

## Conversations on the Forest

A series of fireside chats delving deeply into facts and futures of the forests of Lane County and the Pacific Northwest.

The forest is central to our regional identity, ecology, and economy. Competing public and private interests have driven growth, decline, and political division for decades. In a series of five discussions, Lane County Commissioner [Rob Handy](#), public interest forester Roy Keene, and ArchitectureWeek editor-in-chief [Kevin Matthews](#) will explore the past, present, and future of our forests with a depth and openness rarely seen.

Who owns Lane County's forests, and how have they changed over time? How does forest management, on both public and private land, benefit and impact Lane County residents? Can we sustain the forest, and all its many benefits?

First Mondays • 6:00-7:30pm — February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4

Cozmic Pizza, 199 W. 8th Ave. in Eugene

For more information: <http://www.conversationsontheforest.org>

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### Series Topics

[Forest Facts](#) • [Forest Economics](#) • [Public Goods and Ecology](#) • [Rural Communities](#) • [Forest Futures](#)

### Facts about Lane County, Oregon

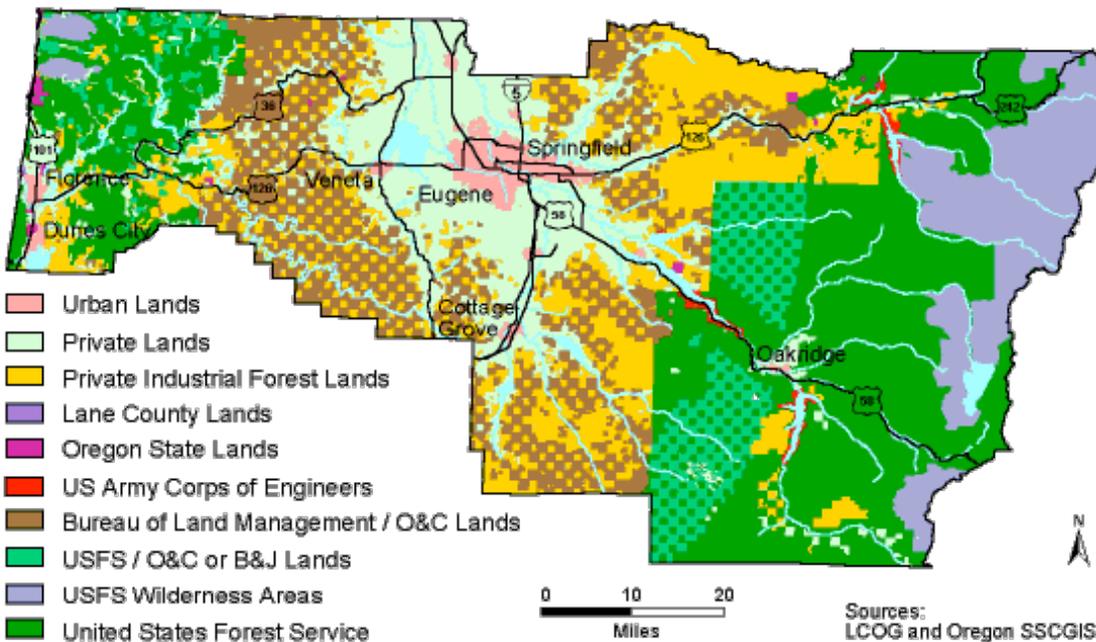
Total Area = 3,022,080 acres (4,722 sq mi)

Land = 2,913,920 acres (4,553 sq mi)

Water = 107,520 acres (168 sq mi) = 3.55% of total area

Official total population in 2010 = 351,715

## LAND OWNERSHIP



### Lane County Land Ownership

Total publicly owned land = 58% = 1,752,819 acres

Total privately owned land

= 32% = 1,269,261 acres

Privately owned industrial timberland

= 20% = 597,600 acres

U.S. Forest Service = 48% = 1,450,598 acres (parts of the Willamette and Umpqua National Forests)

U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), State of Oregon, Lane County and other public entities

= ~10% of total area

= about 300,00 acres

*Lane County, Oregon*

M. Forest, 1999; T. Stopa and C. Grey 1998

- Privately owned industrial timberland, at 597,600 acres is about twice the area of non-Forest Service public land — about twice the area of O&C forest.
- Total forest area, including all age classes is approximately 90% = 2,719,872 acres

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

# Conversations on the Forest

## Overview of Economic Factors

- Public forest revenue to county (BLM/USFS)
- Private forest revenue to county\*
- Log exports\*
- Jobs in Lane County - logging jobs, mill jobs, mechanization and automation
- Exhaustion of standing timber
- Exhaustion of natural capital
- Carbon storage

## Lane County Forest Taxes

Comparison	Homeowner	Small Timber	Large Timber
Land	Tax on value (~RMV)	Tax on ~20% of value	Tax on ~20% of value
Improvements	House Tax on limited RMV	Standing timber No tax (deferred)	Standing timber No tax (exempted)
Transfer of Property	Sell the house Federal capital gain tax	Cut & sell the timber Small harvest tax	Cut & sell the timber No tax

## Timber Supply

In 2010 Lane County harvested 30% more timber from all lands than 2009. (Public forest harvest ~ constant.)

- Jobs and revenue decreased slightly. Our prosperity has not improved.

We estimate over a billion feet of logs exported from Oregon in 2011.

"We can't log our way to prosperity" - Pete Sorenson

