



RIGHTS AND RESOURCES
INITIATIVE

SUPPORTING FOREST TENURE, POLICY AND MARKET REFORMS



Forest Agencies in Transition

Global Issues in Governance
MegaFlorestais
Grey Towers



Forest Agencies - History

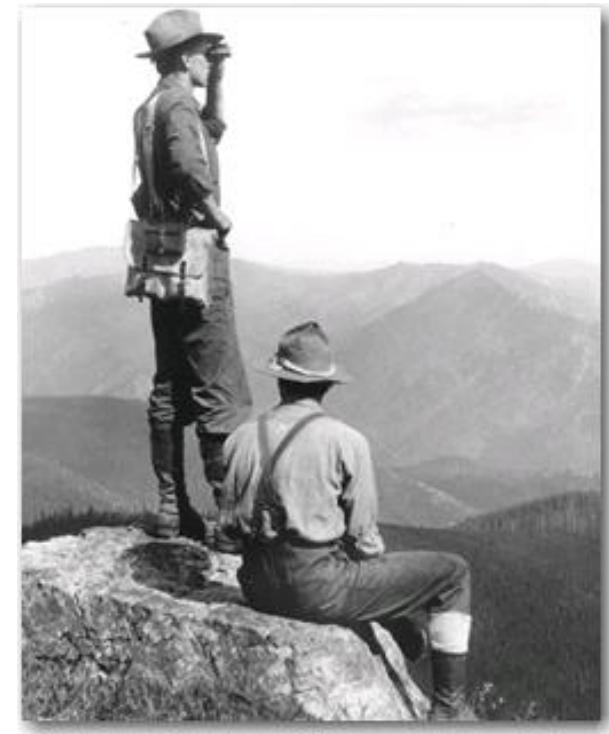
Created a long time ago:

3 Categories:

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, Brazil)

Lots has changed since then:

1. The purpose of forests – what is expected
2. Scientific/knowledge basis for forestry
3. Land ownership, political basis for forestry

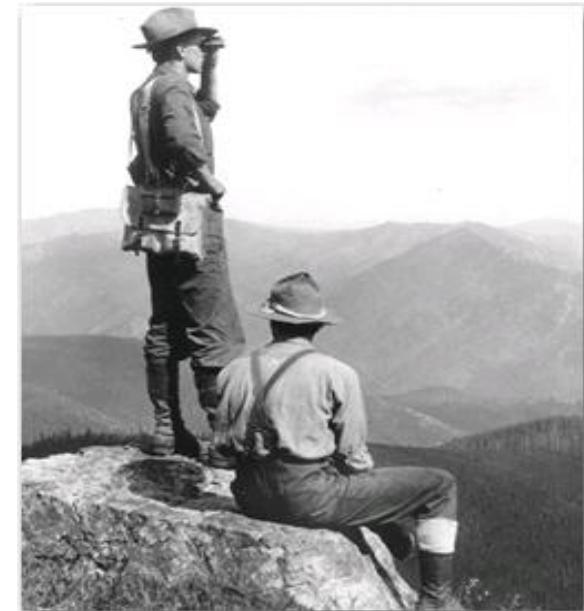


**Lots more will
change in
the future...**

The Purpose of Forests, What is Expected of Forest Agencies

From:

- Land, forest control for use by elite
- Conservation/protection – water, wildlife - hunting
- Timber, (avoiding “timber famine”)
- Industrialized production for economic growth



To:

- Non-timber/bioenergy products (over timber)
- “Ecosystem services/management”
- More local “participation”
- Climate change mitigation
- Local jobs, enterprises, development



Scientific Basis has Changed

From:

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

To:

