



# **Chapter 10: Environmental Justice, Low-Income and Minority Populations, and Forest Management in the NWFP Area**

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# Guiding Questions

1. What are the trends in the size of low-income and minority populations in the NWFP area since the plan was adopted, and what is their current distribution?
2. How do low-income and minority populations interact with federal forests in the NWFP area?







# Low Income Populations

	1990	2000	2012
	Poverty rate, percent		
United States	13.5	11.3	15.0
NWFP counties	11.2	10.0	14.7
Metro	10.3	9.1	13.9
Nonmetro	15.3	14.2	19.0

- Poverty rates increased
- Poverty rates highest in nonmetropolitan counties



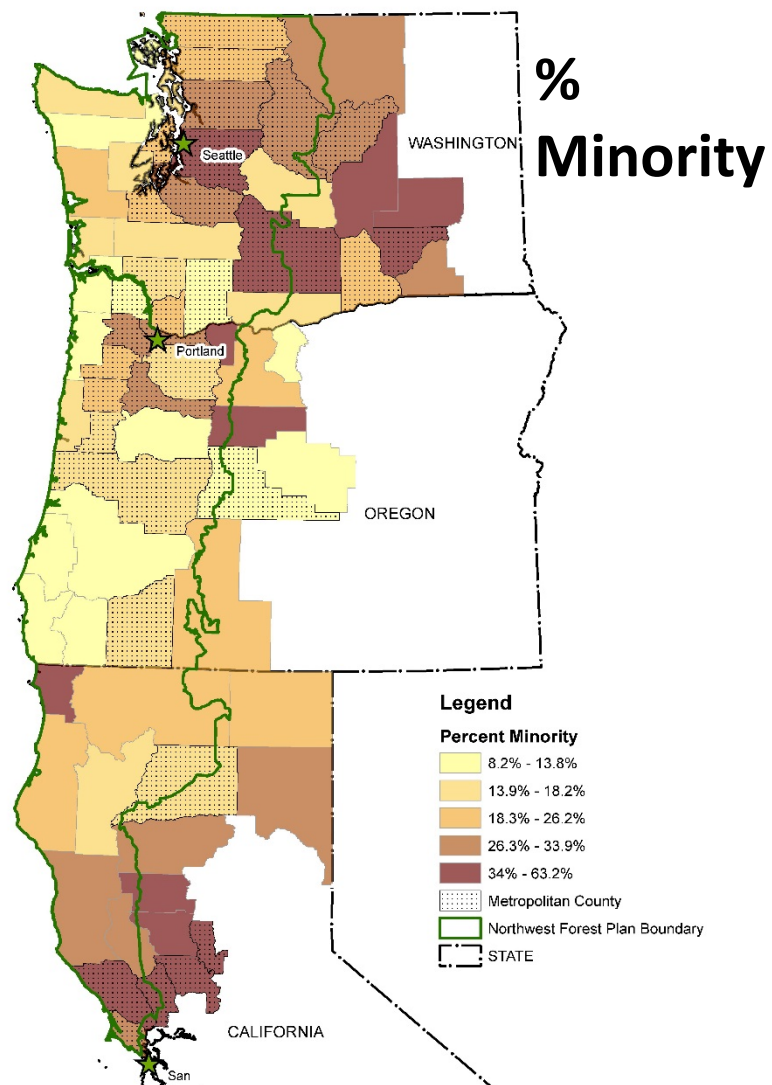
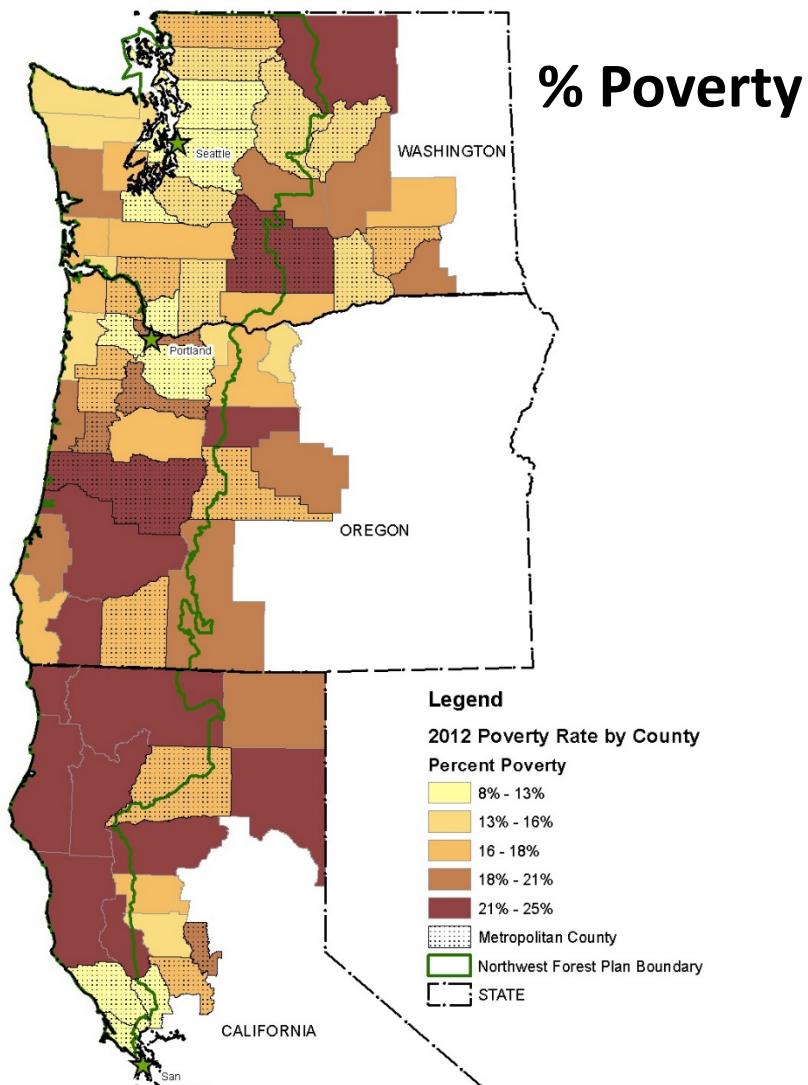
# Minority Populations

