

GOAL SETTING FOR NATURAL & WORKING LANDS

Appendix E — Land Types and Land Ownership

Spatial data on ownership and fee holders in this appendix come from the state’s authoritative layer on Oregon Land Management, last updated in May of 2024.¹ Spatial data on land categories come from an unpublished dataset produced as part of Oregon’s 2025 Land-based Net Carbon Inventory.²

As shown in Figure E1, land ownership in Oregon is dominated by two federal holders, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service, which steward over a large amount of the state’s forest land and grassland and arid lands. Private landowners comprise the second largest land-holding group, representing thousands of holders, and own a large amount of forest land, grassland and arid lands, and cropland.

Figure E1. Composition of the top 10 landowners in terms of land area in Oregon by title holder and land category for 2024

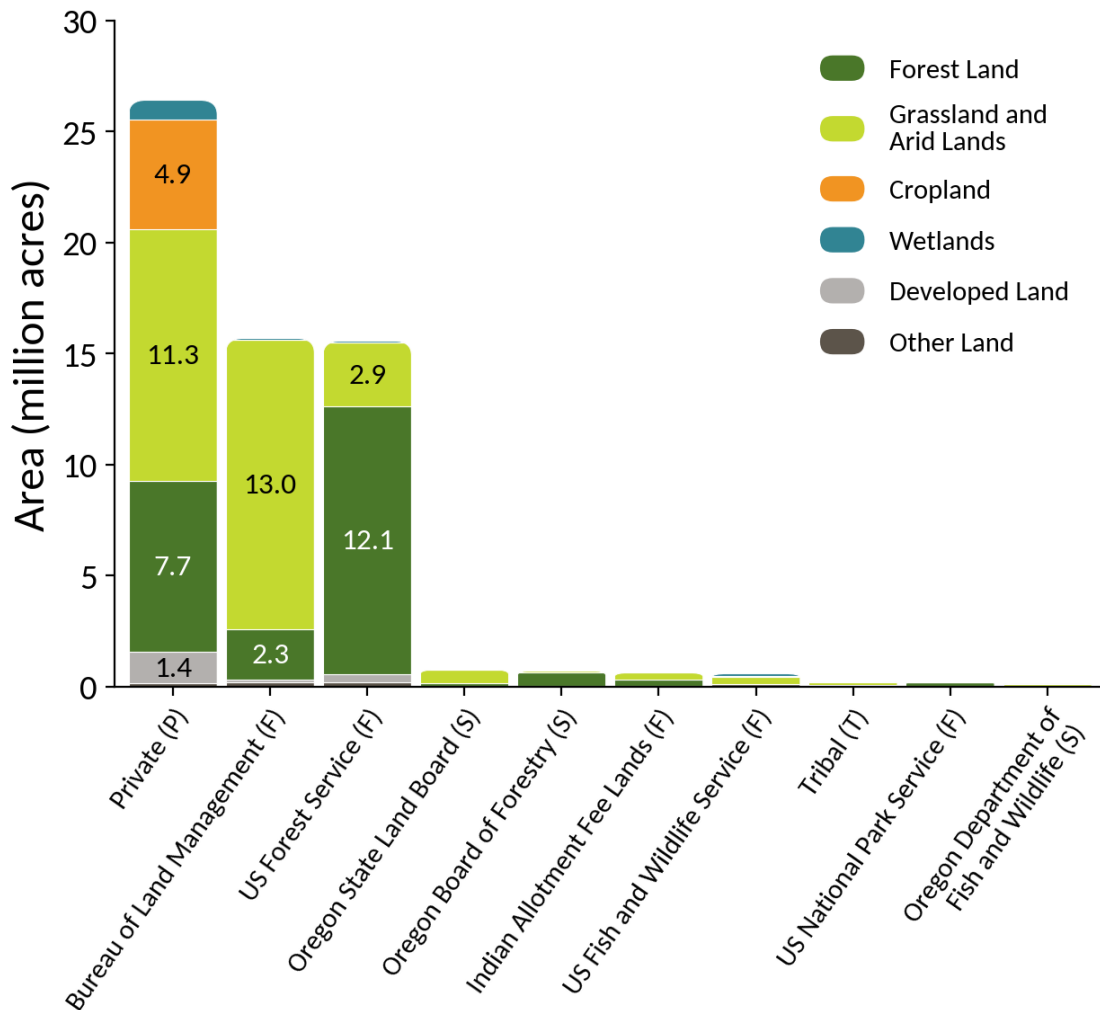


Figure excludes coastal areas that are entirely aquatic (approximately 0.224 million acres).

¹ State of Oregon (2024). *Oregon Land Management* (dataset). [Oregon Land Management | Oregon GEOHub](#)

² Oregon Department of Energy and Oregon Climate Action Commission (2025). *Land-based Net Carbon Inventory. Land-Based Net Carbon Inventory Report 2025*

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Private landowners own about 33 percent of Oregon's forest land, 39 percent of its grassland, 71 percent of its wetlands, and 71 percent of its developed land (e.g., urban trees in yards; Figure E2). Investment in programs that support private land stewardship, whether through funding, incentives, real estate, or land use zoning will aid in increasing the pace and scale of NCS implementation. The infrastructure to do so already exists, through networks like Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Oregon State University extension offices, land trusts, and watershed councils, all of which already have wide reach in Oregon, and already work toward NCS implementation in other names.

