

GEORGIA'S LAND: ITS USE AND CONDITION FOURTH EDITION

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This presentation reports 30 years of results from USDA's National Resources Inventory (NRI) program in Georgia and introduces the recently published 4th Edition of Georgia's Land: Its Use and Condition. The publication shows that Georgia's largest land uses in 2012 were forest, developed land, cropland, and pasture. Surface water is an important category which saw an increase over the inventory period. Details on all land uses, their condition, their distribution and trends over time are presented in the publication and summarized in this presentation. Change detection is one of the NRI's biggest strengths - from 1982 to 2012, the equivalent of 20% of Georgia's area has been involved in change. Identifying such trends should prove useful in guiding the future direction of conservation efforts. Data from the inventory such as a significant reduction in cultivated cropland and the doubling of developed land acreage in 30 years displays the vast scale and dramatic speed of land use change affecting our land and water resources.

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