<u>Wisconsin and Pennsylvania</u> Forestland Owner Offspring Study Results for 2007-2008

What the Next Generation of Landowners Think

Presented by: Catherine M. Mater Senior Fellow — The Pinchot Institute President — Mater Ltd. Corvallis, OR Tel: 541-753-7335 Fx: 541-752-2952 E-mail: <u>catherine@mater.com</u> <u>www.pinchot.org</u>; <u>www.mater.com</u>

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"Drill-down" offspring interviews (n=260 per state)

Pennsylvania and Wisconsin:

- ✓ 260 offspring per state.
- Analyses now completed for both states.
- ✓ Results posted on the Pinchot and State websites.

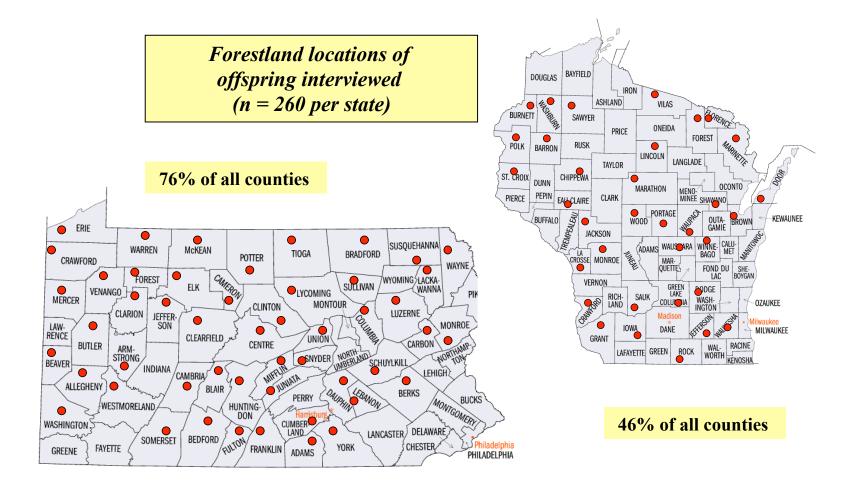
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- Over *500 landowners* in each state initially contacted to ascertain whether they had children
- <u>For PA</u> 40% of landowners with children *declined* to allow their offspring to be interviewed.
- <u>For WI</u> only *10%* of landowners with children *declined* to allow their offspring to be interviewed.

Protocol used

• Landowner contacted;

Permission obtained from NIPF parents to interview their offspring;

- *Offspring contacted* to set up interview time;
- Telephone *interviews conducted* with offspring.

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Five key categories:

- > <u>**Demographics</u>**: typical demographic questions</u>
- Affiliations: questions regarding memberships and organization affiliations for both offspring and parents
- Perceptions: questions regarding offspring perceptions on why the family owns forestland; what's happening around the family forestland; what the parents consider the most valuable characteristics of owning the forests.
- Forest management: questions regarding offspring involvement in the management of the family forests; offspring views on management of the forests; offspring awareness of programs to assist forestland owners, etc.
- Decision-making: questions regarding what the offspring think will happen to the family forests in the future and what role they think they will play, if any.

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Mixture of questions:

- ✓ required *yes/no*
- ✓ were *open-ended*, with responses then grouped
- ✓ required *ranking* (1 to 5) of specific choices
- ✓ allowed for *multiple answers*

Survey analysis included:

- ✓ <u>Gender analysis</u> (do males and females think differently?)
- ✓ <u>Age analysis</u>, and ... for the first time
- ✓ <u>Sibling analysis</u> . . . where Shakespeare and forestry unite

(double, double, toil, and trouble!)

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Study also includes new segments for analysis:

- *Larger (>100 acres) vs smaller* acreage ownership
- Lands were originally *inherited vs purchased*
- Offspring *raised (or not) on family forestland*
- Family lands are (are not) in state's *forestry program*
- Offspring are (are not) <u>members</u> of environmental/forestry organizations

Let's see what the kids said . . .

