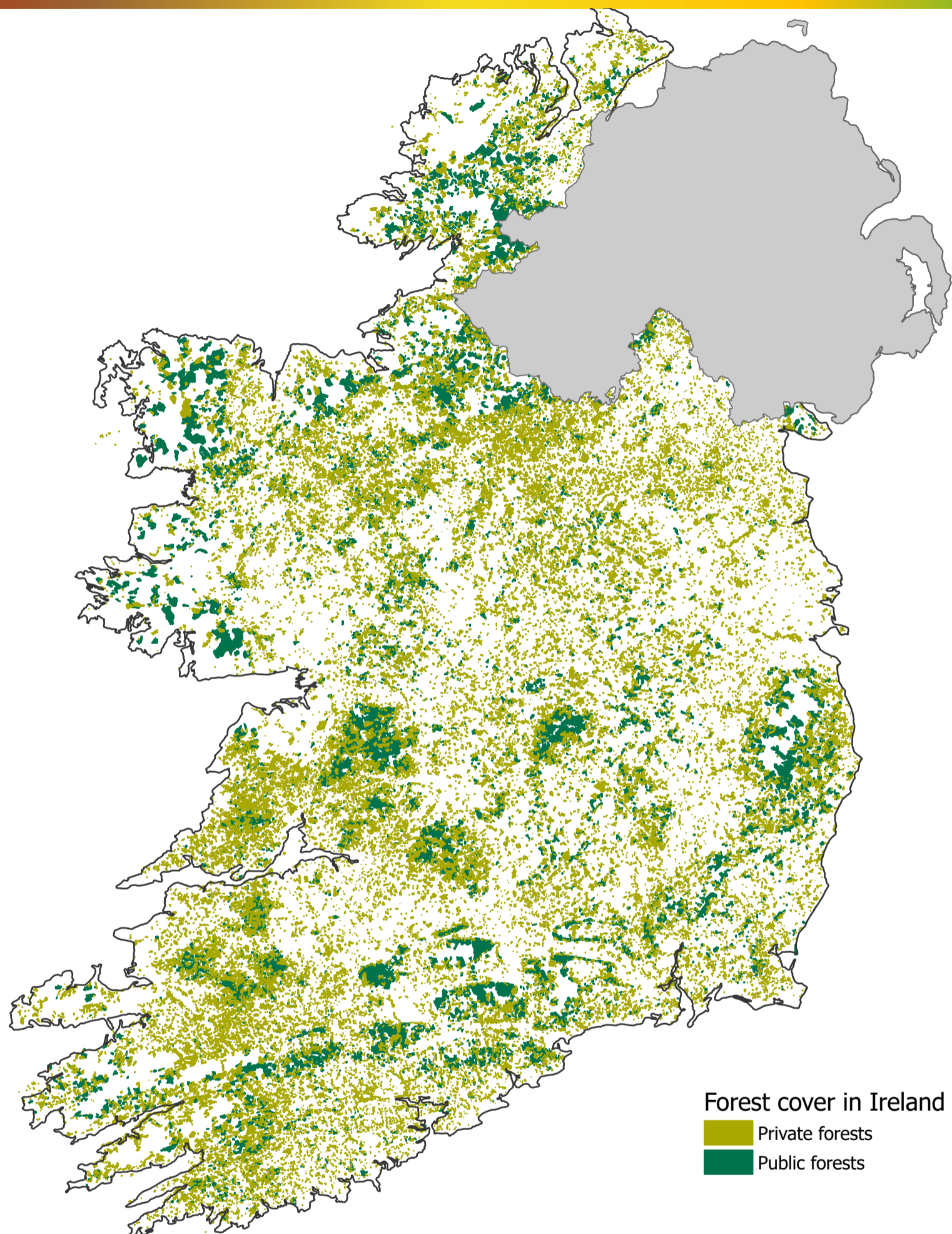


Wood as feedstock

Public and private forest cover in Ireland



The map shows both private and public forest cover in Ireland. The national forest estate is still expanding and has now reached 11% of the total land area, with a wide variety of forest types present. The total forest area has increased from 697,842 ha in 2006 to 770,020 ha in 2017. The increase in area is a result of afforestation and the inclusion of pre-existing forests for the first time during the third National Forest Inventory (NFI) cycle. Over half (50.8%) of forests are in public ownership and 378,663 ha (49.2%) are in private ownership. Leitrim is the county with the highest percentage of forest cover (18.9%), while Cork has the largest forest area (90,020 ha). The total growing stock volume of Irish forests is estimated to be over 116 million m³. The national forest estate is an important carbon sink. Based on the NFI data, Ireland's forests have removed an average of 3.8 Mt of carbon dioxide equivalents per year from the atmosphere over the period 2007 to 2016. There is also an important biodiversity resource within Irish forests, with many non-tree plant species and lichens found across the forest estate.

Source of data: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine



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