

#### Trends in North American Forest Products Markets: A TIMO Perspective

**Dr. Bruce P. Glass, Senior Forest Economist** November 17, 2014

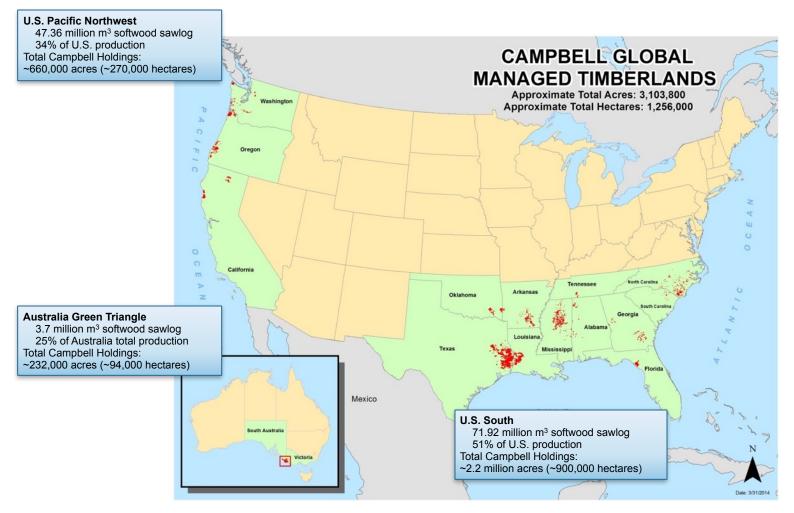


#### **Campbell Global LLC Overview**

- Founded in 1981 & headquartered in Portland, Oregon, USA
- Business focus: Timber & timberland resources
- US\$6.4 billion in timberland assets under management\*
- 3.1 million acres (1.3 million hectares) under management
- Employ more than 300 staff members in 14 states & two countries
- Timber Industry Management Organization (TIMO):
  - Source & structure timberland investments for clients
  - Manage client-owned timberland
  - Market & sell clients' timberland investments

\* Current asset value based on the most recent independent appraisal or internal valuation data.

### **Assets Under Management**





#### **Key US Macroeconomic Considerations**

- Most factors needed for wood products demand recovery are in place:
  - Improved household balance sheets
  - Lenders are taking on increased risk
  - Accelerating employment growth
  - Consumers loosening purse strings ... cautiously

#### Household Balance Sheets are in Great Shape

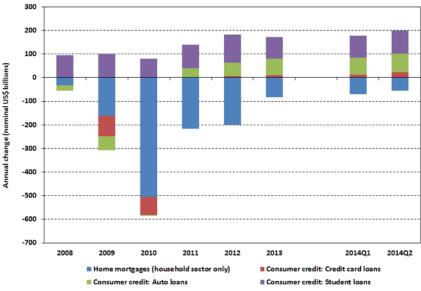


US Household Debt Payments as a Proportion of Disposable Personal Income

#### Lenders Becoming Increasingly Expansive; Mortgage Lending Still Lags

Annual change in household liabilities by selected loan type 20.0% 15.0% 10.0% Annual change 5.0% 0.0% -5.0% -10.0% 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014Q1 2014Q2 ----Home mortgages (household sector only) ---- Consumer credit: Credit card loans -----Consumer credit: Auto loans ---- Consumer credit: Student loans Source: FRE

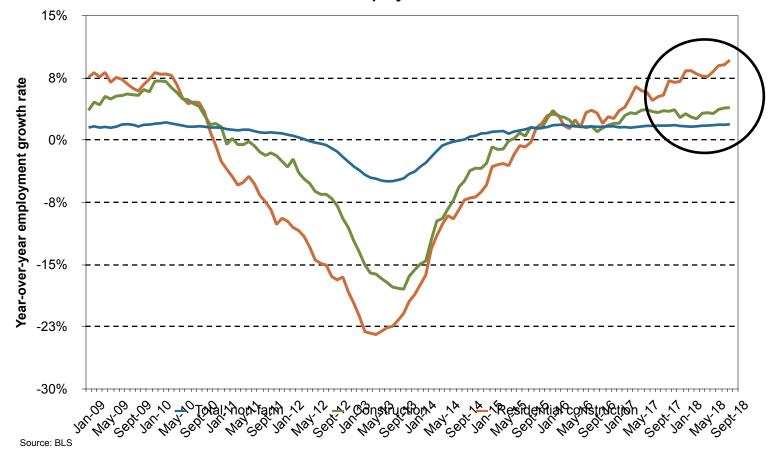
Annual change in household liabilities by selected loan type



