

Managing your forest

Owning a forest is an investment for the long term and while you certainly shouldn't be in a hurry to capitalize on it, a profit can be achieved!

In fact, taxation is the best lever when investing in a forest, as long as you are advised by professionals who take care of its management.

Compared to bricks and mortar, the forest is a safe investment, although it still requires a proactive approach in partnership with forestry management professionals.

As a forest owner, you own and manage the forest.

An owner can look after their estate themselves or transfer the management to professionals. Forestry management is a profession, practiced all over France.

A forest owner who manages their property themselves will need sound skills in:

- **Silviculture:** Knowledge of botany and silvicultural management, planning infrastructure works (tracks, log landing areas, etc.), felling management, maintenance and forest gardening
- **Legislation:** Rights and obligations of the owner, civil code, rural code, environment code, various regulations, drafting a *PSG* forest management plan

- **Taxation:** The notion of property (or cadastral) income, property tax, income tax, wealth tax, VAT or sales tax, transfer tax, capital gains
- **Timber sales:** Volume per plot, choice of buyer, negotiation, sales price
- **Hunting:** Hunting plan, silviculture with the aim of protecting and feeding game.

These days, many logging companies work with forest owners and offer services ranging from felling and reforestation to overall management of the forest.

YOUR FOREST ESTATE:

Have you inherited or been gifted a forest or would you like to acquire one? ForÃ¢t Investissement will help you select a woodland that offers everything you hoped for and need. We can introduce you to forestry professionals who will help you manage your forest, carry out work or sell your wood.

HOW DO I MANAGE MY FOREST?

Managing your forest â€” the decisions you need to make and your forestry approach: to fell or not to fell? What about planting? Which species?

The forestry cooperatives, the CRPF, forestry consultants and independent managers can help you with all of this.

WHAT DOES FORESTRY MANAGEMENT MEAN?

Managing your forest means:

First of all, it means making the right choice of woodland, depending on:

- Your objectives: hunting, logging operations, investment or a recreational forest
- The species you seek, which will depend on the region and your forestry projects
- The price you are prepared to pay to meet your goals

Knowing about silviculture or calling on competent professionals to help you decide on:

- your silvicultural approach
- whether or not to introduce of forest management plan, depending on surface area or the tax exemption scheme
- the work to be done and when: Plant trees? What species? What about felling? Thinning work or clear felling? Treatments?

Carrying out the forestry work yourself or calling on professionals in the sector

- The work done must comply with the specifications set out in the forest management plan
- Depending on the task, call on professionals who are skilled in the appropriate techniques and tools.

Selling your wood at the right price

- Yes, money: know what your wood is worth, keep an eye of wood prices and keep up with the regional and national timber market

Managing a forest requires a certain amount of knowledge; the owner does not always have that knowledge. Fortunately, forestry managers are well-versed in silvicultural techniques and know how to achieve what you want, while respecting the regulations and environmental concerns.