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Demographics: <u>Pennsylvania</u> Offspring Study

| <u>Gender</u> : | Males = 50% Females = 50% | <u>Acres represented</u> : | 10-49 acres = 20% 50-99 acres = 23% 100-499 acres = 46% |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| | <20 yrs = 7% (19) | <u># of years</u> | 500-1000 = 7% 10-30 years |
| <u>Age</u> : | 20-40 yrs = 53% (138) 41-60 yrs = 38% (100) 60+yrs = 1% (3) | <u>forestland owned</u> : | = 28% 31-50 years = 32% |

= 32%

50+ years = 34%

<u># of families where multiple siblings interviewed:</u> 72 families

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Demographics: <u>Wisconsin</u> Offspring Study

| | Males $= 59\%$ | 4 | 10-49 acres | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------|
| <u>Gender</u> : | Females = 41 % | <u>Acres represented:</u> | 50-99 acres | = 29% |
| | remaies – 41 70 | | 100-499 acre | s = 31% |

| <u> 4ge</u> : | 20-40 yrs = 50% | <u># of years forestland</u> | 10-30 years |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>186</u> . | 41-60 yrs | owned: | = 32% |
| | = 41% | | 31-50 years |
| | | | = 28% |

50+ years = 33% 87 families

<u># of families where multiple siblings interviewed</u>: 87 fam

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Offspring line-up ...

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- *professionals* (vs blue collar workers).
- earn more than <u>\$50,000 per year</u>.
- were *not* raised on family forestland.
- live *out-of-state* or *not near* the family forestland.
- *won't* live on the family forests in the future.

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|-----------|--------------------------|
| | CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER. |

