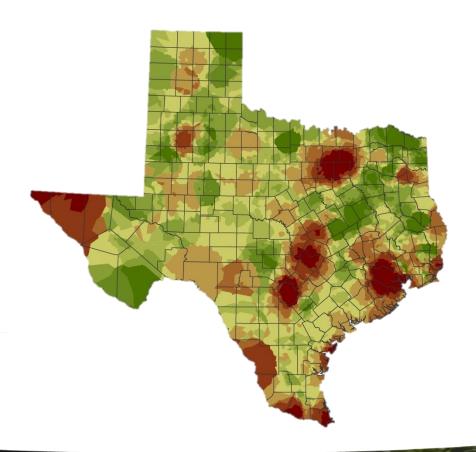




# Texas Land Trends:

## **Challenges and Opportunities for the Future**





### **Outline and The Data....**

- More people...
- Less farms and ranches...
- Changing landowners....
- Use of data to give a perspective on challenges:
  - The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly
- Opportunities and approaches...



26 Million People 171 Million Acres 95% Privately-owned



# **Texas Land Trends**

Trends in land use (1997-2012)

Primary datasets used

County Appraisal District

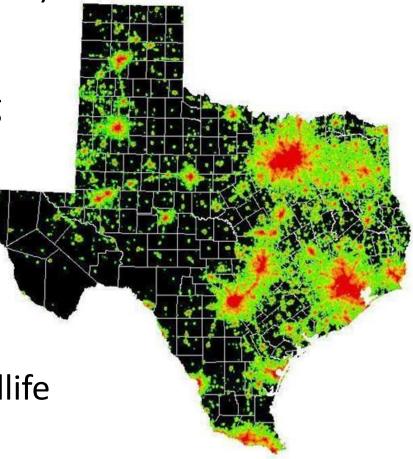
USDA NASS Census of Ag

Others

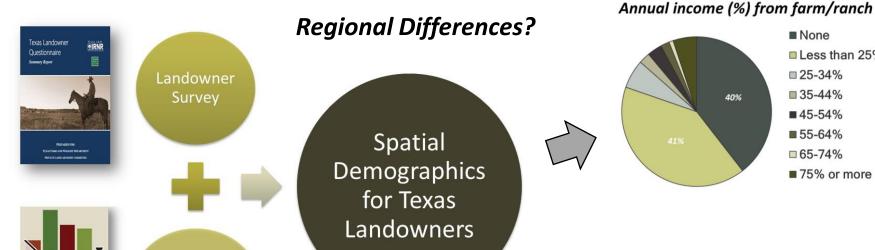
Relationships among

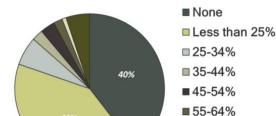
- Land Value
- Land Ownership
- Land Use

Working Lands – farms,
 ranches, family forests, wildlife (e.g., 1D, 1D1)



# **Texas Landowner Survey**

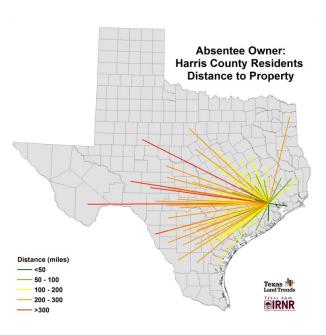




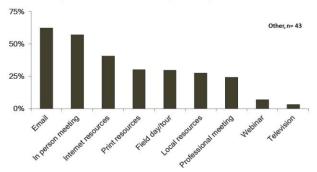
**65-74%** 

■ 75% or more











Land

Trends

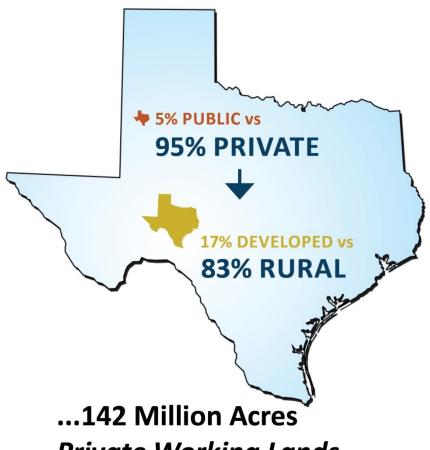
# More people....





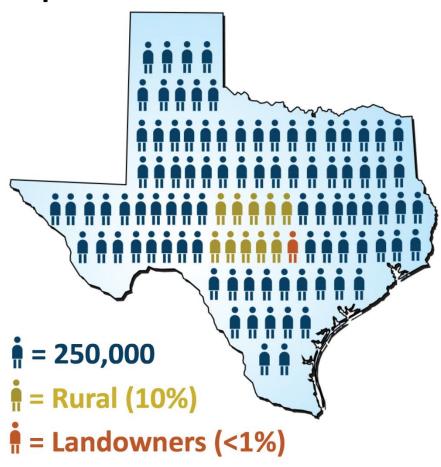
# **Changing Texas**

171 Million Acres...



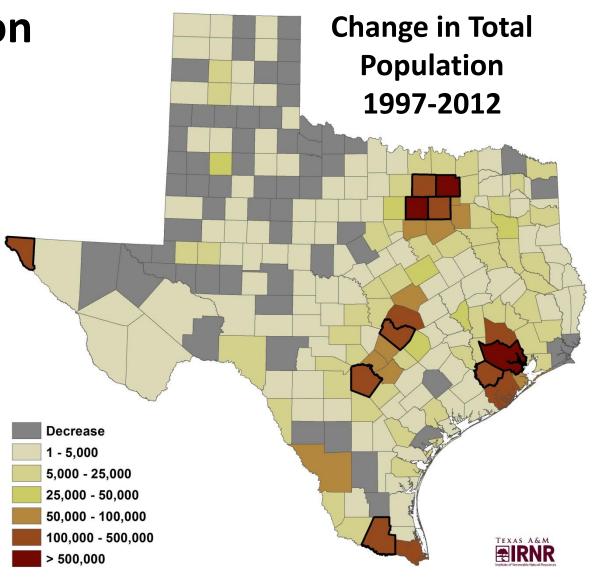
**Private Working Lands** 

Population: 26 Million...