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



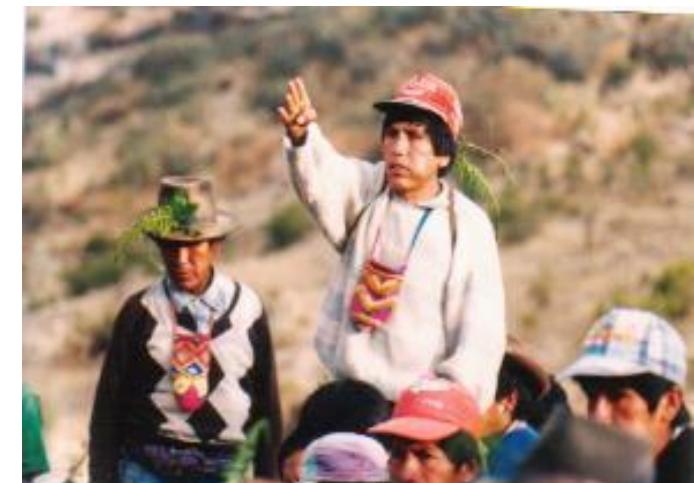
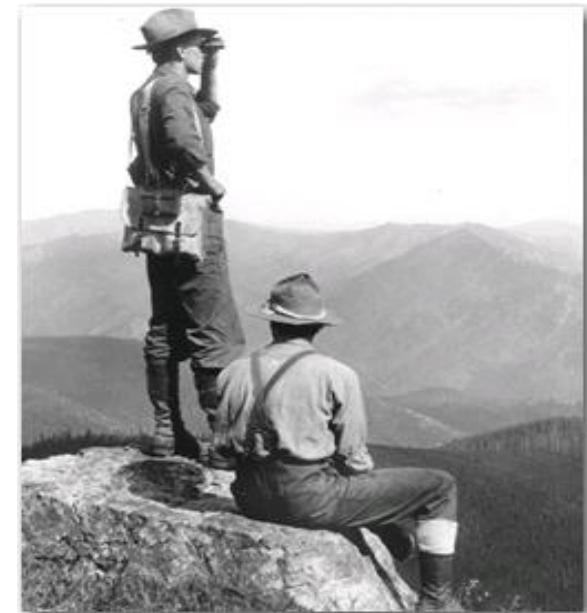
Land, Political Basis Has Changed

From:

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

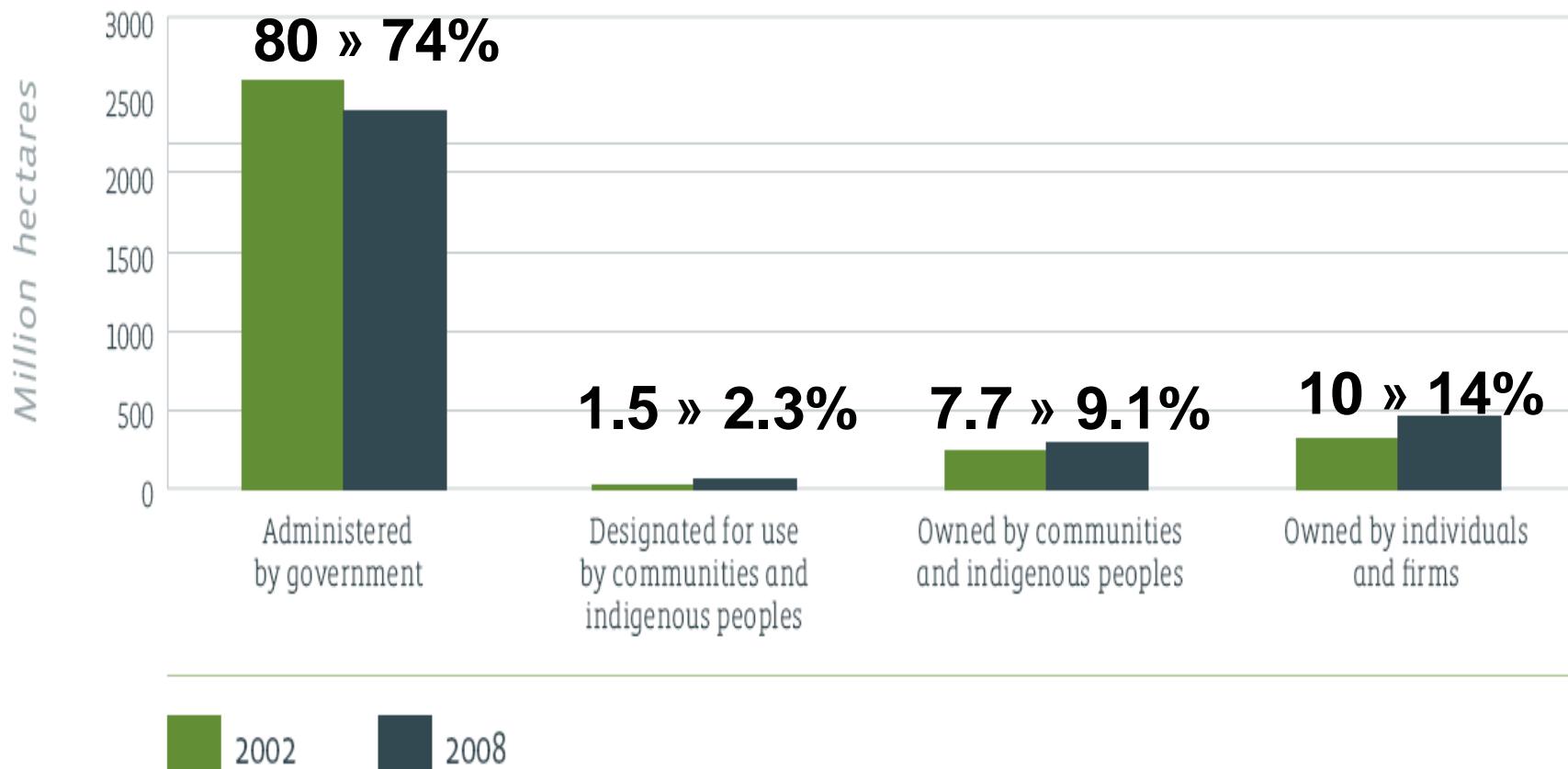
To:

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



Status of Forest 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

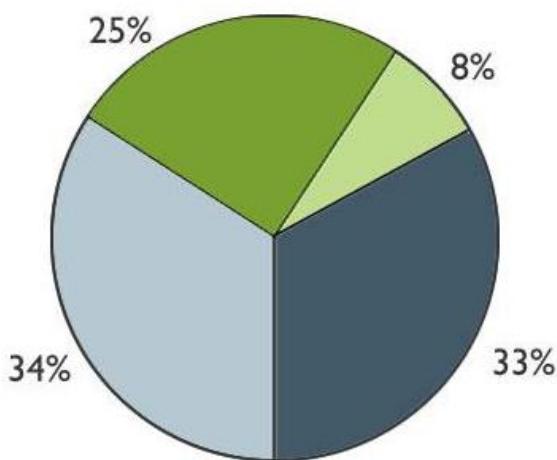
■ Administered by government

■ Owned by communities & indigenous peoples

■ Designated for use by communities & indigenous peoples

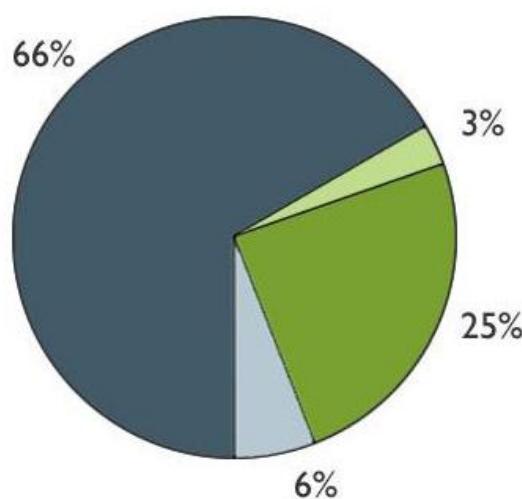
■ Owned by individuals & firms

Fig. 1: Latin America



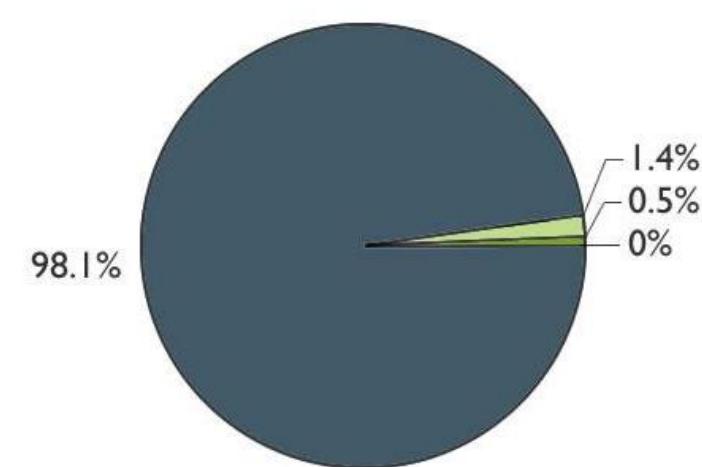
(Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia & Venezuela;
accounts for 78% of Latin American
forests.)