PA

58%

69%

60%

73%

48%

WI

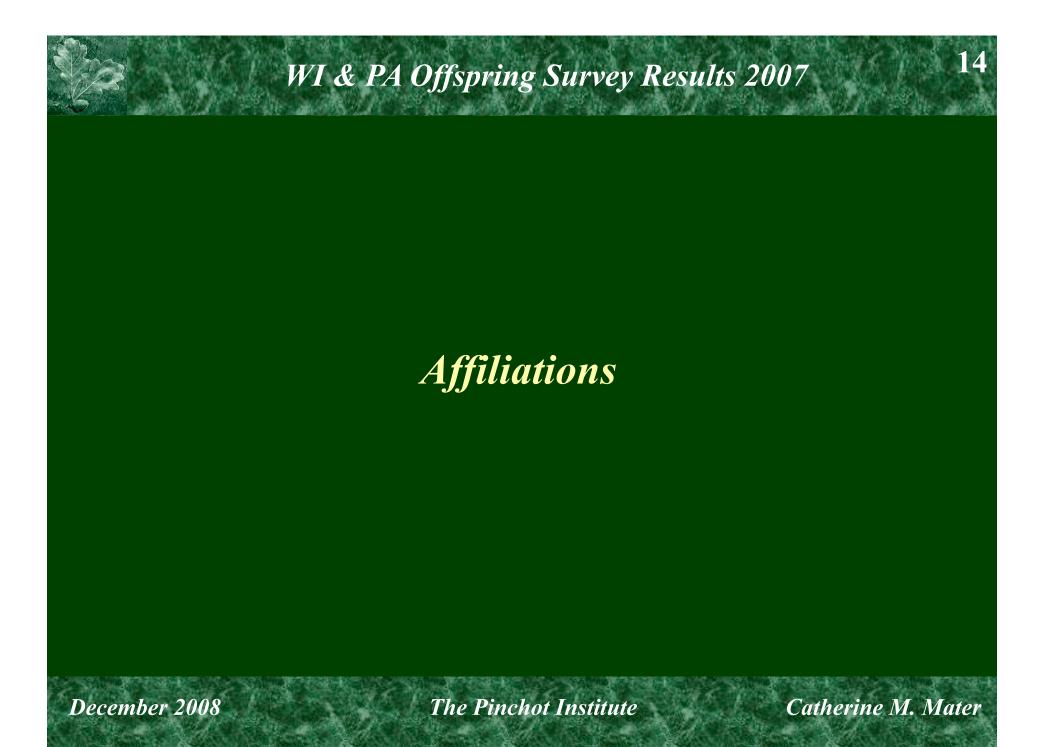
43%

65%

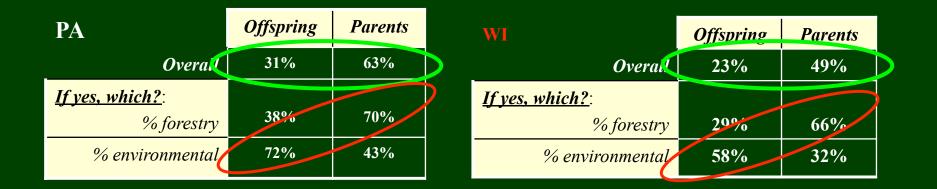
66%

76%

66%



Are offspring and their parents <u>members</u> of <u>forestry and/or environmental</u> organizations?



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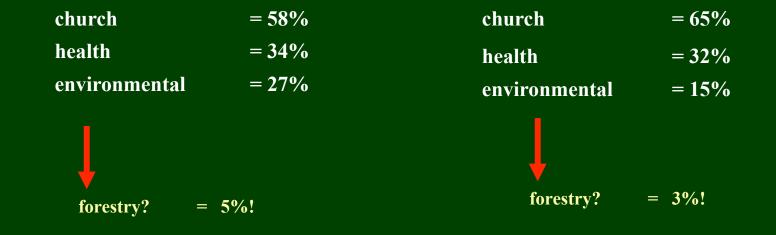
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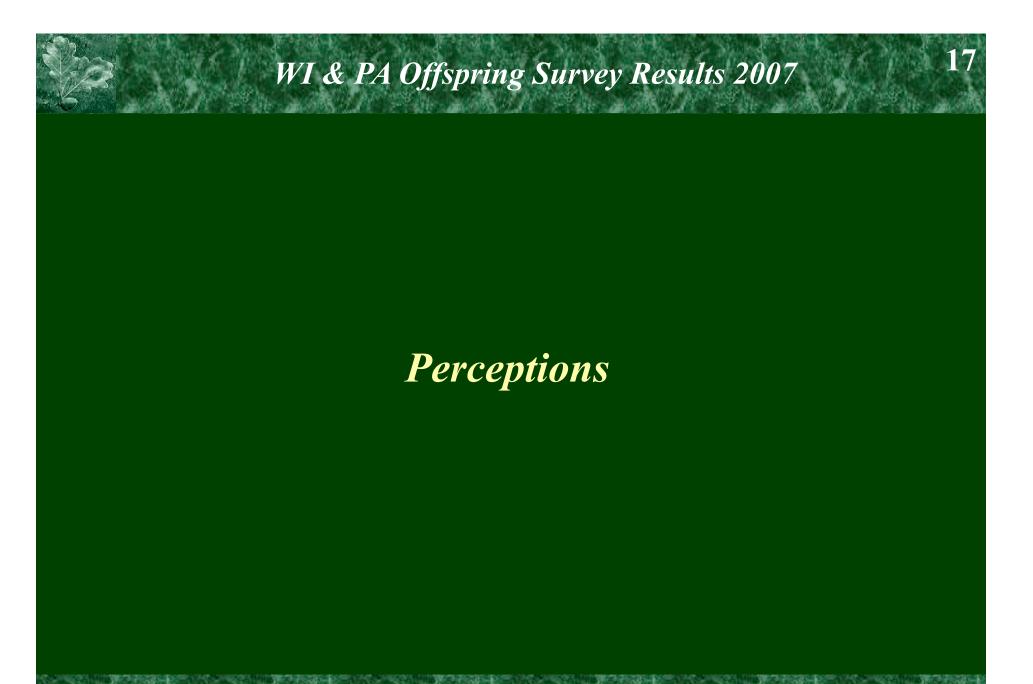
Who do offspring *donate money to annually* (ie what's really important to them)?

