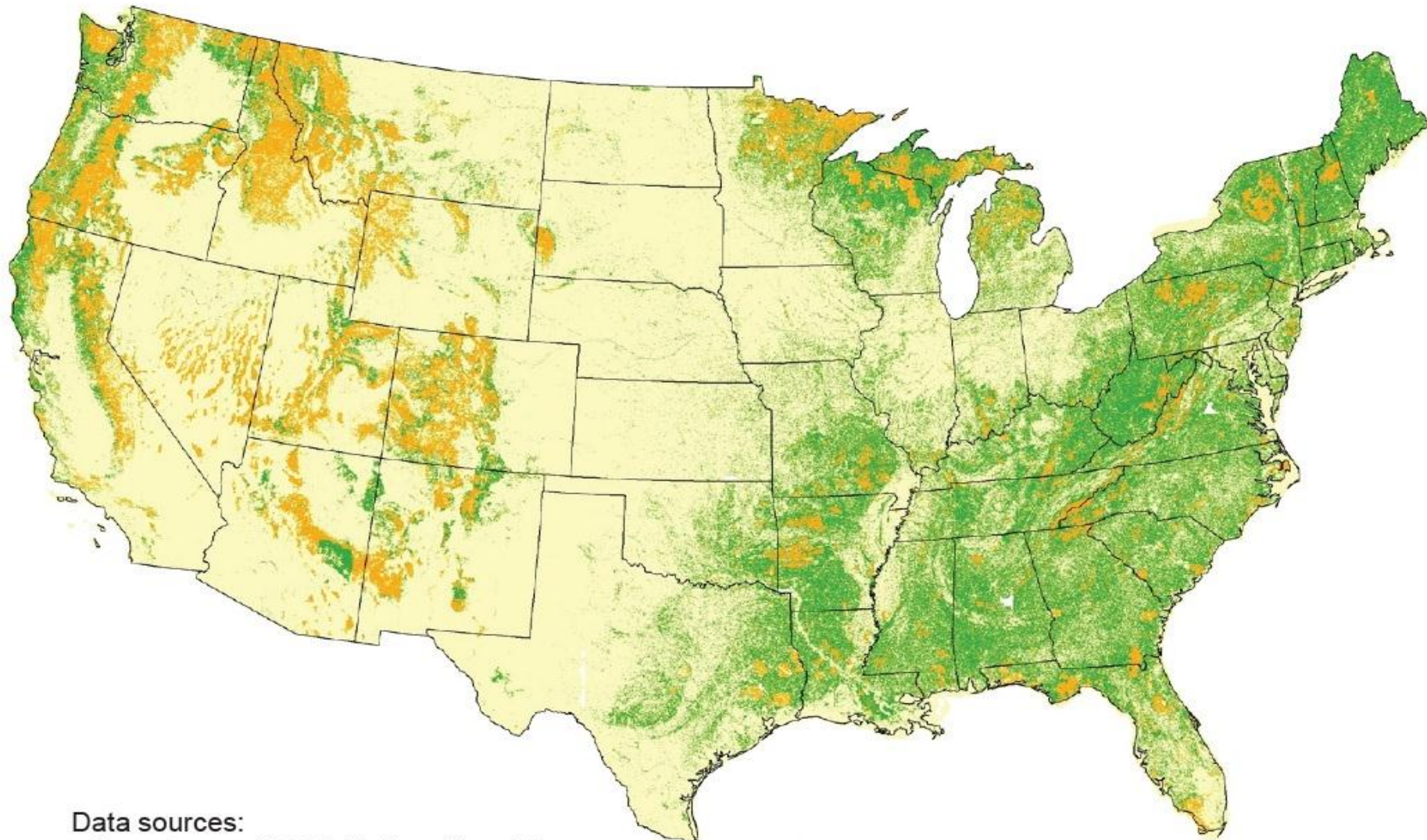
1. Pressure on forest areas from 4 sides – agriculture, energy, mining and infrastructure
2. Much greater expectations and power of local people
3. Much more demand for local jobs
4. Innovation, reinvention will be required to remain socially, politically relevant, and effective promoters of forests

***How will forest agencies manage this change?***

***How will forest agencies, and their roles, be  
different in the future?***

# Forest Ownership in the Coterminous United States, 2006

■ Private forest land   ■ Public forest land   ■ Nonforest



## Data sources:

Forest area - USGS National Land Cover Database 2001  
Ownership - CBI Protected Areas Database, Version 4.0  
State and countries - ESRI Data & Maps 2006

## Produced by:

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