Fig. 2: Asia



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

Fig. 3: Africa



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

Implications for Agencies

1st – change in forest purpose, relatively easy to react to

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

3rd – land ownership and democratization –

transformative, much, much more challenging

- can be fundamentally disempowering to public agencies.

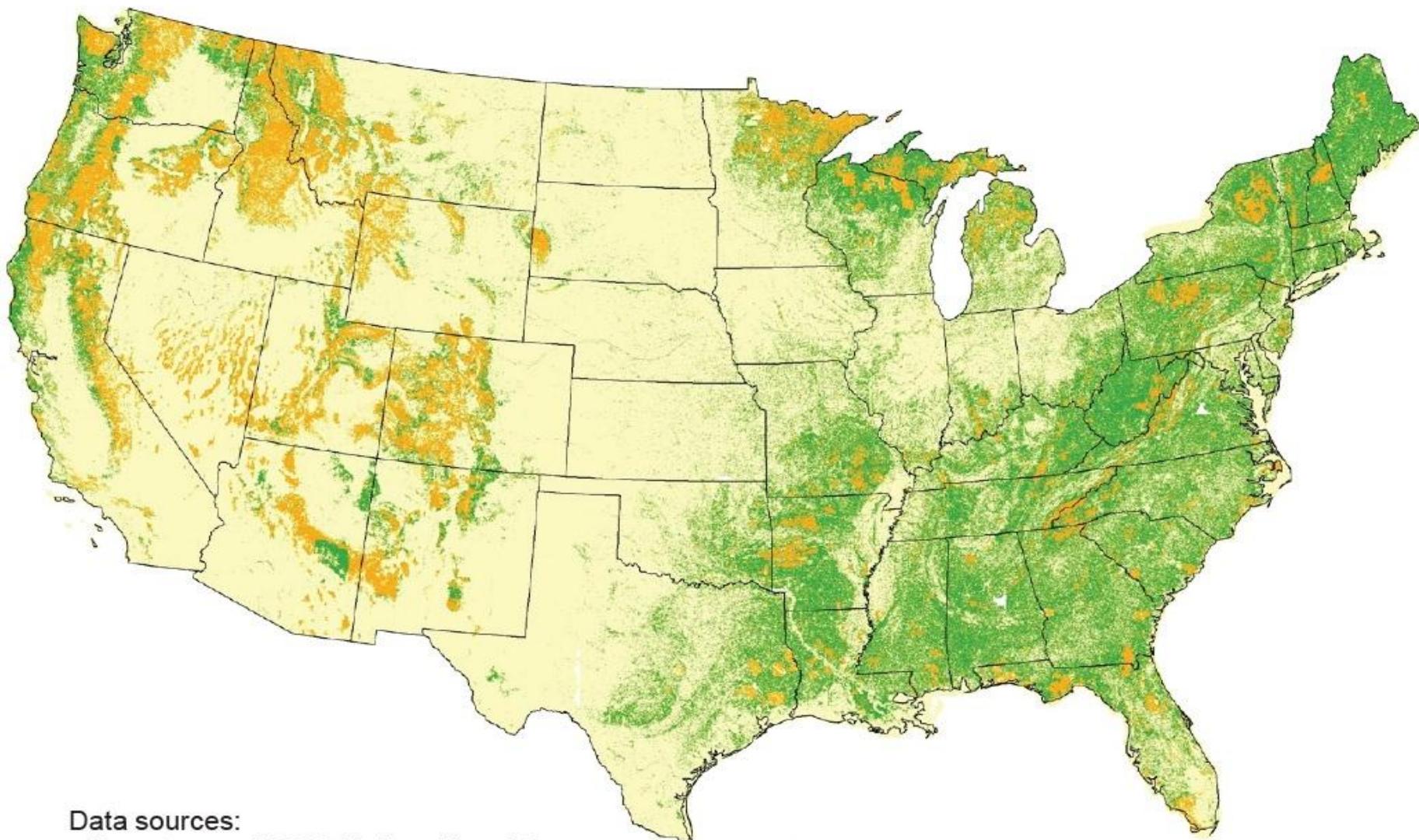
Lots More Change in the Future

- population growth – 9 billion?
- double agricultural production by 2030?
- booming demand for bioenergy
- increased urbanization
- increased risk of violent conflict
- So:
 1. pressure on forest areas from 2 sides – agriculture and energy
 2. much greater expectations and power of local people
 3. Innovation, reinvention will be required to remain socially, politically relevant, and effective land managers

How, or will, forest agencies manage this change?

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

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