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WI - 74% of offspring do *donate annually*



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Reasons that *parent(s)* currently own the land:

| PA | Home/legacy | 65% |
|---------------------|--------------|-----|
| Top of the list: | Personal use | 36% |
| | Investment | 25% |
| Bottom of the list: | Stewardship | 22% |
| | "It's mine" | 3% |
| | | |

| WI | Personal use | 62% |
|---------------------|--------------|-----|
| Top of the list: | Home/legacy | 52% |
| | Investment | 21% |
| Bottom of the list: | Stewardship | 16% |
| | "It's mine" | 6% |
| | | |

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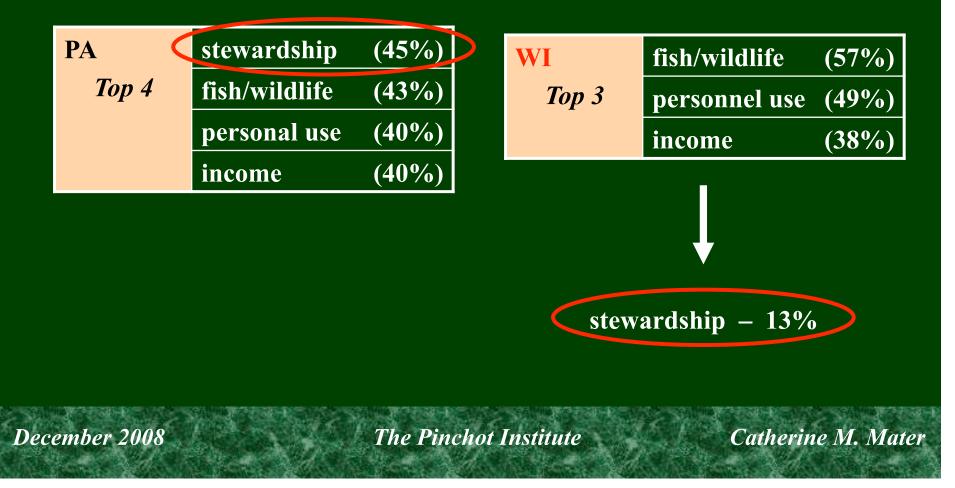
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According to the kids - What do their parents manage land for?



| PA | Males | | Females | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|---------------|-------|
| Top 3 <u>challenges</u> | labor | (46%) | labor | (55%) |
| faced by parents | taxes | (27%) | time | (25%) |
| | time | (18%) | dev. pressure | (19%) |

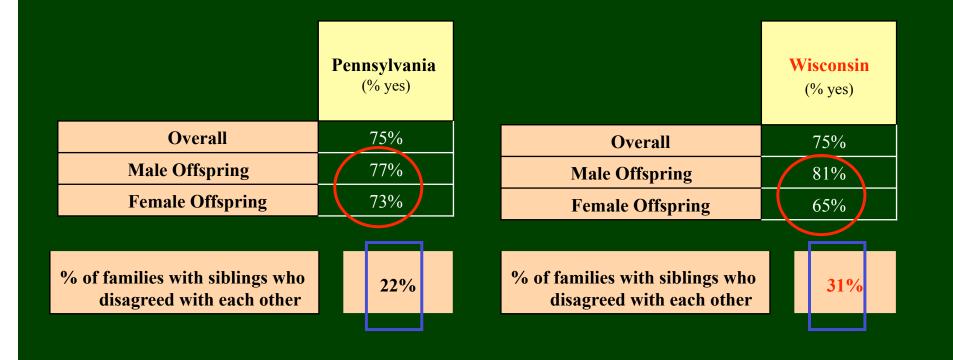
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Have parents had to deal with <u>challenges</u> in maintaining the family forest?

