

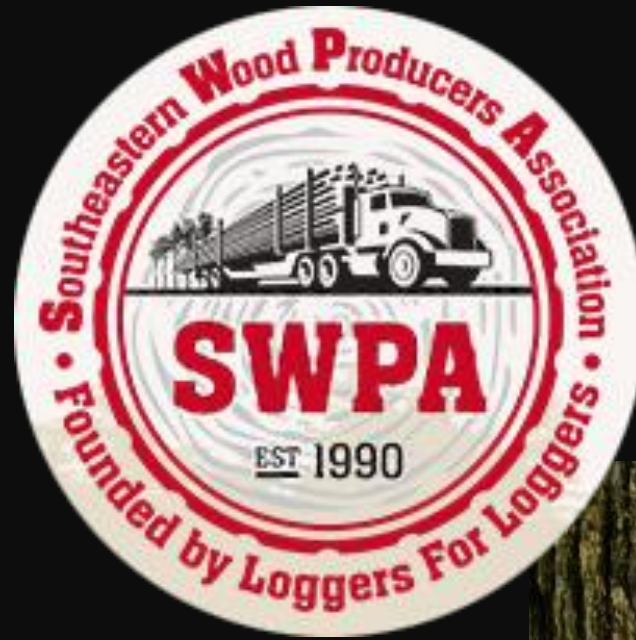
# Women and Forest Policy

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# Who Are We?



- Southeastern Wood Producers represent the loggers and logistics sectors of forestry
- Getting the work done the right way
- Formed in 1990 and operate in Georgia & Florida

Laura Bosworth  
Executive Director



Russell Fowler  
President



Jerry Gray  
Vice President



Dillon Stratton  
Treasurer/Secretary



Scott Gies  
Past President



# Why is policy so important?

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- It can help or hurt forestry from landowners to loggers to mills
  - When one is impacted the entire stool shakes & shifts
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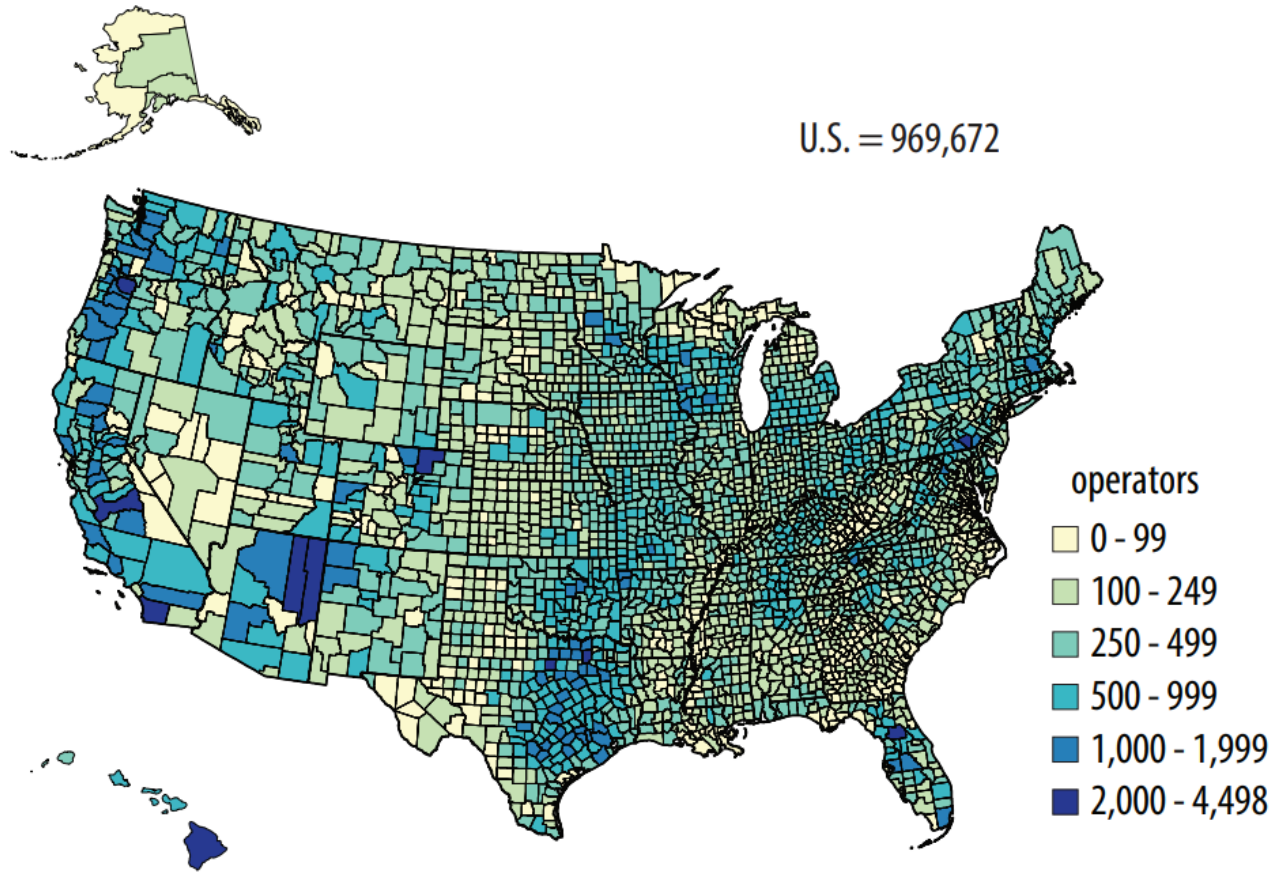