Source: FRB

### **Residential Construction Employment Especially Buoyant**

**US Employment Growth** 



#### Awaiting Return of the US Consumer ...

- Paying down debt remains a priority for many
  - Interest rates will only go up!
- Baby-boomer demographics
  - Older households tend to spend less than younger households
- Consumer purchasing power turning around
  - Weak US\$ turning around now
  - Declining fuel prices
- Subdued income growth
  - Real wages have struggled to beat inflation for last 5 years
  - Job quality issues
- Income distribution

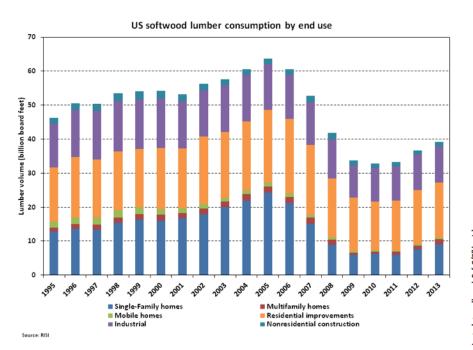
#### Median Real Income Growing Slowly; Rising Wages Needed to Fill Gap

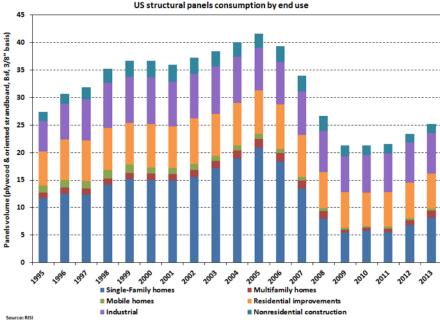
#### **Real Household Income: Comparison of Median with Mean**



Source: FEA

## Sawn Timber & Structural Panels Consumption will Recover when Housing Recovers



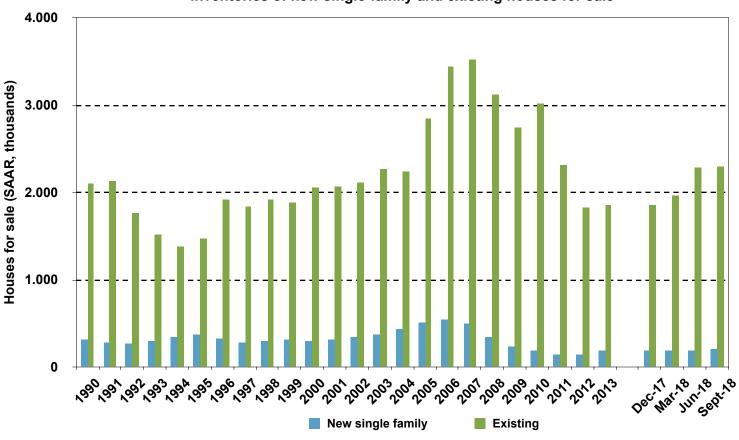


Data are in units reported by source. 1 Mbf sawn timber equals 2.36 m<sup>3</sup> full sawn volume or 1.57 m<sup>3</sup> actual volume. 1 Msf (3/8" basis) equals 0.89 m<sup>3</sup>.

#### Most Factors Needed for Housing Recovery also in Place

- Excess unsold home inventories down
  - Shadow inventories declining also
- Pent-up housing demand building
- Affordability remains favorable
  - Despite rising house prices & subdued income growth

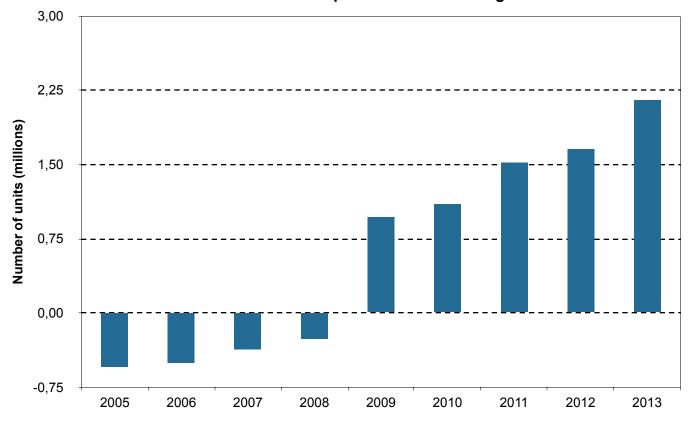
## **Unsold Housing Inventories At or Below Pre-downturn Levels**