| WI | M | ales | Female | S |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|---------------|-------|
| Top 3 <u>challenges</u> | labor | (35%) | labor | (35%) |
| faced by parents | time | (27%) | dev. pressure | (29%) |
| | taxes | (21%) | taxes | (27%) |

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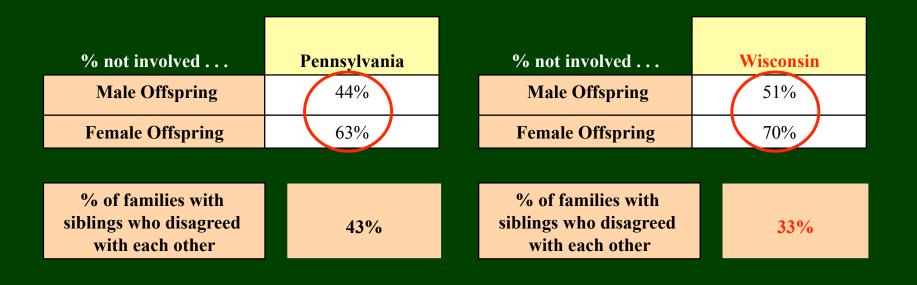
Have *parents discussed* future plans with offspring?



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For both states, more than half of offspring interviewed *had not been involved* with the management of the family forests!



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PA

| The majority of offspring, if currently not involved - <u>wish to be!</u> | Pennsylvania |
|--|--------------|
| Male Offspring | 66% |
| Female Offspring | 54% |

... kids *raised on the family forest* most likely to wish to be involved.

% of families with siblings who disagreed with each other

56%

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WI

| For majority of offspring, if currently not involved - <u>don't wish to be!</u> | Wisconsin |
|--|-----------|
| Male Offspring | 53% |
| Female Offspring | 56% |

... but kids from *MFL-listed lands* do wish to be!

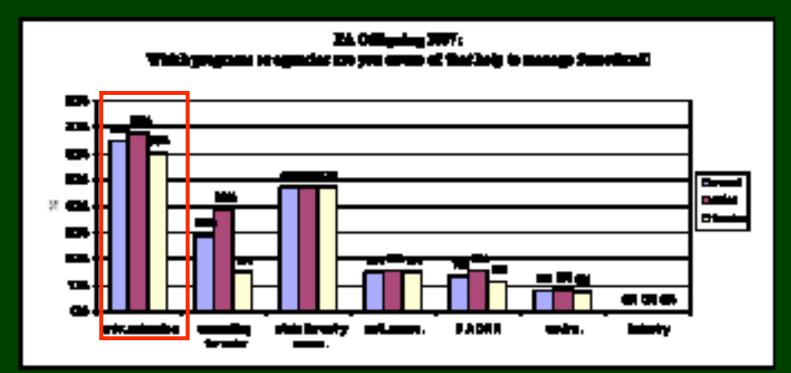
% of families with siblings who disagreed with each other

54%

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If offspring aware, *which programs*?



It's pretty clear – university/extension plays a central role.

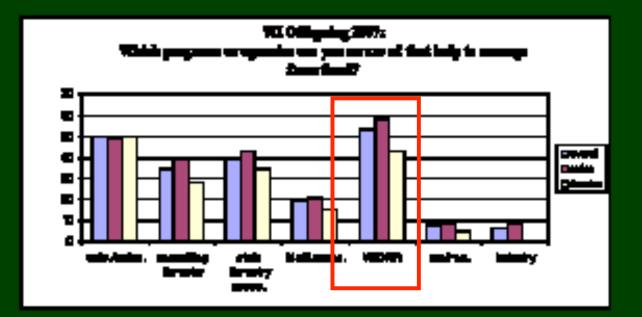
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If offspring aware, *which programs*?



DNR plays a central role.