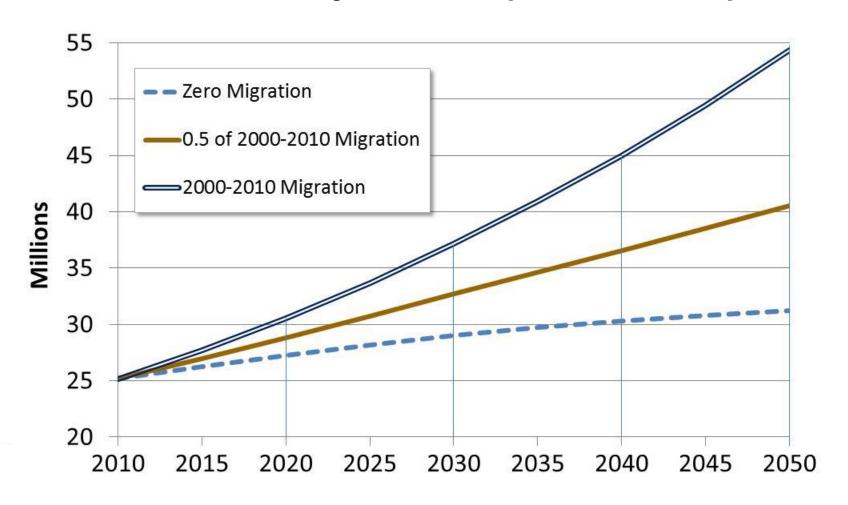
# **Texas Population**

- 1997 19 Million
- 2012 26 Million
- 36% increase
- 500,000/year
- 65% of increase occurred within Top Ten
  Populated Counties





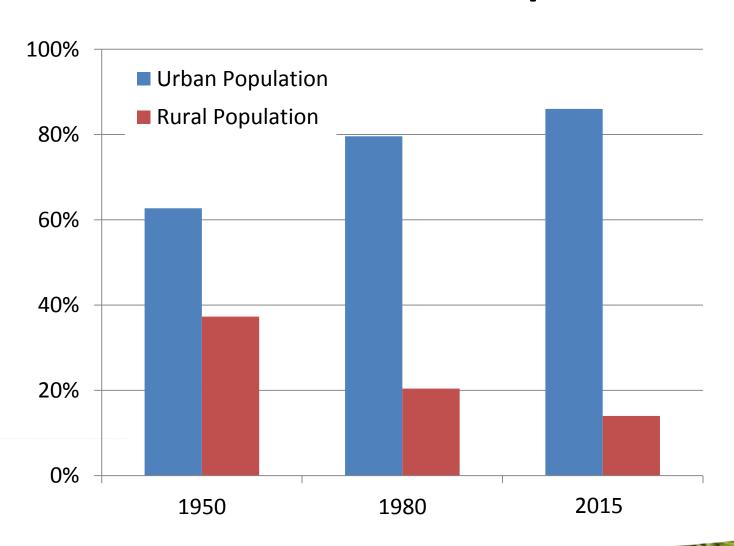
# Texas Projections (2010-2050)



Source: State Demographer



# **Texas Rural and Urban Populations**





# Less farms and ranches....

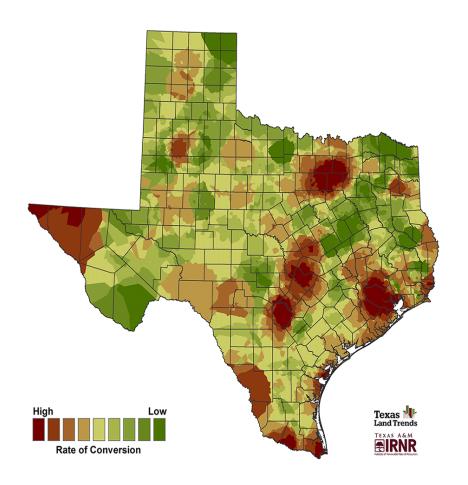




# Working Land Loss – Conversion

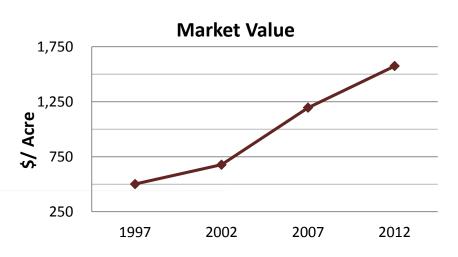
- 1997 143 Million acres
- 2012 142 Million acres
- Loss ~1 Million acres

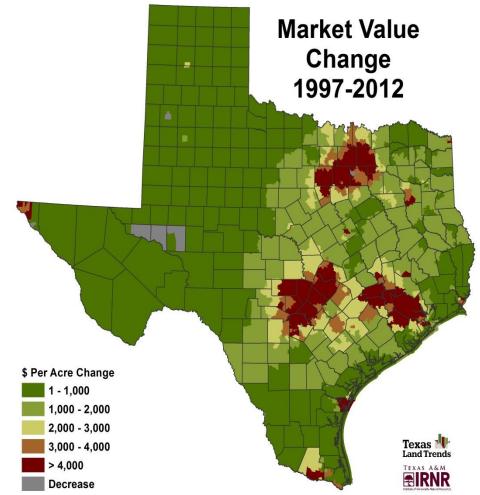




### Market Value – *Driver*

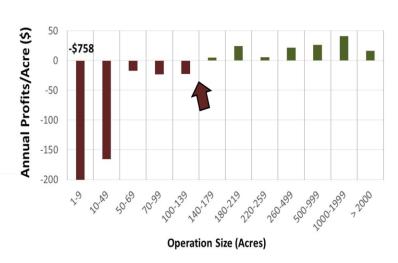
- 1997 \$501/Acre
- 2012 \$1,573/Acre
- Gain of \$1,072/Acre