Inventories of new single-family and existing houses for sale

Sources: US Census Bureau, National Association of Realtors

#### Looking Forward to Release of Pent-up Demand from Recession Years



#### **US Pent-up Demand for Housing**

Source: RISI

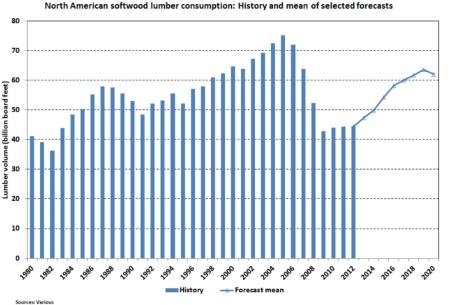
### **Housing Affordability Remains High**



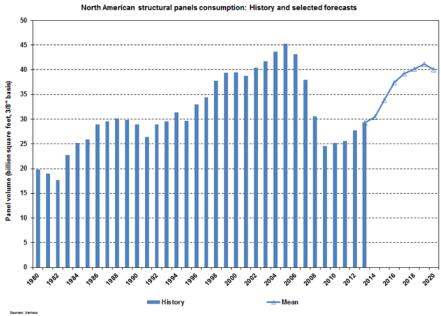
Comparison of Median Price for Existing Homes with Home Affordability Index

Source: NAR

## Sawn Timber & Structural Panels Consumption Forecast to Rise Steeply



Data are in units reported by source. 1 Mbf sawn timber equals 2.36 m<sup>3</sup> full sawn volume or 1.57 m<sup>3</sup> actual volume. 1 Msf (3/8" basis) equals 0.89 m<sup>3</sup>.





#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR LOG PRICES?

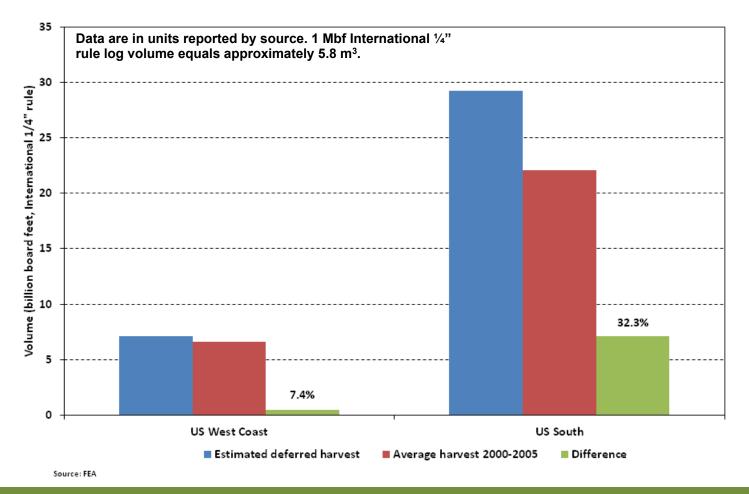
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#### What Does this Mean for Log Prices?

- Cyclic adjustment phase
  - Recovery in US housing drives expanding demand
    - Especially in US South
  - Reduction of deferred harvest volume in US South
  - Softening log demand in China

Estimated deferred harvest compared with average harvest prior to downturn

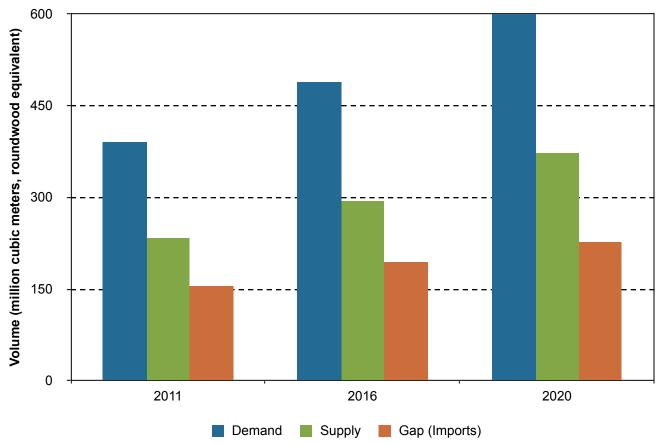


#### What Does this Mean for Log Prices? (cont.)

#### Cyclic adjustment phase

- Trend phase
  - Expanding log demand
    - Domestic & foreign
  - Contracting Canadian timber supply
  - Potentially expanding US South timber supply