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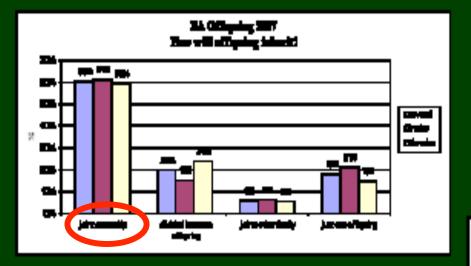


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87% of offspring <u>plan to</u> <u>inherit the land</u>, but how????



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<u>Income generation</u> off the land how important is it?

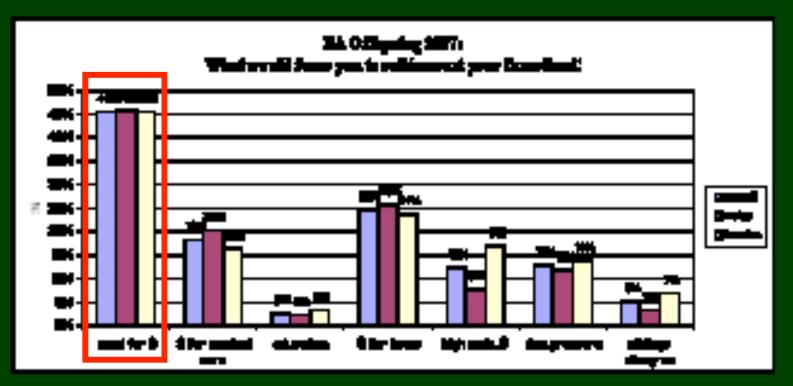
| Expect land to generate income | <u>PA</u> | WI |
|---|-----------|-----|
| Males Offspring | 67% | 56% |
| Females Offspring | 65% | 38% |
| | | |
| % of families with siblings who disagreed with each other | 49% | 40% |

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PA

What conditions would force you to sell?

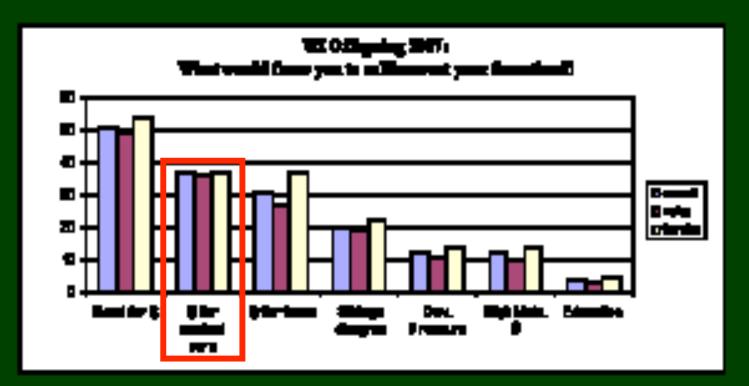


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WI

What conditions would force you to sell?



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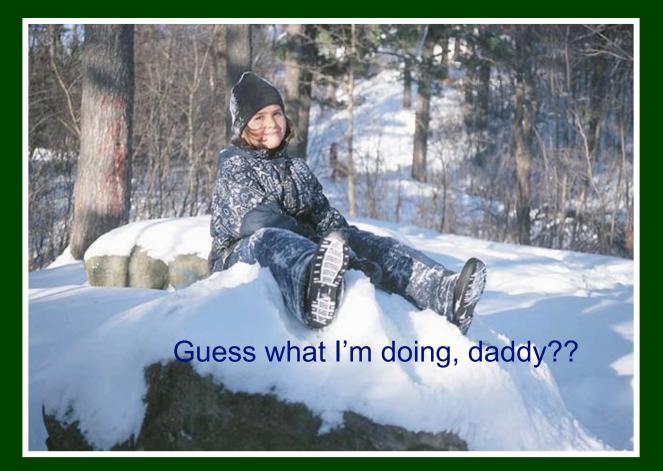


What's important to help keep the land in family hands?