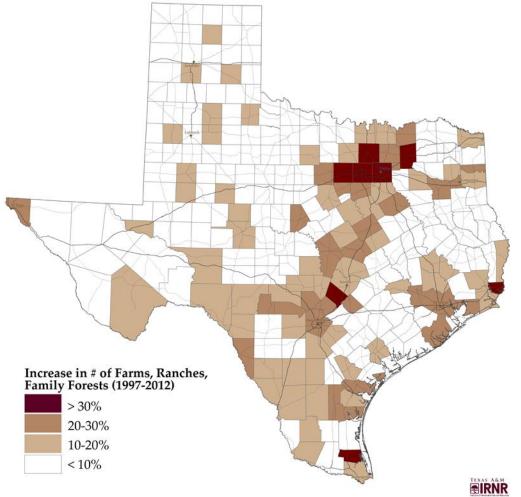




# Working Land Loss – Fragmentation

- 25,000+ <u>new</u> farms and ranches (1997-2012)
- 4.5M acres impacted





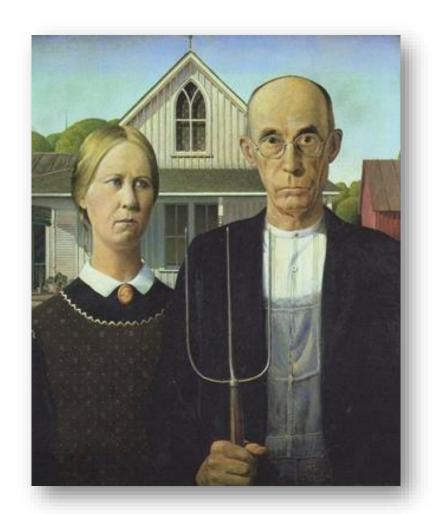
# Changing landowners....



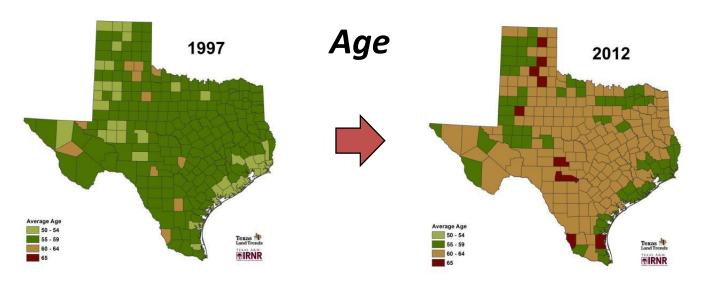


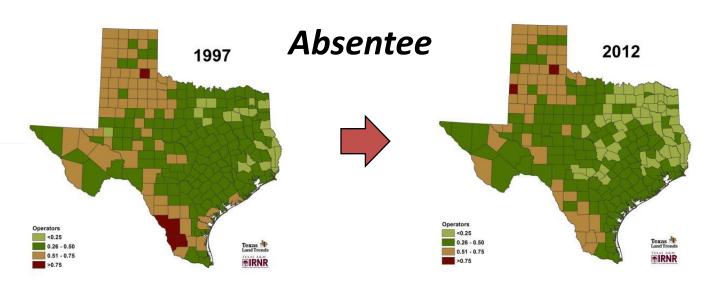
# **Landowner Demographics**

- Average farmer 57 years old
- Average forest landowner – 65 years old.
- In the next 20 years,
  U.S. will see the largest intergenerational transfer of rural lands in its history.