The State of Oregon, through its various agencies, directly manages around 1.77 million acres of land (2.8% of Oregon), including 3.5 percent of Oregon's forest land, 2.8 percent of grassland and arid lands, and 3.8 percent of its wetlands (Figure E2). These represent lands that Oregon can most directly affect through restoration, invasive species management, fire management, and long-term stewardship, that can contribute to a carbon sequestration and storage goal.

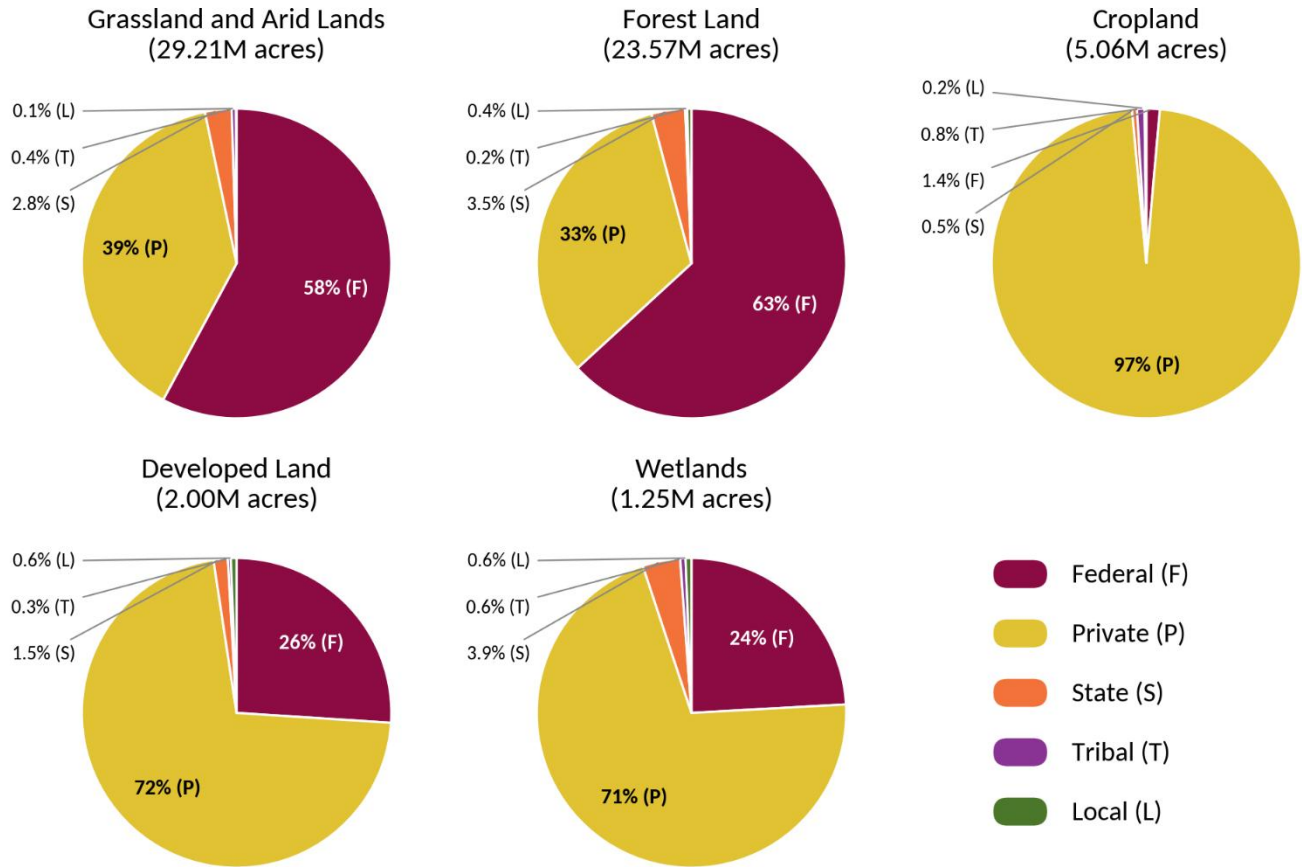
Tribes represent the next largest land stewards in Oregon other than the state itself, with about 0.2 percent of Oregon's forest land, 0.4 percent of its grassland and arid lands, and 0.5 percent of its wetlands (Figure E2). Strengthening partnership with Tribes, as directed by ORS 468A.185, which provides that it is policy of the state to help remove barriers to NCS implementation and provide financial assistance for the purposes of land acquisition for Tribes and others, will help achieve multiple types of goals.

Local governments are the smallest landowners in Oregon but manage a substantial proportion of the state's urban parks, which sequester and store carbon in their trees and soils. Cities in Oregon receive many benefits from urban trees and greenspace that include many related to climate resilience.³ These lands can help reach a net sequestration goal if local government capacity is bolstered to implement NCS at scale to help meet adaptation aims at the same time and offers an additional opportunity to align with Oregon county Climate and Health programs and annual reporting established by Executive Order 20-04.

³ Miller et al. (2024). *The Economic Costs of Climate Change for Oregonians: A First Look*. Forum on Oregon Climate Economics. <https://www.katu.com/resources/pdf/da93b656-0c7f-47e6-80c7-377a33c26635-economiccostofclimatechangeoregonians.pdf>

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Figure E2. Composition of land ownership by land category in Oregon for 2024. Excludes coastal areas that are entirely aquatic (approx. 0.224 million acres). M = million.



While ODOE's LCI provides estimates of emissions and removals by land category, it does not provide information related to ownership. Within a given land category, emissions and removals are affected by land management decisions dependent on ownership.