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Here's a hint...



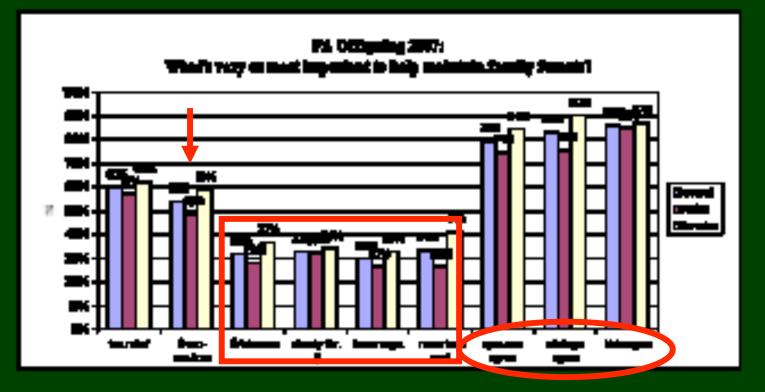
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Catherine M. Mater Sustaining Family Forests Initiative, 2006

PA

What's important to help keep the land in family hands?



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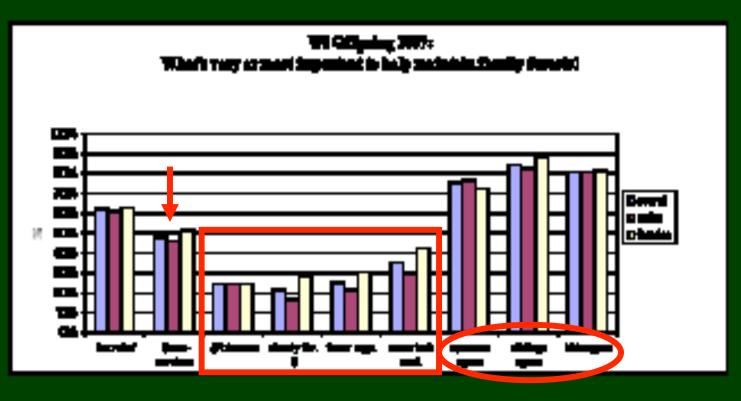
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WI

What's important to helping to keep the land in family hands?



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| Where WI and PA offspring <u>most</u> agree | WI | РА |
|--|-----|-----|
| Expect to <i>inherit</i> the family forestlands | 87% | 87% |
| and expect to have to manage <i>jointly</i> with siblings. | 61% | 60% |
| Wish to <i>own</i> the family forestland. | 89% | 87% |
| Rank ' <i>siblings agree</i> ' as the most important condition to maintain family forests. | 45% | 43% |
| Rank <i>'payment for ecosystem services'</i> as a most important financial tool. | 48% | 54% |
| Rank <i>'labor/time to manage'</i> as the top challenge to owning the family forest. | 57% | 54% |
| Rank <i>'stewardship'</i> as a reason for offspring to own the family forest (ranked second to last in both states). | 24% | 26% |
| Donate annually to <i>church</i> organization | 65% | 58% |
| and not <i>forestry</i> organizations. | 3% | 5% |

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| Where WI & PA offspring most <u>disagree</u> | WI | РА |
|---|-----|-----|
| If a member, belong to <i>environmental organizations</i> . | 58% | 72% |
| Are involved in <i>decision-making roles</i> if they are involved in the management of the family forest. | 59% | 49% |
| <i>Want to be involved right now</i> in the management of the family forest if not currently involved. | 45% | 59% |
| View ' <i>personal use</i> ' as a key reason for owning the family forest. | 41% | 23% |
| Use their <i>state DNR</i> as a go-to source for information. | 38% | 14% |
| Use <i>state forestry organizations</i> as a go-to source for information. | 8% | 33% |
| Believe parents manage the family forests for <i>stewardship</i> reasons. | 13% | 45% |
| <i>Want income</i> off the land. | 48% | 66% |