## Why are forest landowners so important...

- They own the forests
- They make the decisions
- Forests are where the supply is
- They take on the cost & risk of ownership

# We're a significant minority, of a minority

## Women Farm Operators, by County, 2012



- Women account for about 30% of farm ownership
- Generally tend to share ownership
- Are inheriting control of land more and more



# We own differently

Table 3  
**Farms with Woman Principal Operator, by Farm Size and Sales, 2012**  
(percent)

|                        | Woman-operated Farms | All Farms |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Farm Size</b>       |                      |           |
| < 50 acres             | 54                   | 39        |
| 50 to 179 acres        | 28                   | 30        |
| 180 to 999 acres       | 15                   | 23        |
| 1,000 acres or more    | 3                    | 8         |
| Total                  | 100                  | 100       |
| <b>Farm Sales</b>      |                      |           |
| Less than \$10,000     | 76                   | 56        |
| \$10,000 to \$49,999   | 15                   | 19        |
| \$50,000 to \$249,999  | 6                    | 13        |
| \$250,000 to \$999,999 | 2                    | 8         |
| \$1,000,000 or more    | 1                    | 4         |
| Total                  | 100                  | 100       |

Source: USDA NASS, 2012 Census of Agriculture.

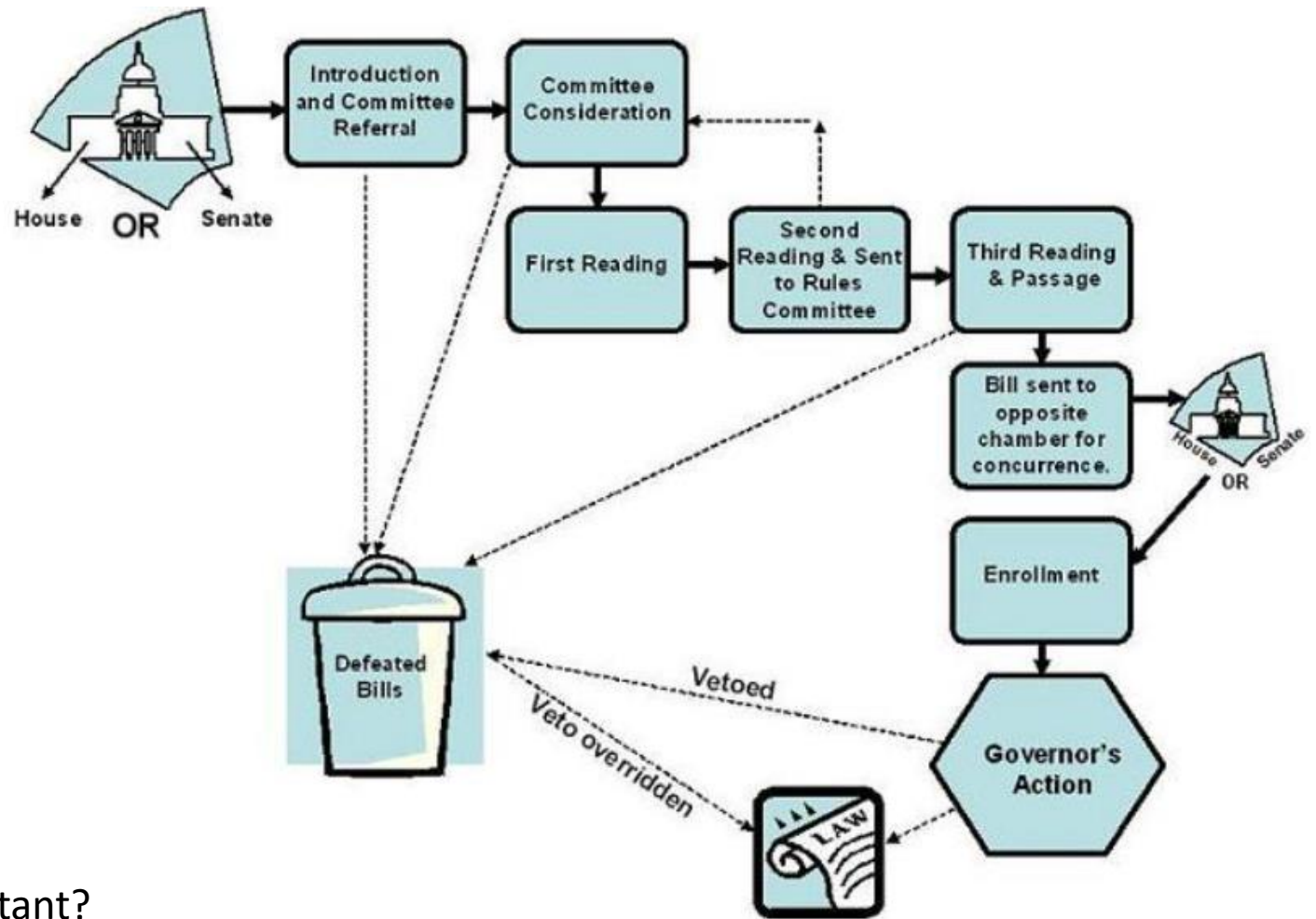


## Our Voice is Growing

- From 1981 to 2020 we went from 17 federal elected officials to 134



# How the System Works



Where is your involvement most important?  
Bi-Partisan is Best



# What Should We Be Talking About?

- Federally:
  - Farm Bill 2022
  - Growing Climate Solutions
  - Rural Forest Markets
  - 30 x 30
  - Safe Routes Act
  - Taxes & Disaster Relief



# Farm Bill – Revisions in 2022

- Probably most important for landowners
  - Natural Resource Conservation Service
  - Farm Service Agency
- Get involved with your local and state working groups.
- Advise on how funding is allocated
- Advise on program guidelines
- Gaining access to programs agriculture enjoys





# Forests, Forests, Everywhere

- **Growing Climate Solutions**
  - Mike Braun (R-IN)
  - Ease of access into carbon markets for landowners
  - Assessment
  - Forestry needs to maintain it's voice here
- **Rural Forest Markets**
  - Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
  - Ecosystem Services
  - Tree Planting
  - Funding for projects