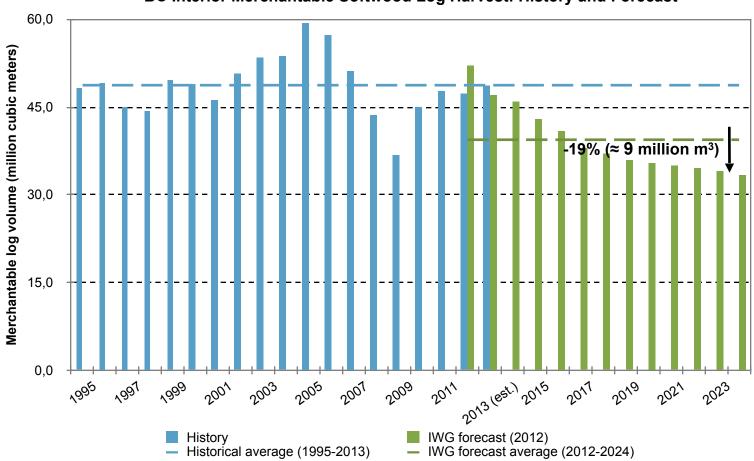
#### North American Export Prospects: China's Fiber Demand not a Passing Fad



**China Fiber Deficit** 

Source: IWG

### But Where will the Needed Product Come From? (Boiling Frogs)



BC Interior Merchantable Softwood Log Harvest: History and Forecast

Note: Merchantable includes sawlog and "low-grade" logs Sources: BC MoFR, IWG

### Maturing Age Classes Approaching Harvest in the US South

3,000 2,500 2,000 Thousand Acres 1,500 1,000 500 0 1986 1988 1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 19<sup>84</sup>

Area planted in Southern Yellow Pine in the US South

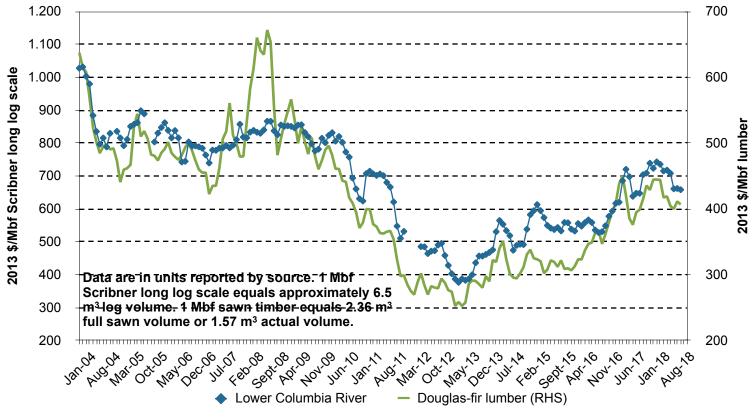
Source: Harper et al.

#### How Much Southern Timber will be Harvested?

- Available harvest & haul capacity
- Operability, e.g., ground conditions, economic margin
- Over-mature age classes, especially natural regeneration
- Other harvest restrictions, e.g., conservation plantings, etc.?
- Conversion from timberland to 'higher & better' use

#### Sawlog Prices Tracked Sawn Timber Prices Through the Downturn in US West Coast Region ...

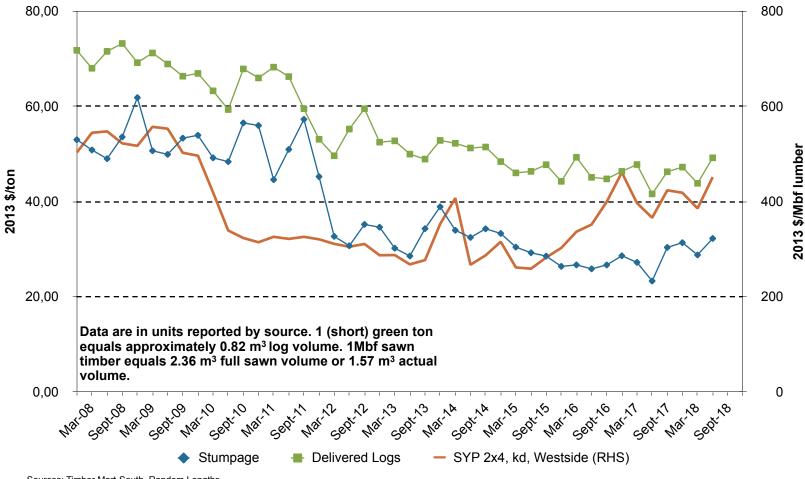
Delivered Price for Douglas-fir #2 Sawlogs in Lower Columbia River Region Compared with Douglas-fir Lumber Price Index