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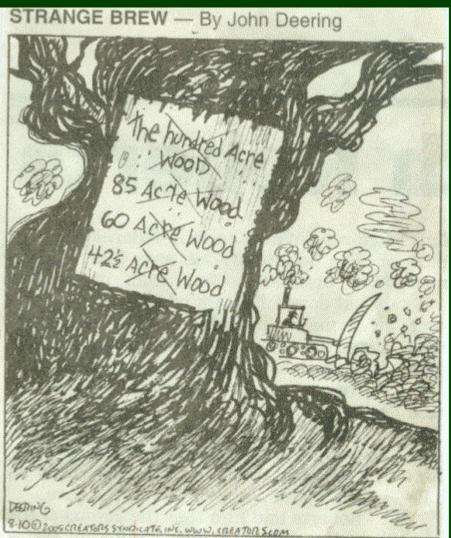
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| Where <u>siblings</u> in same family <u>disagree</u> with each other: (where ~50% or more families) | WI n = 87 | PA n = 72 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| If <i>not involved</i> in the management of the family forestlands, <i>would like to be</i> . | 54% | 56% |
| Believe that <i>parents deal with challenges</i> in managing the family forests. | | 61% |
| Agree on <i>how the land will be transferred</i> to the offspring (joint ownership, divided between offspring, etc.) | 52% | |
| Agree on what condition would <i>force</i> <i>offspring to sell</i> the family forestland. | 53% | 61% |
| Agree that '\$ <i>for biomass</i> ' is an important financial tool in managing the family forests. | 51% | 47% |
| Agree that <i>'steady timber prices'</i> is an important financial tool in managing the family forests. | | 52% |
| Agree on what is <i>important</i> to help maintain forestlands in family hands. (ie 'tax relief'; 'siblings agree') | | 61% |
| Desire <i>'income'</i> off the land. | | 49% |

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So, if not this ...

... then what??

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Here's something to think about . . .

Over the next five years, ~ 42 million acres of family forestland will transition to heirs . . .

... PA and WI represent 2.3 million of those acres to be in transition ...

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What we learned . . .

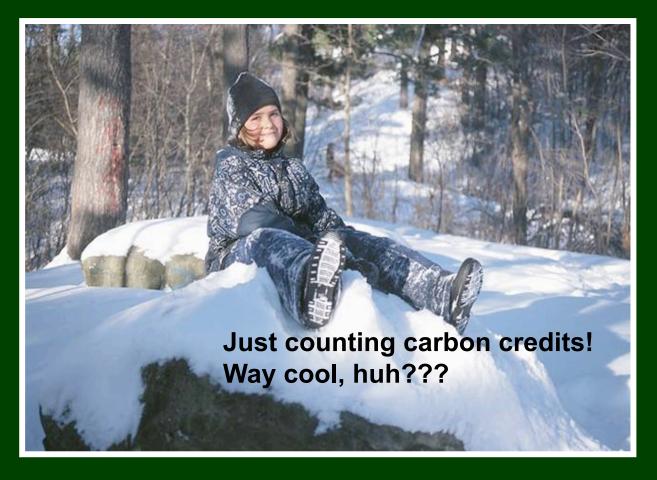
- Offspring are *not alike*
- Males and females really do *think differently*
- Offspring view *go-to sources for information* very differently between states . . . even in the same geographic region.

- Ecosystem service (carbon banking) is new kid on the block ... and <u>offspring are interested</u>!! Less labor, more money.
- Pushing a `green' message works best with female offspring. Males offspring require income approach.
- <u>Stewardship</u> may play well with parents, but does not resonate well with the kids. <u>Verbiage needs to change</u>!
- With so many offspring assuming joint ownership, messaging needs to be with *family as a unit*, not the individual.
- Costs for *medical care* on minds of all offspring. Do unique partnerships await??

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Guess what I'm doing, daddy??



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Catherine M. Mater Sustaining Family Forests Initiative, 2006

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