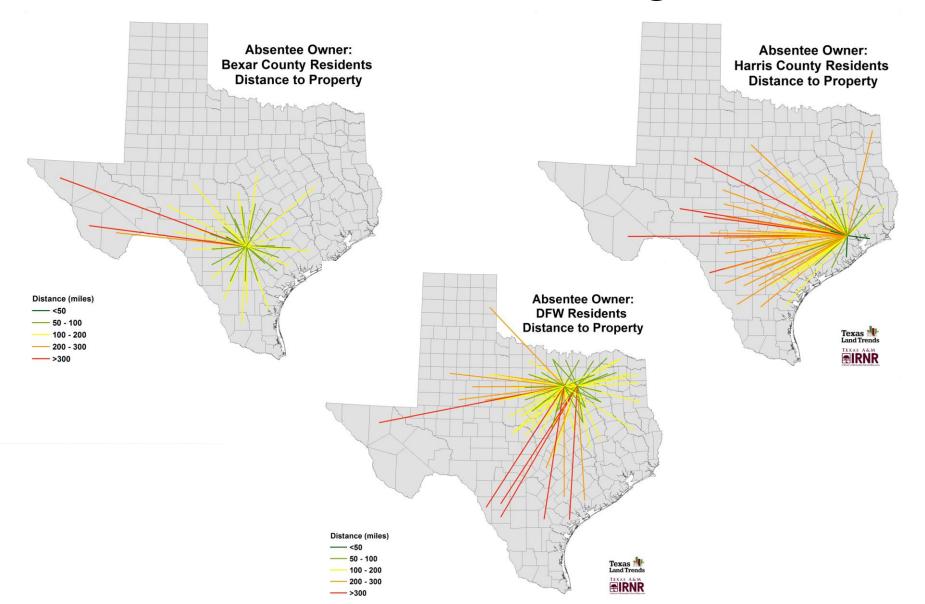


# **Landowner Demographics**



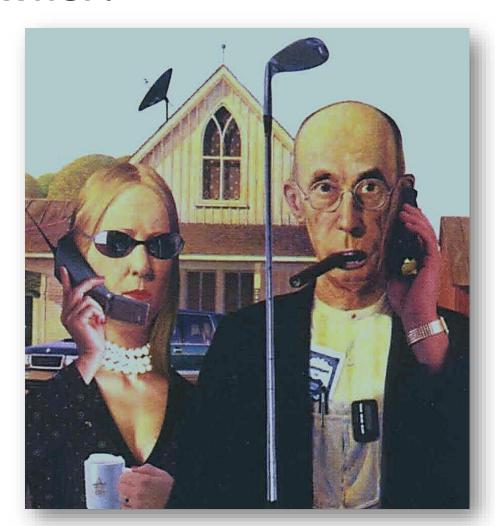


# Absentee Landowners - Average Distance

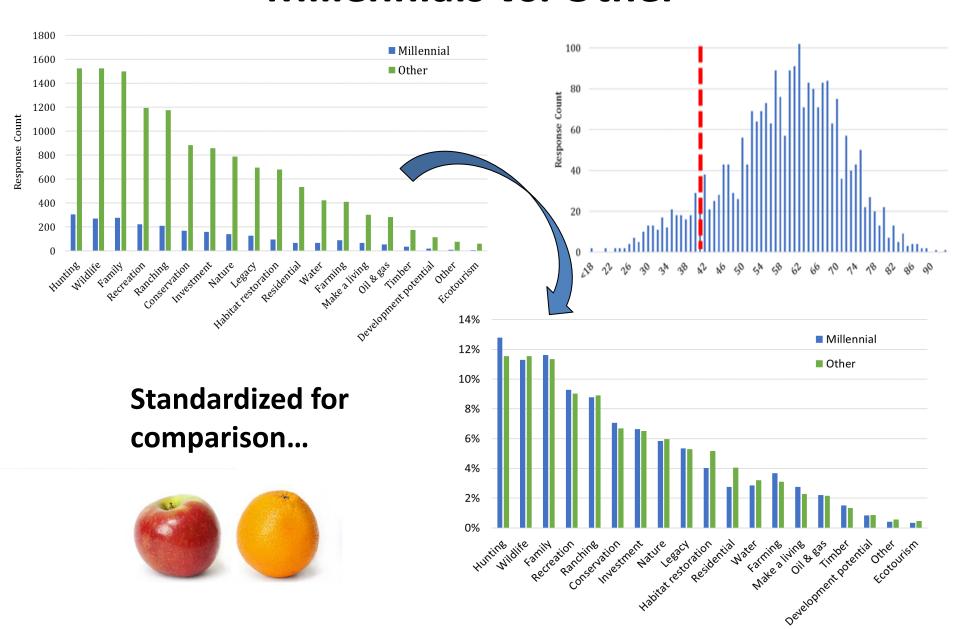


# **Future Texas Landowner?**

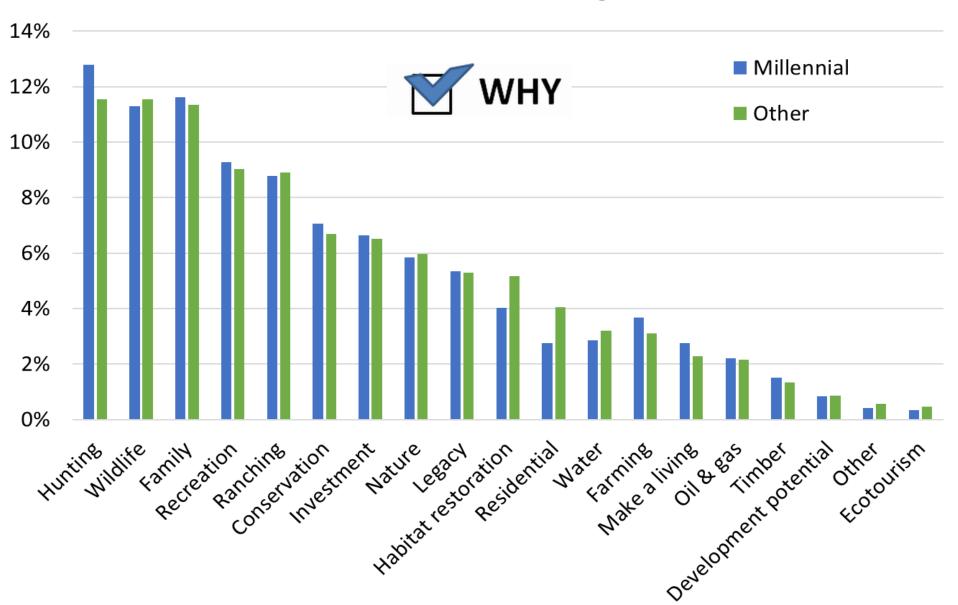
- Younger generation less tied to the land.
- Goals and objectives the same? Concerns?
  - New Ownership(25%). Owned <10</li>years
  - AbsenteeOwnership (40%)
  - Millennials (<40 years) comparison (select questions)</li>