Sources: Loglines, WWPA

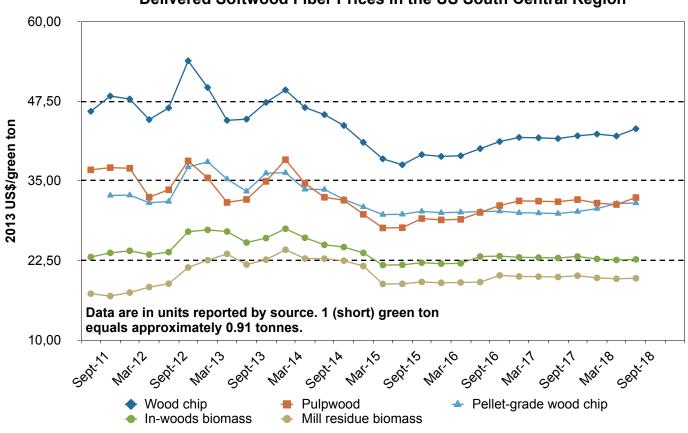
#### … But Sawlog-Sawn Timber Price Tracking Slow to Reemerge in US South

Pine Sawtimber: Comparison of Stumpage and Delivered Prices in Southeast Texas (TMS Region 2) with Southern Yellow Pine Lumber Price (2x4, #2 kd, Westside)



Sources: Timber Mart-South, Random Lengths

#### Different Set of Drivers Influencing Pulpwood Prices, Especially in US South

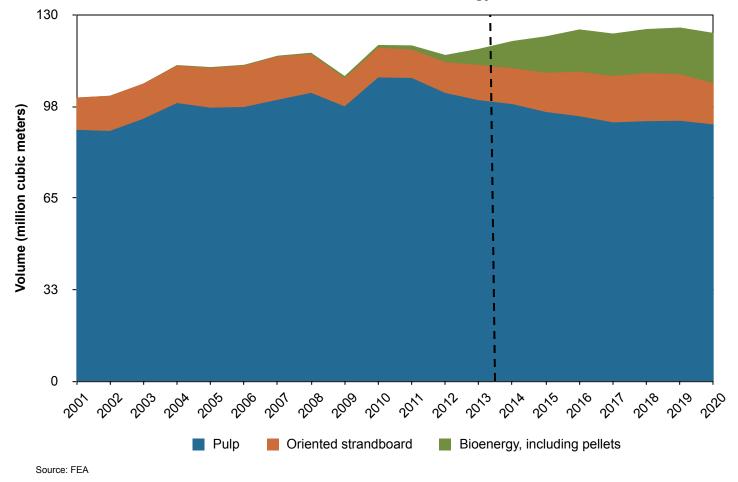


**Delivered Softwood Fiber Prices in the US South Central Region** 

Sources: IWR, WBMR

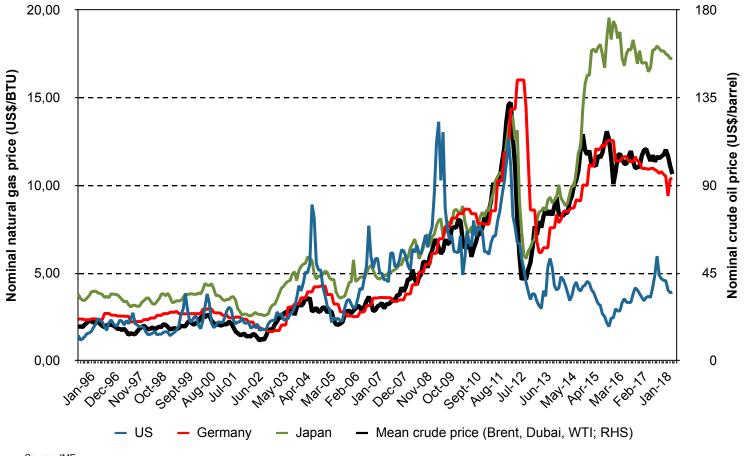
# Expanding Consumption of Pulpwood Anticipated for OSB & Bioenergy Production

