CHICAGO, IL, July 25, 2023 – The National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries (NCREIF) has released second quarter 2023 results of the NCREIF Timberland Index. The index returned a 1.71% for the quarter, down from 1.75% last quarter and down from 1.87% in the second quarter of 2022. The EBITDDA return, at 0.63%, was down 2 basis points from the first quarter of 2023, while the appreciation return in the second quarter decreased 2 basis points quarter-over-quarter, down to 1.08%.

The Total Timberland Index had a 11.13% rolling one-year return, comprised of a 2.73% EBITDDA and 8.23% appreciation return.

Returns for the quarter were positive across all regions. The Northwest region had the highest return of the second quarter at 1.86%, comprised of 0.34% EBITDDA and 1.52% appreciation returns. The South, Lake States, and Northeast regions returned, respectively, 1.73%, 1.54% and 0.84% for the quarter, driven by positive appreciation returns of 0.94%, 1.06% and 0.58%.

CONTACT: Dan Dierking
DDierking@NCREIF.org
Timberland market value per acre was $2,054 for the second quarter, up 3.81% from its previous quarter mark. All regions experienced per acre market value increases. The Northwest, Northeast, South, and Lake States regions ended the quarter with market values per acre of $3,247, $1,615, $2,043, and $688 respectively, representing increases of 7.80%, 2.50%, 1.10%, and 0.46% from the first quarter values.

The NCREIF Timberland Index consists of 456 investment-grade timber properties with a market value of $26.7 billion. This includes 312 properties in the South, 85 in the Northwest, 41 in the Northeast, and 16 in the Lake States. This data enhances the ability of institutional investors to evaluate the risk and performance of timberland investments across the United States.

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