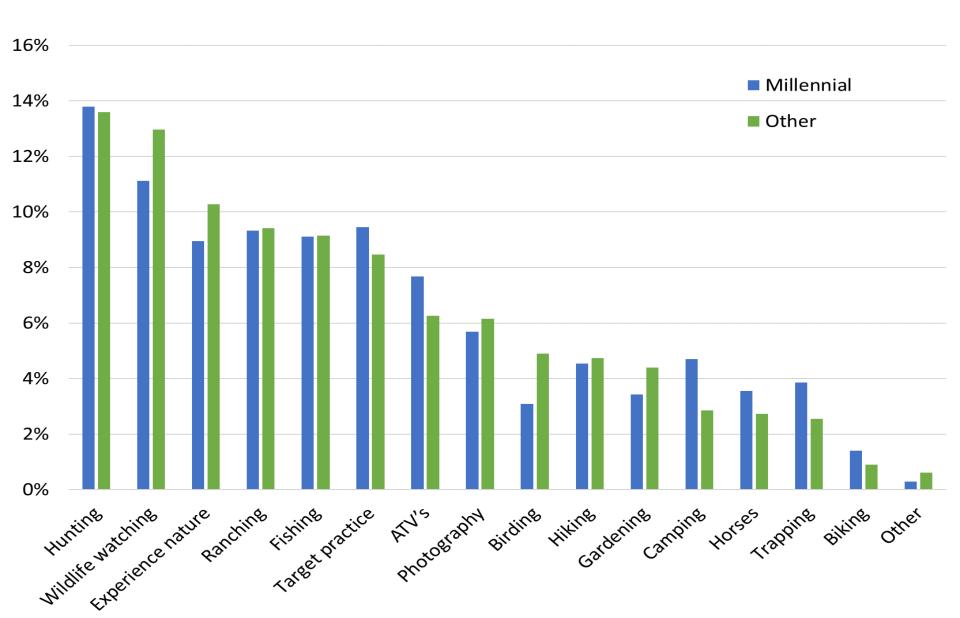
# Millennials vs. Other



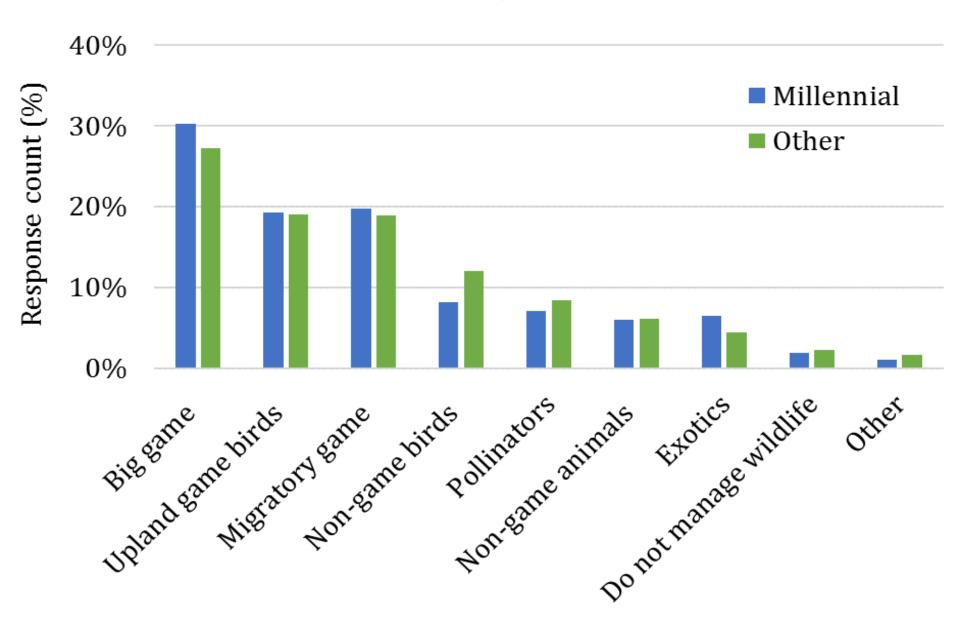
# Reasons for owning land?



# Recreational activities you enjoy on property?

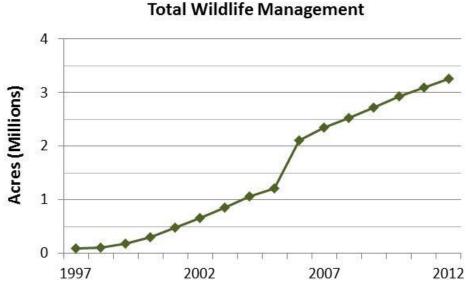


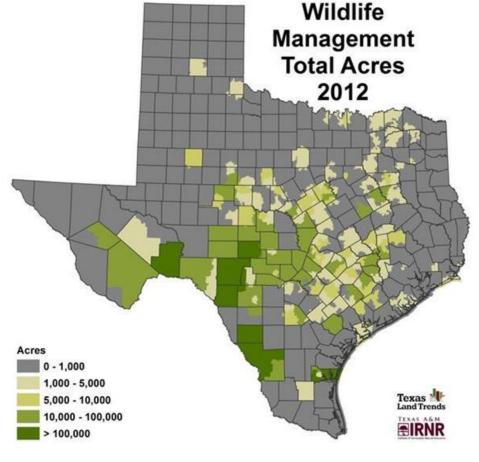
# Species you manage on your land?



