

OHIO Woodlands, Water, & Wildlife

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Economic Contributions of the Ohio Forest Products Industry

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In spite of its large population, about 31 percent of the state of Ohio is still forested, amounting to over 7.9 million acres. In addition to providing tremendous recreational opportunities and a myriad of other ecosystem services, these forests also contribute significantly to the state's economy. This article provides a summary of the forest products industry's contributions in 2017. The data presented here were estimated by using IMPLAN, a well-known economic simulation program. The Ohio forest products industry was subdivided into four major sectors—Forestry Services and Logging, Lumber and Wood Products, Wood Furniture, and Paper and Allied Products.

those that result from this sectors transactions with other industries. Induced effects, on the other hand, include those that result from each sector's employees spending their paychecks for household purchases. Forestry Services and Logging, for example, directly employed 6,634 Ohioans, but an additional 3,579 people were employed throughout the state's economy because of the activities of this sector. Similarly, Lumber and Wood Products sector directly employed 15,755, but due to this sector's indirect and induced effects, another 16,928 people were employed in Ohio. The relative difference in the size of direct versus indirect and induced categories show the extent of multiplier effects for the different sectors. It is evident that paper and

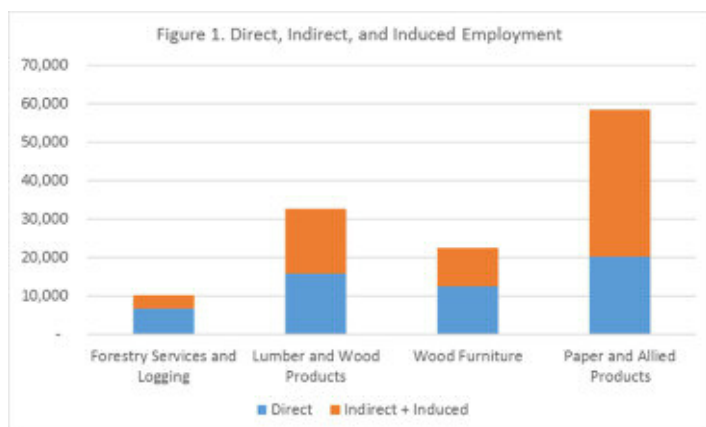


Figure 1 shows direct, indirect and induced employment for the four forestry sectors. Direct employment represents Ohioans employed in the particular sector. Indirect employment includes



allied products have by far the largest multiplier effects. This is due to the fact that this sector purchases its inputs from a wide variety of other industries including manufacturing, energy, and chemicals.

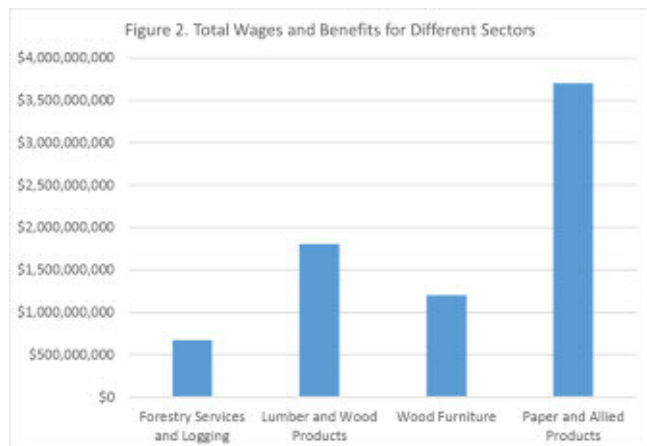


Figure 2 shows the total wages and benefits for each of the four sectors. Clearly, Paper and Allied Products lead the industry in wages and benefits (\$3.7 billion) followed by Lumber and Wood Products (\$1.8 billion), Wood Furniture (\$1.2 billion), and Forestry Services and Logging (\$666.5 million).

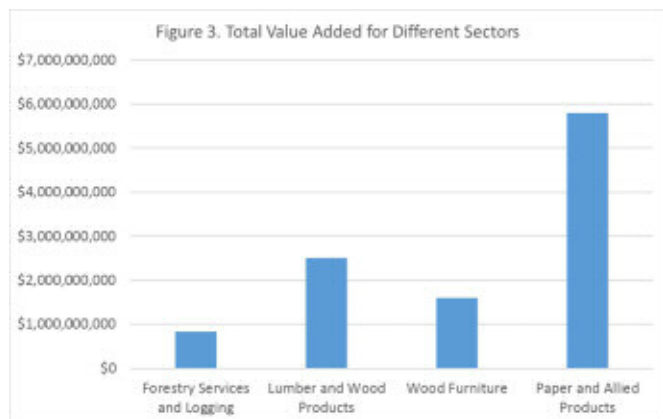


Figure 3, on the other hand, presents the total value added. This is the measure of the added value to the cost of the raw materials due to activities within the sector. Again, the Paper and Allies Products sector has the largest value added (\$5.8 billion) Lumber and Wood Products (\$2.5 billion), Wood Furniture (\$1.6 billion), and Forestry Services and Logging (\$837 million).

