

Highlights

- ✦ Texas has 62.4 million acres of uniquely diverse, ¹FIA-defined forests.
 - 12.1 million acres are located in 43 East Texas counties.
 - 50.3 million acres are located in 211 Central/West Texas counties.
 - 581.4 thousand acres are located in urban areas of Texas.
- ✦ Texas forests provide numerous ecosystem services valued at \$92.9 billion annually.
 - Watershed regulating = \$13.2 billion/year
 - Climate regulating = \$4.2 billion/year
 - Biodiversity services = \$14.8 billion/year
 - Cultural services = \$60.4 billion/year
 - Air quality services = \$190.3 million/year
- ✦ Watershed regulating services were assessed as three primary functions:
 - Water capture = \$489.7 million/year
 - Water filtration = \$4.2 billion/year
 - Water regulation = \$8.5 billion/year
- ✦ Climate regulating services were assessed through the forest's capacity to store and accumulate carbon.
 - Carbon storage = \$3.1 billion/year
 - Carbon accumulation = \$1.2 billion/year
- ✦ Biodiversity services were assessed through a base value provided by all forests as well as additional value for ecologically important areas (hotspots).
 - Biodiversity base = \$14.5 billion/year
 - Biodiversity hotspot = \$326.1 million/year
- ✦ Cultural services were assessed based on the aesthetic, educational, cultural heritage, and passive use benefits forests provide.
 - An average Texas household is willing to pay between \$0.54 - \$2.22/year for a 1,000-acre increase in forest area depending on the type of forest.
 - Rural forests = \$59.2 billion/year,
 - ✓ Privately owned = \$35.0 billion/year
 - ✓ Publicly owned = \$3.0 billion/year
 - ✓ Non-East Texas Woodlands = \$21.1 billion/year
 - Forests in Urban areas = \$1.2 billion/year
- ✦ Rural forests totaled 61.8 million acres and provided ecosystem services valued at \$90.6 billion annually.
- ✦ The 581.4 thousand acres of FIA-defined forest in urban areas of Texas provided ecosystem services valued \$2.3 billion annually.

Value (million \$/yr) of assessed ecosystem service of FIA-defined forest in rural and urban areas of Texas		
Service	Rural (61.8 million acres)	Urban (581.4 thousand acres)
Watershed	12,495.17	724.60
Climate	4,230.85	23.65
Biodiversity	14,672.04	136.47
Cultural	59,173.19	1,202.50
Air Quality	-	190.29
Total	90,571.24	2,277.52

¹Forests are defined by the USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis Nation Program (FIA) as *Land at least 10 percent stocked by forest trees of any size, including land that formerly had such tree cover and will be naturally or artificially regenerated.*