Roundwood Demand in the US South for Pulp, Oriented Strandboard, and Bioenergy Production



# Will Upsurge in North American Wood Pellet Production Have Legs?

Comparison of Natural Gas Prices in the USA, Germany, and Japan Compared with Average Crude Oil Price



Source: IMF

#### **Outlook for Rising Real Prices for US Softwood Sawlogs**

- US housing recovery slowly gathering traction
- Strong export demand
  - A boon to western timber growers
- Log demand & price recovery in the US South awaits:
  - Accelerating US housing recovery, in conjunction with
  - Tightening SPF sawn timber supply from Canada
  - A matter of timing: Which will come first?
- Increasingly fierce competition for fiber at woodshed level:
  - Pulpmills, pellet mills, OSB mills

#### What Does This Mean for Timberland Value?

- Major value drivers:
  - Price
    - Sawlog prices typically double pulplog prices
    - Cyclic log price adjustment
    - Longer-term US demand & supply fundamentals drive trend prices
      - Outlook for rising real softwood sawlog prices
  - Discount rate
    - Currently compressing, reflecting:
      - Product price expectations
      - Demand for timberland investments
      - Availability of investment opportunities



#### **QUESTIONS ARE WELCOME**

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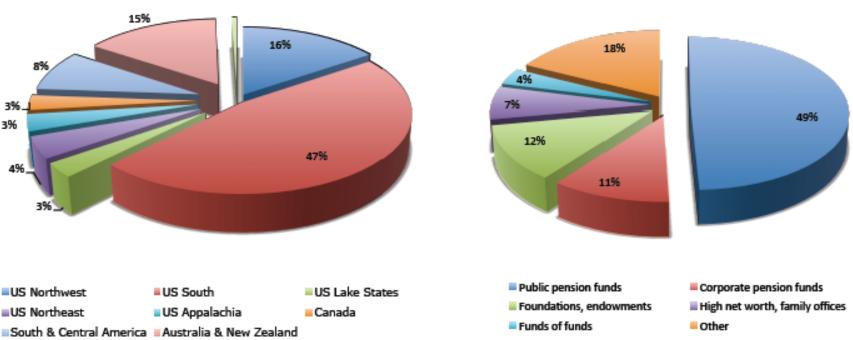
#### **APPENDIX**

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#### About US\$44 Billion in Assets & 30 Million Acres Under Management (12/31/2013)

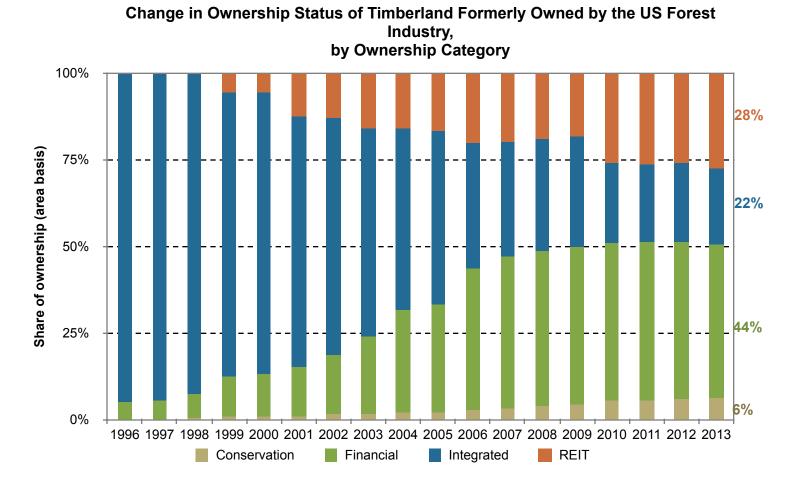
AUM by Client



Source: Timberlink

AUM by Region (Market Values)

#### US Private Timberland Ownership Increasingly Dominated by TIMOs & REITs



Notes: (1) Includes REIT conversions; (2) Timberland data from USFS (GTR-NC241 & GTR NRS-27); (3) Totals may not add due to rounding