So what does all of this mean to Ohio and its people? The high quality hardwood timber produced in Ohio is highly valued throughout the world. In 2017, foreign exports accounted for a

total of \$1.1 billion. Each million board feet of logs harvested from Ohio's forests resulted in the employment of 1.2 loggers and 7.2 employees in other industries, \$518,500 in wages and benefits, and \$568,500 in total value added. Ohio woodland owners should be proud of their contributions to the state's economy.

Women Owning Woodlands: Gaining Momentum in Ohio

Jamie Dahl, Forest Outreach Coordinator, Central State University

We have started a Women Owning Woodlands Group in Ohio. We are currently most active in Southeast Ohio, but we welcome involvement from across the state. Several agencies are partnering to make this program possible. Partners include: Central State University Extension, Hocking Soil and Water Conservation District, ODNR's Division of Forestry, USDA Forest



Service, Rural Action, and Ohio State University Extension. Women Owning Woodlands (WOW) started formally gathering in SE Ohio in May of 2019. WOW is part of a national movement: *We will strive to bring topical, accessible, and current forestry and natural resources information to women landowners and forest practitioners. We support women in forest leadership, women who own and manage their own woodlands, and all who facilitate the stewardship of forests.* WOW utilizes peer learning, so that women professionals, landowners, and enthusiasts can learn from one another.

Since May we have been offering meetings and programs every 1-2 months. We are currently rotating locations around in SE Ohio and have met in Albany, Athens, and Logan. We have women participating from many different Ohio counties. In November we also offered a webinar on NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) practices. Webinars expand our reach geographically, so no matter what part of Ohio you are in you can benefit from our programming. Our programs so far have included topics such as: tree identification, non-timber forest products, and EQIP. WOW also helps support and promote messaging from the Ohio Interagency Forestry Team, a collaborative group working to reverse the decline of oak-ecosystems in southeast Ohio. We also have gatherings that are more social focused so we can better get to know each other.

We have heard interest in other local WOW groups (or chapters) popping up in other parts of the state. If you have interest in sparking some regular meetings locally, let us know how we can help. If you'd like to hear more on how you can engage with Women Owning Woodlands here in Ohio, please contact Jamie Dahl at: jdahl@centralstate.edu and/or Dani Gill at: danielle.gill@oh.nacdn.net. We will gladly send you some more information and can add you to our Google group. We will be working to develop a program

schedule for the coming year. Program topics are driven by WOW participants; we welcome your input on topics that are most relevant to you. WOW programs will include in-person meetings, webinars, and field days. We will also be seeking women landowners willing to host a meeting and show off their own forest management practices. We encourage landowners, enthusiasts, and natural resources professionals to get involved. Even though WOW is focused toward women, all are welcome to join us!



Marne Titchenell Extension Wildlife Specialist, School of Environment and Natural Resources

Winter Birds: Questions from Cora

Every winter, I enjoy watching the birds at my feeders. This winter, my 5-year old daughter, Cora, has been watching with me. As 5-year olds do she has been asking a lot of questions. I thought they were pretty good questions, and so they are the basis on which this article was written. Enjoy!

What is that bird's name?

For many of us, the species may be the first question we have of a bird visiting the feeder. The bird that spawned the question, was a Carolina chickadee. Cora then asked me how I knew the bird was a girl (to her, its first name was Carolina). After explaining to her that males and females of this species look identical, I then explained that there are in fact two different species of chickadees in Ohio. They look frustratingly similar, and are best identified by their song and location in the state. Northern Ohio inhabitants likely have Black-capped Chickadees visiting feeders, while those of us living in central and southern Ohio have Carolina Chickadees. Beware – the two species may hybridize where the two ranges meet, making ID doubly difficult!



Scott Martin-Maccaulay Library

Black capped Chickadee ID:

- More white on wings and tail feathers
- Lower edge of black chin bib is less defined
- Buff color under wings
- Song sounds like *Fee-be-be*

Carolina Chickadee ID:

- Less white on wings and tail feathers
- Lower edge of black chin bib is neatly defined
- Less buff color under wings
- Song sounds like *Fee-be-fee-ba*



Are they friends?