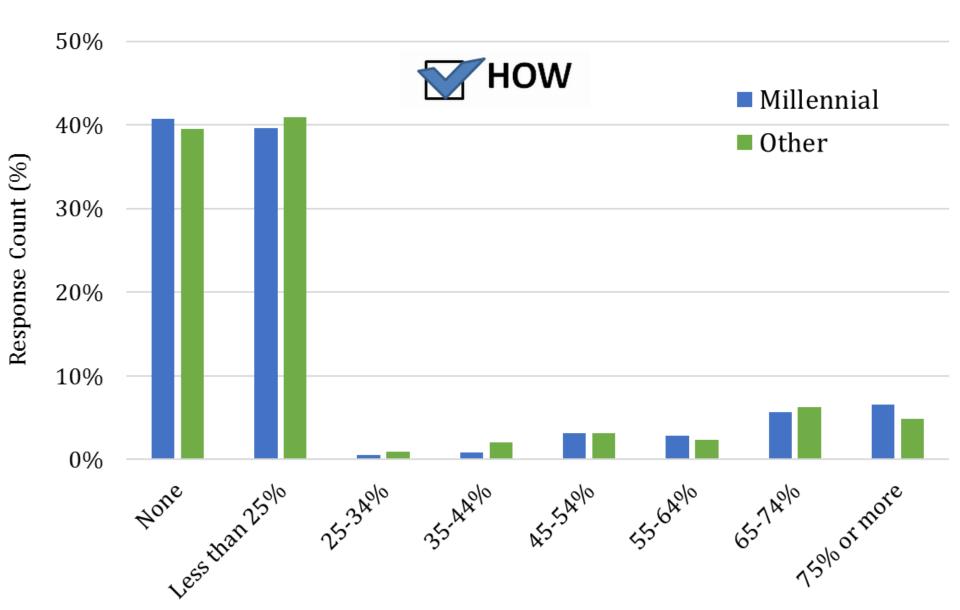
## Wildlife Valuation Trends

- 1997 92K acres
- 2012 3.3 Million acres
- Gain of 3.2 Million acres

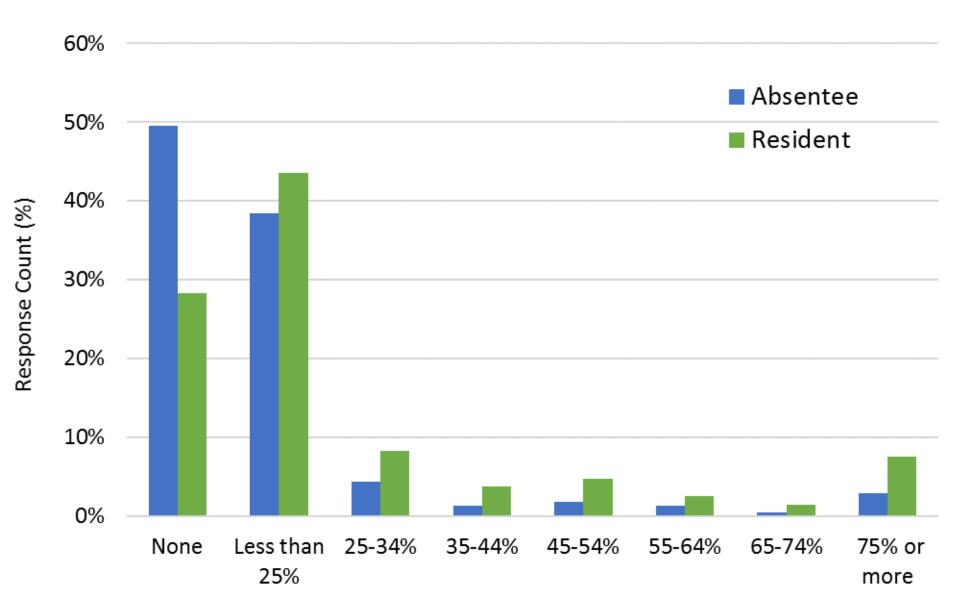




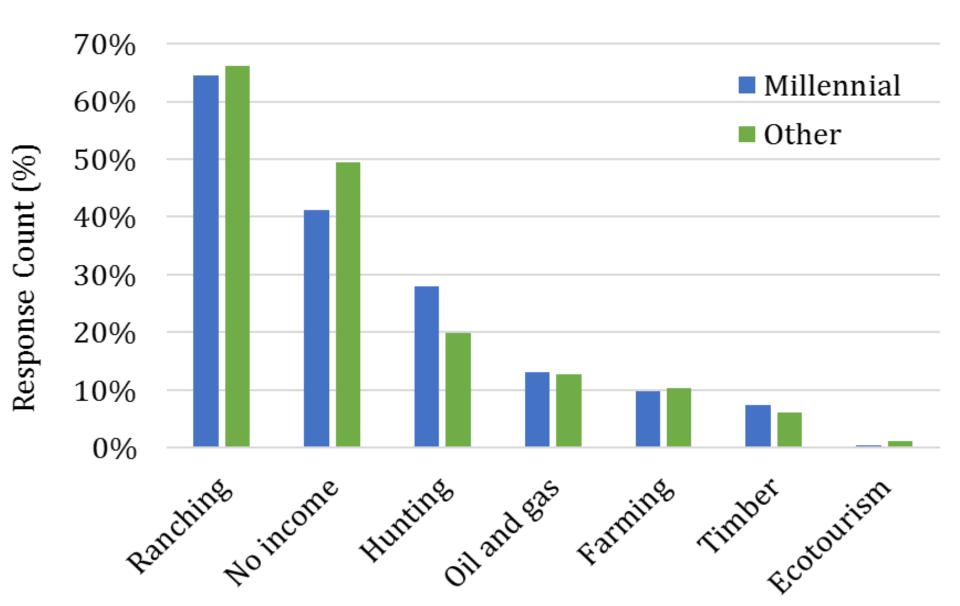
# How much of annual income (%) from property?



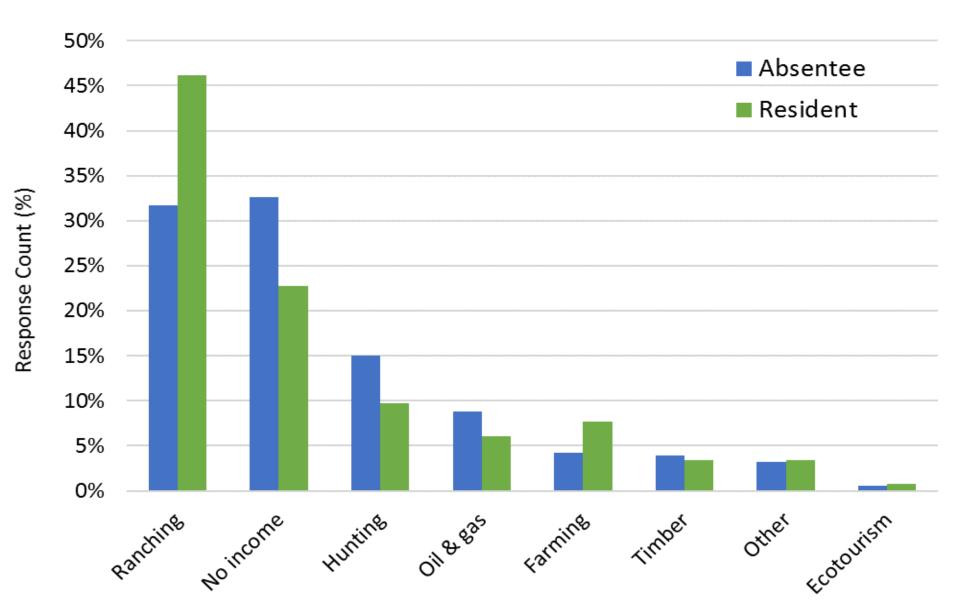
# How much of annual income (%) from property?



