

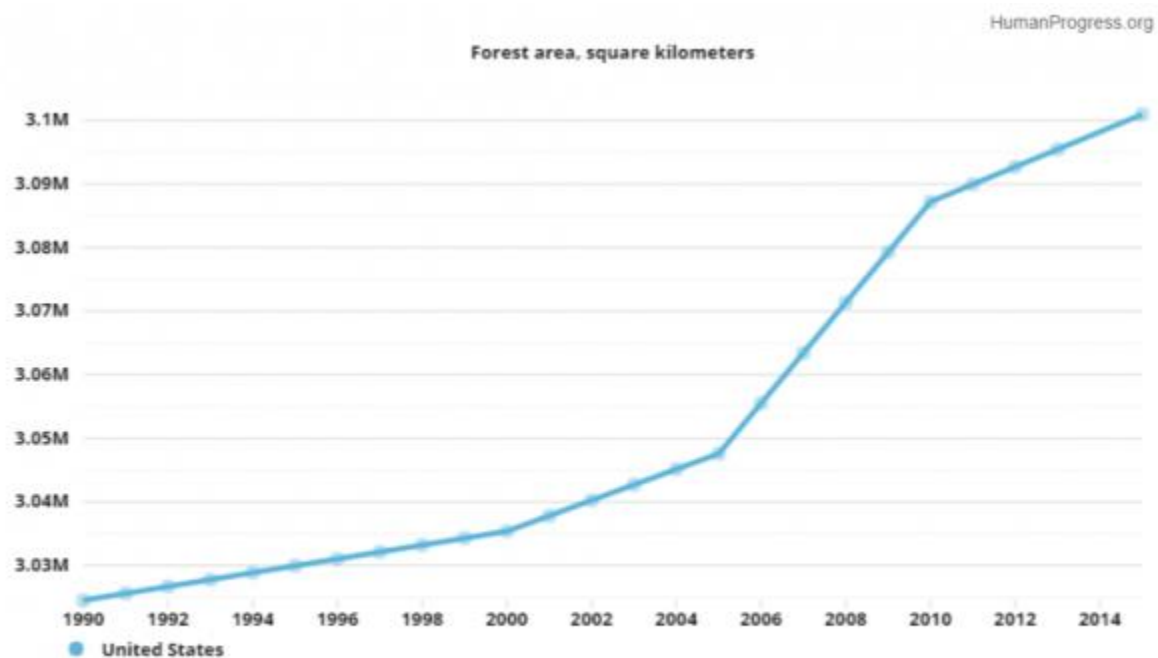
## Chart Of The Day: This Chart On US Forest Growth, Good News Or Bad News For Enviros?

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Environmentalists rhetoric on forest conservation might level off, because the amount of forested area in the U.S. has rapidly increased.

The amount of forested area in the U.S. has grown substantially since 1990 according to World Bank data aggregated and posted by HumanProgress.org Saturday. The growth of forested area isn't limited to post 1990 however, America has more trees today than it did in 1900.



Source: World Bank

*Source: HumanProgress.org*

“Forest growth nationally has exceeded harvest since the 1940s. By 1997, forest growth exceeded harvest by 42 percent and the volume of forest growth was 380 percent greater than it had been in 1920,” states an assessment from the Food and Agriculture Organization published in 2000.

The increase in American trees and forested area is due to a tree plantations which plant more trees than they harvest and the population movement from rural areas to cities and suburbs.

Research published in Nature estimates that there are 3.04 trillion trees, or approximately 422 trees for every person on Earth.