With this question, Cora was referring to two Carolina Chickadees. While I couldn't say definitively that they were 'friends,' it was likely that they were flock mates. Carolina chickadees often form winter flocks, to aid each other in finding food and protection from predators. Other birds, such as kinglets, nuthatches, titmice, and smaller woodpeckers will join chickadee flocks for the same reason. Surprisingly, these winter flocks are led by chickadees. Their *chickadee-dee-dee* calls, when used as an alarm, are recognized and used

to take cover, by other species – the more *dee* notes in the call, the greater the threat.
Note to Birders: *Watching and listening for chickadee flocks in the spring and fall is a good way to spot migrants as so many birds associate with chickadee flocks.*

Why are the birds fighting?

Sometimes squabbles breakout at the bird feeder. Winter can be tough for birds, so it's no surprise when tensions rise over the last sunflower seed. In fact, there exists a (pardon the pun) pecking order among feeder birds. Or rather, a dominance hierarchy that plays out as a feeder fight club. As you might guess, the larger the bird, the more dominant it is at the feeder. So a small chickadee will quickly fold to a blue jay. But as is the way of the world there are exceptions. Mourning doves, despite their size, were rather submissive. Woodpeckers did well for their size class, though if you were able to smash your head into tree trunks on a daily basis with no repercussions, you'd be pretty tough, too. I'll stop there because we've already broken the first rule about the feeder flight club (don't talk about the feeder fight club), but if you want to learn more, visit www.go.osu.edu/ffc, for the article written by Alison Haigh, a student at Cornell University.

Why is that bird so fluffy?

Cora was observing a Northern Cardinal, puffed out like a bright, red ball. I told her that the cardinal has its bird coat on. Birds puff their feathers, effectively creating air pockets that trap body heat. Birds can control how warm they want their coat to be. Just like we choose the level of insulation in a down-filled coat, birds choose between their 400-fill-power coat or their 900-fill-power coat by the



level of feather puff. Muscles in their skin allow the bird to control their feathers – feathers extending farther from the body will create larger air pockets, and thus more warmth.

Why does that bird keep flying away?

One day, we were watching a White-breasted Nuthatch make continuous trips to and from our feeder. Perhaps it was simply a very hungry bird. More than likely, the nuthatch was storing the seeds to eat later. Nuthatches often store seeds (and insects, too) by wedging them into cracks, crevices, and furrows in the bark of nearby trees.



Sometimes, they will attempt to hide their treasures from others by covering it with a bit of snow, bark, or lichen.

Why is that bird on the ground?

The bird Cora was referring to was a Dark-eyed Junco, a species that likes to forage for food on



the ground. Birds like to feed in different ways. For example, suet feeders attract birds that can cling and feed upside down like woodpeckers, nuthatches, and chickadees. Tube feeders with small perches accommodate small birds such as

finches. Platform feeders attract many feeder birds, and when placed on the ground, will also attract juncos, other sparrows, and doves. Dark-eyed juncos breed north of Ohio, and move south for the winter, earning them the nickname, 'snowbirds.'

Do you have more questions about the birds at your feeders? Check out [Project FeederWatch](http://ProjectFeederWatch.com) (feederwatch.com) for more information on feeding birds. In addition, [All About Birds](http://AllAboutBirds.org) (allaboutbirds.org) is and continues to be an incredibly useful resource about all things birdy. My sincere thanks to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology for putting together such a great resources!

Have You Heard??

Since 1970, 29% (almost 3 billion) of breeding birds in the U.S. and Canada have disappeared. That's 2 of every 5 Baltimore Orioles, 3 of every 4 Meadowlarks, and 2 of 5 Barn Swallows. The biggest cause of decline among birds is habitat loss and degradation. Other leading causes are window strikes, predation by cats, and collisions



with windows, vehicles, buildings, and power lines. Take heart – we have recovered species before (think Bald Eagle, Kirtland's Warbler, and Wild Turkey). What can you do to #BringBirdsBack? Check out 3billionbirds.org.

Need Help with Your Wildlife Habitat Projects??

The 2018 Farm Bill increased wildlife conservation funding to 10 percent of total Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds, doubling the previous rate. With this additional funding,

landowners can gain financial and technical assistance to restore, develop or enhance even more wildlife habitat! Want more information? The best way to learn if EQIP is a good fit for you is by contacting your local NRCS office.

Calendar of Events

We are still working on the 2020 calendar of classes and workshops. Below is what has been confirmed but keep checking the website to get up to date on what we are offering.

March 4th – Ohio Woodland Water and Wildlife Conference, Mid-Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield, OH

March 14th – Sowing Seeds for Success – 2020 Small Farm Conference & Trade Show, Ohio State University- Mansfield Campus

March 28th – Ohio River Valley Woodland and Wildlife Workshop, Burlington, KY

April 3rd – Harvesting Sweet Rewards from Your Forest, Bus tour starts at Ohio State University Mansfield Campus

July 29th - Name That Tree, Ohio State University-Mansfield Campus

July 31st - Tree Diagnostics Workshop – Ohio State University- Mansfield Campus



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