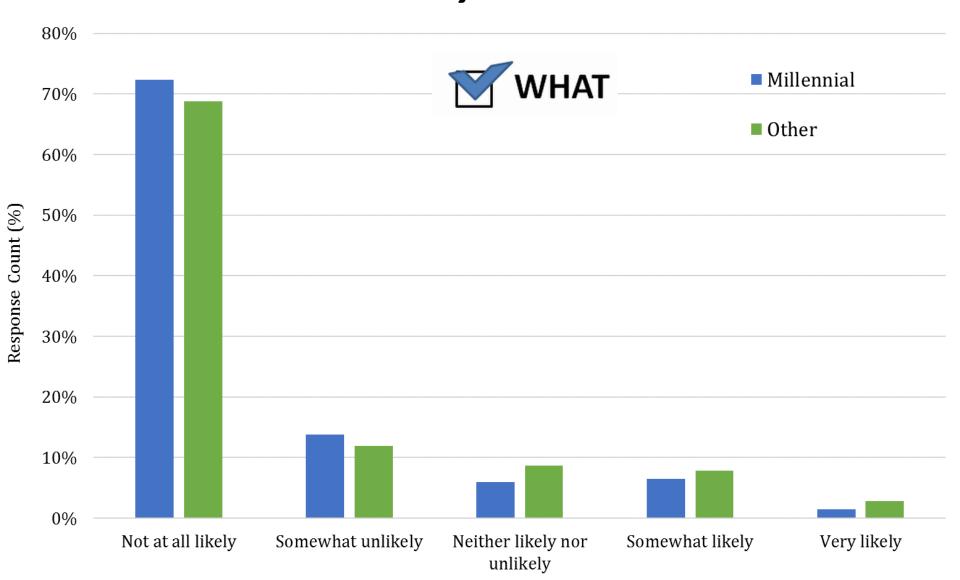
# Sources of income from property?



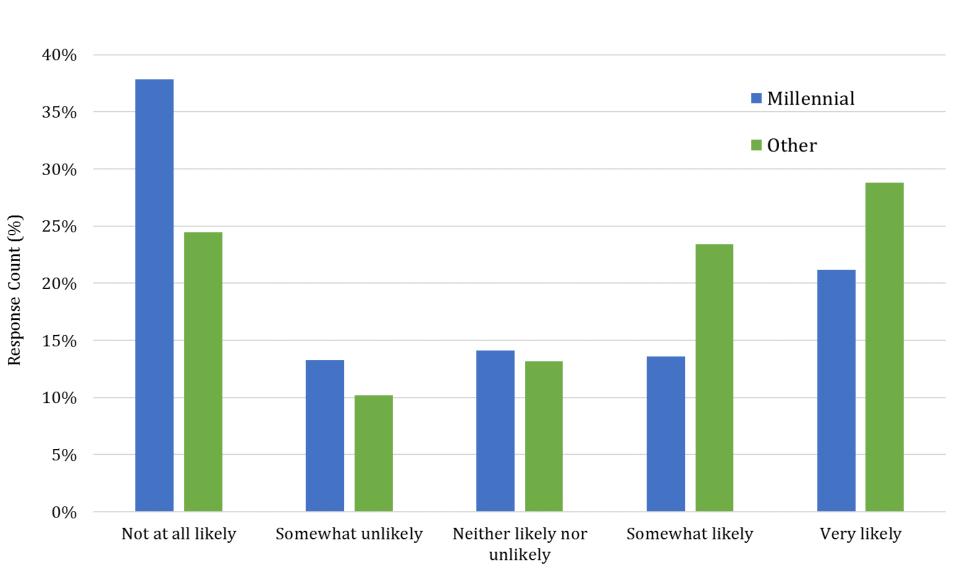
# Sources of income from property?



# In the next 10 years, how likely are you to... ...sell your land?

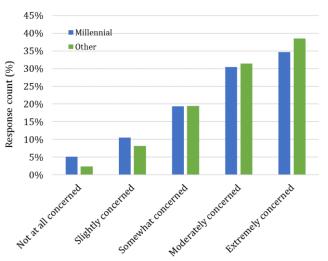


# In the next 10 years, how likely are you to... ... transfer your land to family/loved one?

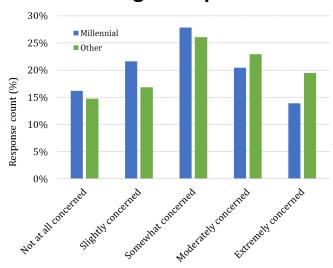


# Level of concern with the following issues...

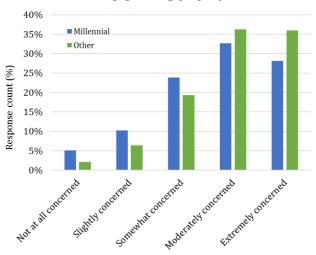




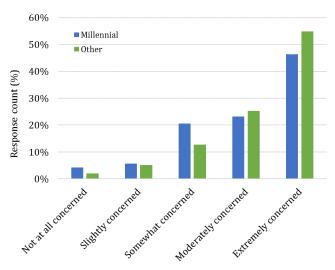
... Endangered species?