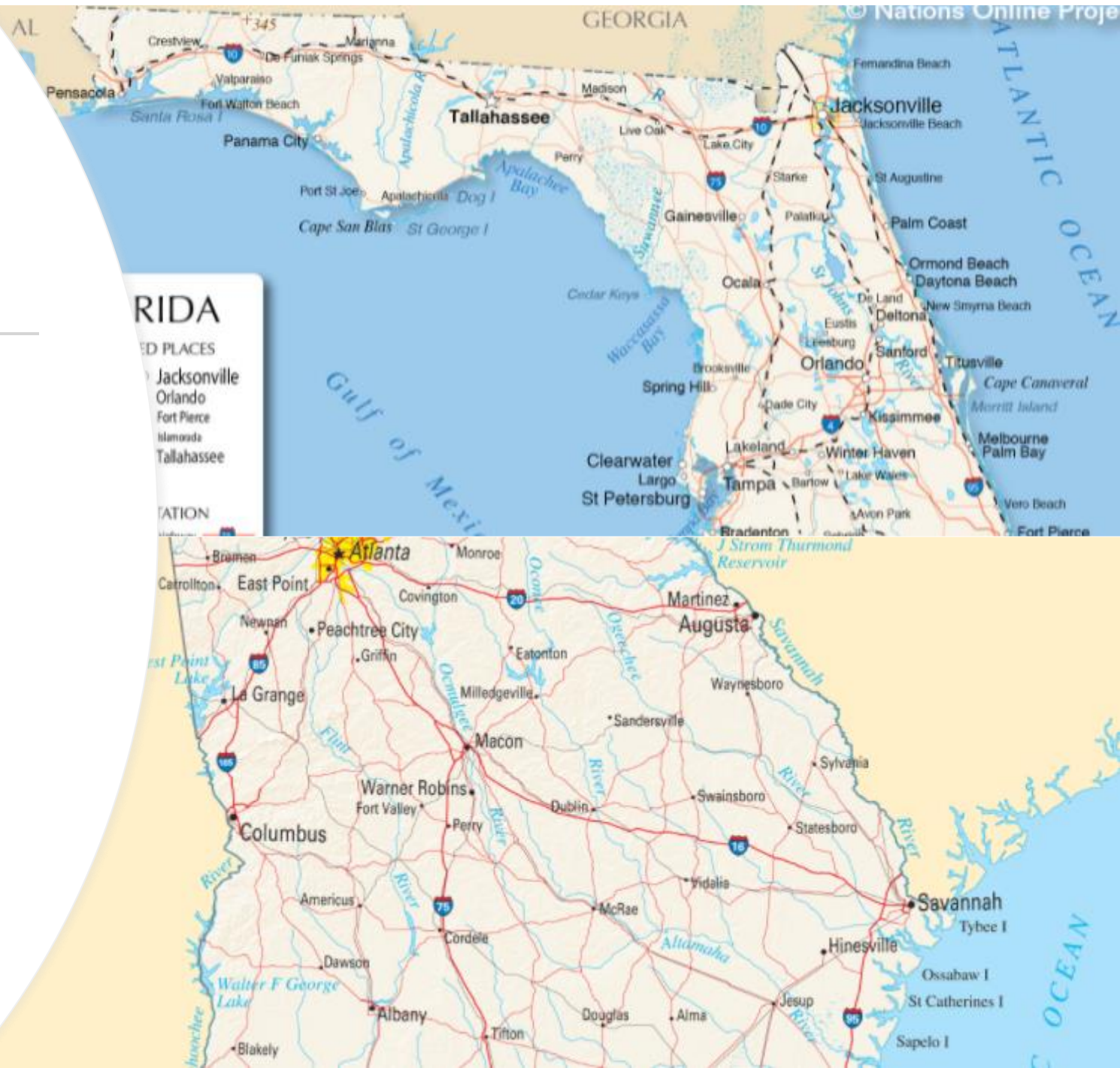
The **Growing Climate Solutions** Act is cosponsored in the U.S. House by U.S. Representatives Cindy Axne (D-IA-03), Julia Brownley (D-CA-26), Matt Cartwright (D-PA-08), Jim Cooper (D-TN-05), Jim Costa (D-CA-16), John R. Curtis (R-UT-03), Ted Deutch (D-FL-22), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-01), Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE-01), Trey Hollingsworth (R-IN-09), Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA-06), John Katko (R-NY-24), Mike Kelly (R-PA-16), Elaine Luria (D-VA-02), Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY-18), Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01), Elise Stefanik (R-NY-21), Paul Tonko (D-NY-20), Susan Wild (D-PA-07), Rob Wittman (R-VA-01), Cheri Bustos (D-IL-17), and Nancy Mace (R-SC-01).





# Stateside- Always exciting

- Session just wrapped up
- Budgetary Allocations
- Ecosystem Services & Carbon Markets
- Truck Weights & Insurance
- Regulatory
  - Species, Water Quality, Land Conversion, Etc.
- Taxes



# For the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Legs

- Safe Routes Act
  - Increases truck weight allowances on interstates
  - Why? Safety, Environmental, Efficiency, Viability
- Insurance Costs & Availability
  - Few insurance providers
  - High rates
  - Solutions aren't easy but they are needed
  - Safety Solutions
  - Lawsuit Abuse
- “The good news is that **big trucks often carry even bigger insurance policies**”





# Who Can Help You Get Involved

- Associations & Non-Profits
  - Forest Landowners Association
  - American Forest Foundation
  - Georgia Forestry Association
  - Florida Forestry Association
  - Southeastern Wood Producers Association
  - Forest Resource Association
- Elected officials- both local, state and federal





# Loggers Need Everyone's Support

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- Anyone can join
- It's a low cost, easy way to show your support for loggers and their importance by joining the SWPA as a member!
- Why? We're great, everyone needs loggers, and your membership helps us bolster our presence and strength!
- Women in forestry and loggers have a lot in common...



[www.swpa.ag](http://www.swpa.ag)

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