



**Forisk News:** March 28, 2013

Archives available at: <http://www.forisk.com/News-v-38.html>

Subject line: Forisk News: Timber Forecasts – U.S. Timberland Ownership

**Timber Forecast:** Through February and March, we featured a series of blog posts related to forecasting stumpage and delivered softwood prices in the U.S. South and Pacific Northwest:

- [Thoughts on Forecasting Timber Prices](#)
- [Forisk Forecast: US Housing Starts Outlook](#)
- [Forisk Forecast: Expanding the Panama Canal](#)
- [Forisk Forecast Scorecard: 2012 versus Actuals](#)

The recently published 2013 *Forisk Forecast* details factors influencing the 10-year outlook across three scenarios for U.S. softwood stumpage and delivered log prices such as (1) improved housing markets; (2) additional investment in pine grade facilities; and (3) localized bioenergy project successes and failures. Select findings and conclusions include:

- U.S. Lumber Production: while the South lost lumber production market share to the Pacific Northwest in 2012, long-term trends expect capacity and production to grow faster in the South.
- Wood demand from Pulp/Paper, OSB and Bioenergy: pulp/paper mills account for nearly 90% of current pine pulpwood/chips demand in the South; OSB and bioenergy account for the balance. By 2023, the pulp/paper sector will account for less than 80% of pulpwood/chips demand, while bioenergy and OSB use 11% and 10% in Forisk's Base Case.
- US South, Pine Sawtimber: South-wide prices are forecasted to increase 7% in 2013 and 34% by 2023. Price spread – the difference between the highest and lowest priced markets at the state level – across eleven Southern states tops \$14/ton.
- US South, Pine Pulpwood: South-wide average prices across eleven states expected to increase 20% in 2013 and 44% by 2023. The viability of state-specific bioenergy projects drives the spreading of prices across states and local markets.
- Pacific Northwest, Douglas-fir: in the Base Case, delivered #2 domestic sawlogs are forecasted to increase 23% in Coastal Oregon and 20% in Washington through 2023.

*To learn more about the 2013 Forisk Forecast or Forisk's market-specific stumpage forecasts tailored to individual wood-using facilities or timberland ownerships, contact Brooks Mendell at [bmendell@forisk.com](mailto:bmendell@forisk.com), 770.725.8447.*

**U.S. Timberland Ownership:** According to Forisk tracking of timberland ownership in the U.S., 217 owners each own and manage 25,000 acres or more for a total of ~91 million acres of private timberlands. Of these acres, 18% are owned by the four public timber REITs (Plum Creek, Potlatch, Rayonier and Weyerhaeuser). The 117 firms that own or manage in excess of 100,000 acres of timberland account for 86.2 million acres of timberland with average holdings of 736,589 acres. Each of the top ten own or manage in excess of 2 million acres.

- For a current listing of the top 10 U.S. timberland owners, click [here](#).



- To learn more about US timberland ownership and Forisk's tracking by state and region, check out the *2013 Forisk Timberland Owner List*. Learn more [here](#).

**Forisk Updates and Upcoming Presentations:**

- Forisk is thrilled to announce that Amanda Lang, Senior Consultant and Managing Editor of *Wood Bioenergy US*, has been promoted to Partner. Congratulations, Amanda!
- April 10: "[Wood Bioenergy and Fun House Mirrors](#)", keynote at FIEA, Auckland, New Zealand
- May 13: "[Forest Bioenergy Systems](#)" presentation at the Bioenergy Systems Research Institute Annual Meeting, Athens, GA

*Forisk provides research and educational services to executives and analysts making decisions related to timber REITs, timberlands, and wood-using energy and manufacturing facilities.*