	1990, %	2000, %	2012, %
Am Indian/ AK Native	2	2	2
Asian, Hawaiian, other PI	4	5	7
Black or African American	3	3	3
White	92	88	84
Hispanic or Latino	5	9	14
≥ two races		3	4

- Minority populations increased, especially Hispanic/Latino populations



# Distribution of Low Income & Minority Groups







# Interactions with Federal Forests

- Environmental workforce
- Commercial nontimber forest products gathering
- Recreation
- Wildfire management
- Nonrecreational camping and homelessness





# Environmental workforce

- Most forest workers are Hispanic/Latino
- Poor working conditions are common
- Actions to improve working conditions:
  - better enforcement of contract requirements
  - more oversight of contract crews
  - changing competitive low-cost bid process



Northwest Forest  
Worker Center





# Nontimber Forest Products

- Low income & minority groups active in commercial harvest
- Federal forests are important harvesting sites
- Harvesters are under-represented in management process
- Concerns = safety, access, employment conditions, immigration officials, conflict w/other harvesters





# Visits to National Forests by Income Group

Annual household income	Plan area 2011–2015	National 2011–2015
	<i>Percent</i>	
Under \$25,000	12	10
\$25,000–\$49,000	18	18
\$50,000–\$74,999	23	22
\$75,000–\$99,999	20	18
\$100,000–\$149,999	17	16
\$150,000 and up	11	16

- Recreation visitation by low-income populations is low
- Key barrier = cost of trip



# Visits to National Forests by Minorities

Minority Group	Plan area	National
	<i>Percent, 2011-2015</i>	
Am Indian/AK Native	3	2
Asian	3	2
Black/African Amer	1	1
White	95	95
Hawaiian /other PI	1	1
Hispanic or Latino	4	6

- Recreation visitation by non-white populations is low
- Barriers = distance, cost, transportation, safety concerns, lack of awareness, information in multiple languages





# Summary

- EJ not just about exposure to toxins in urban areas
- Low-income and minority populations are growing
- NWFP impacts on these populations are unknown (except for American Indians)
- Existing research points to important issues
- More information is needed to address local conditions