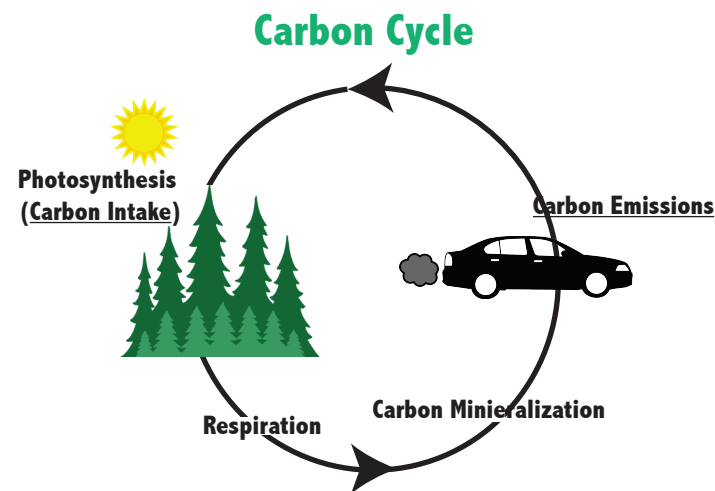
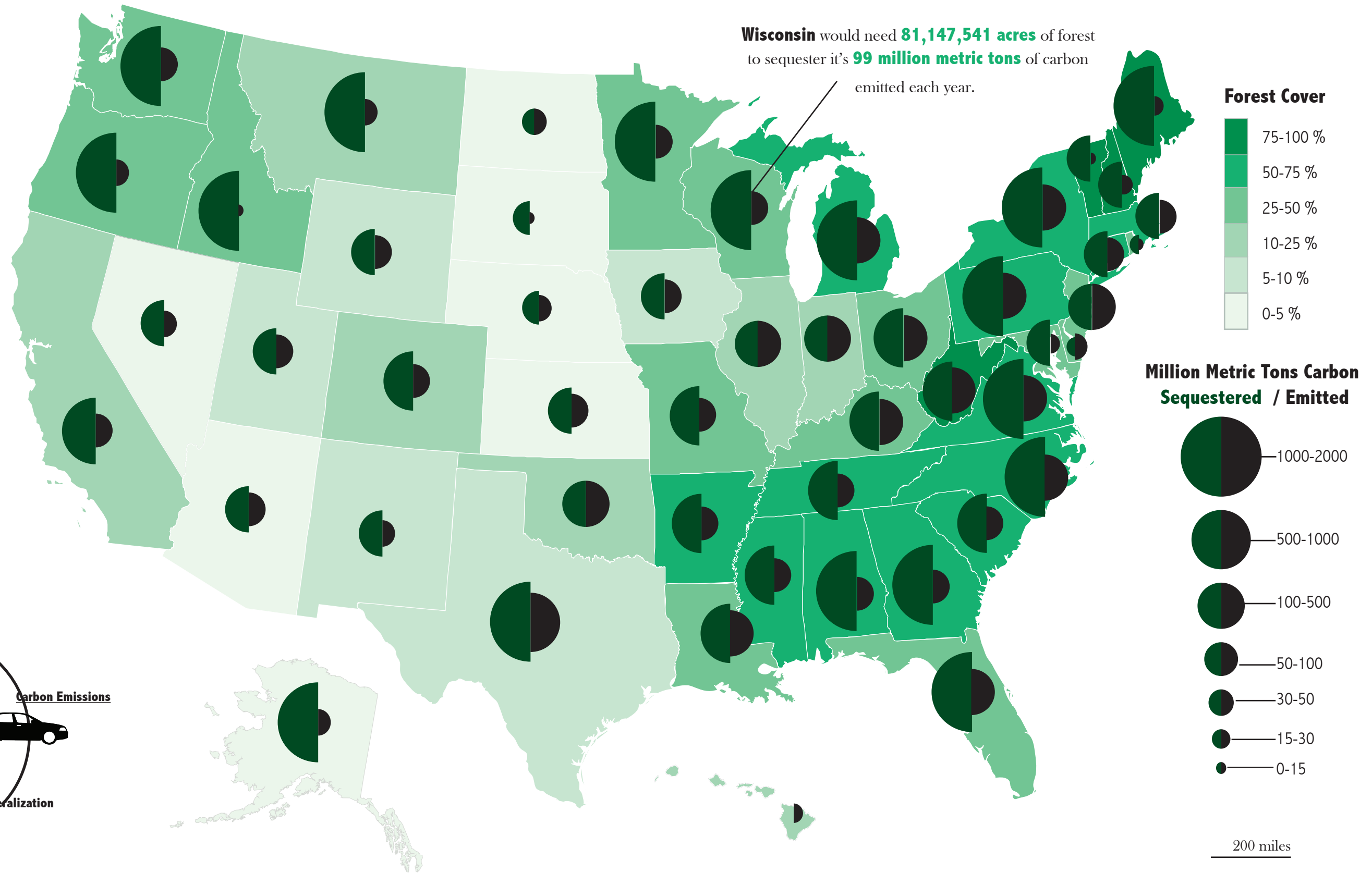


Carbon in the United States

Can Our Forests Balance Our Emissions?

Looks can be Deceiving

Carbon Dioxide is a byproduct of energy consumption and a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. That carbon can be taken in via photosynthesis and stored, or **sequestered**, by trees. Older trees can take in up to 48 pounds of carbon dioxide each year, or about .00045 metric tons. However, this map shows how much total carbon is currently stored in the forests of the United States, but because trees only take in so much carbon each year they cannot sequester all the carbon that is emitted. To sequester the amount of carbon emitted in one year in the US, we would need **4,524,590,164 acres** of growing forest. The United States itself is only 2,435,840,000 acres, which means we would need almost two U.S.' covered with pure forest to sequester the carbon that we produce.



Kelsey Bakken
GEO370
12/18/15

North_America_Albers_Equal_Area_Conic
WKID: 102008 Authority: ESRI
Projection: Albers
False_Easting: 0.0
False_Northing: 0.0
Central_Meridian: -96.0
Standard_Parallel_1: 20.0
Standard_Parallel_2: 60.0
Latitude_Of_Origin: 40.0
Linear Unit: Meter (1.0)

<http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/Forest%20Carbon/index.php>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_cover_by_state_in_the_United_States
<http://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/state/>
<http://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>
<http://www.americanforests.org/discover-forests/tree-facts/>