#### ...Soil health?

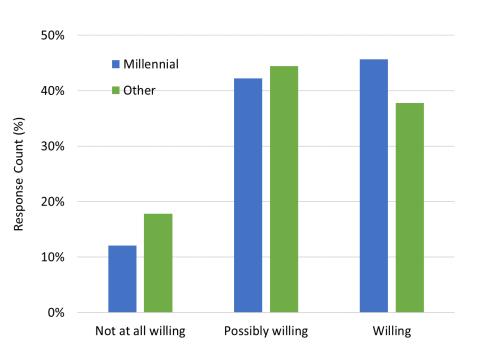


#### ...Landowner liability?

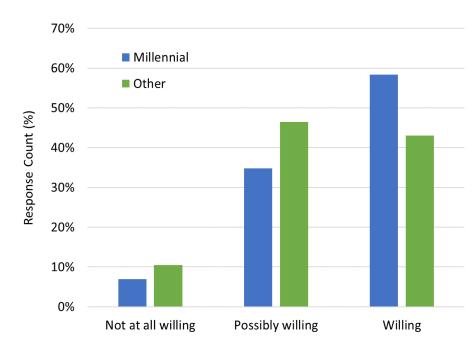


# Your willingness to participate...

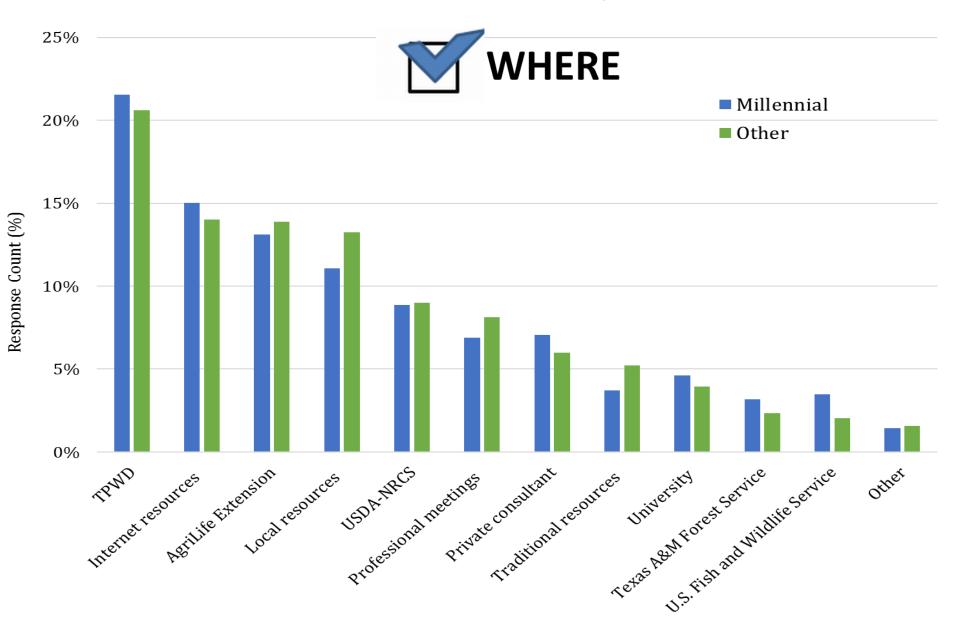
#### ....Cost-share programs?



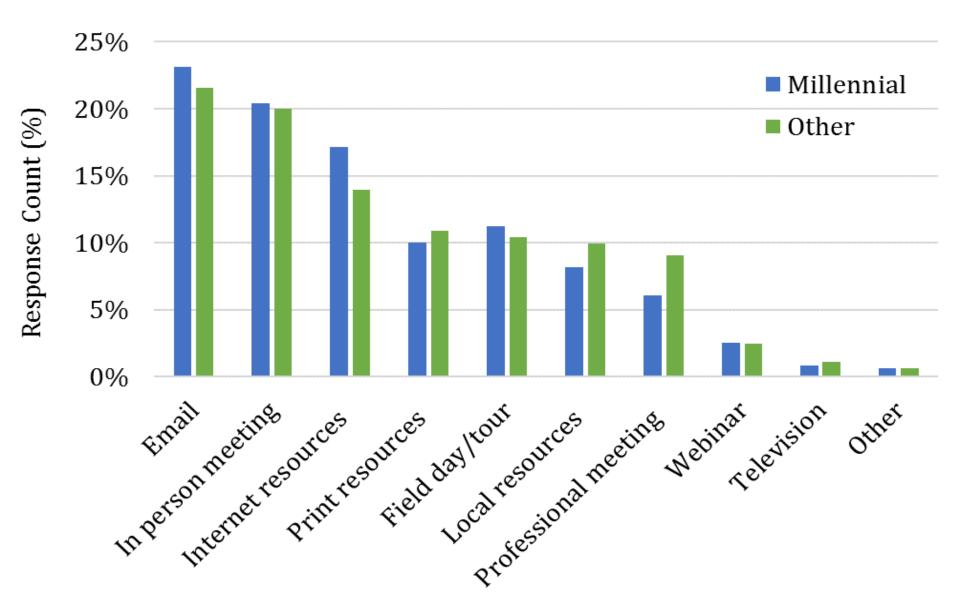
#### ... Market-based Incentives?



### Sources of reliable information for private land needs?



# How do you prefer to receive information?



# **Challenges and Solutions...**

- Changing People Increasing human population, shifts in ethnicity and urban residents.
- Changing Places Loss of working lands, fragmentation and conversion.
- Changing Perspectives –
  Aging landowners, different objectives, largest intergenerational transfer.
- Communicate the <u>public</u> benefits of <u>private</u> lands...







# Promoting Private Lands Stewardship through Research, Education, and Policy.

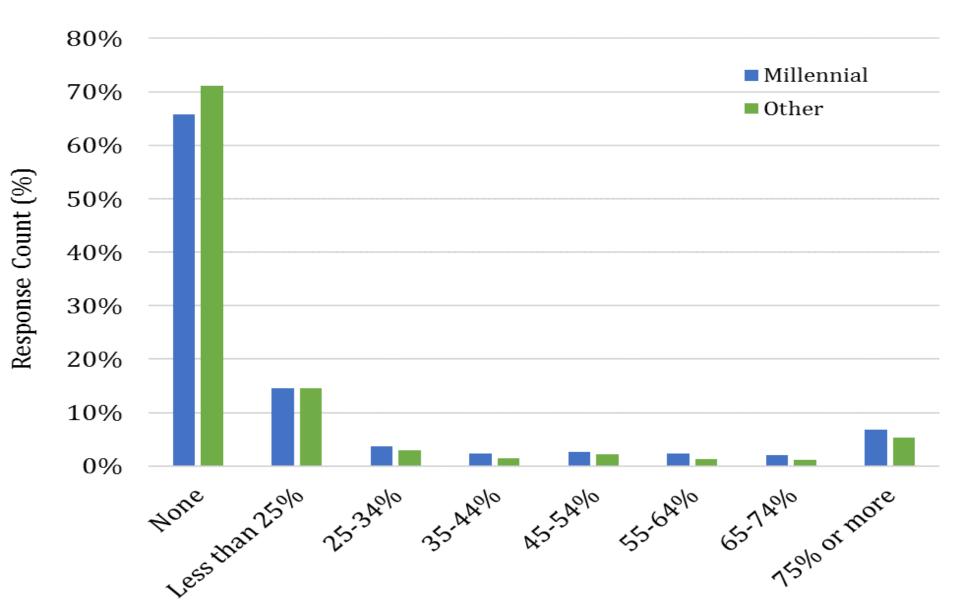
http://irnr.tamu.edu/ http://txlandtrends.org/



Roel R. Lopez roel@tamu.edu



# How much of property income (%) from wildlife?



# How much of property income (%) from wildlife?

