New England Society of American Foresters

News Quarterly

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Silviculture Working Group Summer Field Tour

Oak-Pine Silviculture and Wildlife Management at the Massabesic Experimental Forest
Nicole Rogers, NESAF Silviculture Working Group Chair (*Story on page 14*)

Women owning woodlands: changing landowner demographics and associated strategies for engagement and empowerment

News Quarterly science theme – Dr. Anthony D'Amato, theme editor

The ownership of family forest land in New England and other parts of the country has been historically dominated by male landowners; however, this demographic is rapidly shifting towards greater levels of female ownership. This shift has generated a great need for strategies for landowner engagement that acknowledge the potential differences in management objectives and concerns that may exist between female and male owners.

Our science theme highlights several ongoing efforts at the Family Forest Research Center (USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station and University of Massachusetts) and Yale University's Sustaining Family Forests Initiative that focus on generating a better understanding of women landowner objectives and delivering effective engagement and training opportunities through the Women Owning Woodlands network. Not surprising, this work has identified important differences between female and male landowners in terms of ownership objectives and preferred methods of engagement, highlighting the critical importance of acknowledging landowner diversity as we develop strategies for long-term conservation and stewardship of family forests into the future.

(*Articles begin on page 4)*

Special points of interest:

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- *Ethics! Page 11*
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Summer Greetings!~ Julie Renaud Evans

After a very long cool and cloudy spring in New England, I have been awestruck at the lushness of June. The transition of woodland flowers and shrubs through this season is a joy to watch. Over the last few weeks I have watched our landscape get greener and greener. We are so lucky to have plentiful forests and water in this region that provide us with endless benefits. Be sure to take a few minutes each day you are in the woods to pause, and truly appreciate its beauty, its benefits, and your own contribution to its stewardship.

I hope you enjoy reading the science them articles about Female Forest Landowners, and also some contributions regarding invasive species control and natural resource ethics among students. There is even information regarding upcoming elections, and our 2020 NESAF Annual Winter Meeting.

I want to encourage you to attend the national convention scheduled for October 30-November 3 in Louisville, Kentucky. This year's theme is "Goods from the Woods," and according to the convention website "*will highlight mega trends such as advanced wood materials and new products from cellulose, while acknowledging the legacy of American wood use in music, food, shelter, and culture*." There are a lot of new technologies and product opportunities these days, and it will be great to learn about them. Of course those of us attending and representing NESAF will also be promoting the 2020 National Convention to be held in Rhode Island – we'll be sure to get folks excited about forest management in New England. Louisville registration for Attendees, Sponsors, and Exhibitors is now open, details can be found on the national website https://www.eforester.org/Safconvention. I have not been to the Appalachians yet, and I am looking forward to the trip – please join us!
Enjoy your summer.

My best, Julie

Council Update ~ Mariann Johnston

Greetings from northern New York. Here are a few updates on SAF activities. CEO Terry Baker has been traveling to various state society meetings and continuing to build relationships with SAF units. He also continues to evaluate the structure and responsibilities of SAF staff, and is working to update job descriptions and improve efficiencies within the organization. No new offers have come in on the Bethesda mansion, however it continues to garner interest and tours. Our financial status is stable, and SAF is operating within the financial constraints established by the Board of Directors (BOD).

The BOD has recently established an Anti-Harassment Policy, published in the June *Forestry Source* and the June 14 E-Forester. It is also available on the SAF Website on the '*About*' page. This statement will also be presented at the National Convention, and likely be featured in a Town Hall session during the meeting. We encourage all SAF members to read and consider this statement, and reach out to us with any questions.

The Policy Committee continues to monitor policy issues occurring at federal levels, craft new position statements as needed, and to revise and renew existing statements regularly. All SAF units are encouraged to reference these national position statements as they work to address or respond to state and local legislative actions. All SAF policy statements may be viewed on the SAF website on the '*Advocacy and Outreach*' page.

The SAF Student Executive Committee is made up of one representative from each of SAF's 11 districts. I am pleased to announce that Ben Church of the University of Vermont will be representing Region 6 on this committee for the upcoming year. Ben is also responsible for reaching out to all SAF student chapters in our district, and facilitating network and activities at the student level.

Please continue to monitor the ForestEd online learning platform for your continuing education needs. Content continues to be added, and this is an excellent resource for maintaining your educational requirements towards Certified Forester. The BOD is also reviewing several aspects of the Certified Forester program itself, including the program's history and functionality, the integration of CF into academic programs, and the cost and financial constraints of administering the program. We hope to identify ways in which we can revitalize and improve this program.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

Mariann Johnston, SAF District 6 Representative

Female Family Forest Owners in New England: Ownership and Management Trends

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Introduction

Women play an important role in the ownership, management, and future of forestland across the United States. As of 2013, women were the primary owners for 18% of family forestland in the United States, or 45 million acres, and were the secondary owners for 78% of the family forestland, or 94 million acres (Butler et al. 2016a). The number of women family forest owners (FFOs) have increased since 2006 (Butler et al. 2017), as more women purchase and inherit forestland. Women also influence forest management through their role in joint ownerships. Joint ownerships often consist of a husband and wife, where the man is often considered the primary decision maker, but the woman exerts considerable influence in how decisions are made. Another important dynamic is that women generally live longer than men, leading to widows who now own their wooded land solely and who are responsible for the ultimate decisions about what happens to that land. It is therefore important to know more about why and how women own and manage forestland, what their plans are for the future of their land, and how their motivations and concerns may differ from the dominant male-centered narrative of forest management.

At the national level, women who are the sole landowners tend to be older, own less land, have a lower household income, and are more likely to have inherited land than men who are the sole landowners (Butler et al. 2017). Women were also less likely to have had a commercial timber harvest, have managed for wildlife, or have conducted management activities in the past five years (Butler et al. 2017). Objectives differed between women and men, with women rating privacy, hunting, recreation, and timber harvesting as less important than men, and rating nature and wooded lands as a place to raise their children as more important than men (Butler et al. 2017).

This article looks at the female family forest owners of New England, building on work done at the national level by Butler et al. (2017) using data from the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) from 2013. Specifically, we ask: 1) How many sole female landowners are in New England, and how much land do they own? 2) What are female landowners' objectives and concerns in owning forestland? 3) How do women manage their land and how do they plan for the future of their lands? and 4) How do these decisions and behaviors compare to their male counterparts? We hope illuminating these patterns will help inform outreach, policy, and the continuing dialogue regarding forestry in New England.

Methods

The USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis program (FIA) conducts the NWOS to study the social aspects of forests in the U.S. The NWOS is conducted on five-year intervals; the most recent are from 2013, but data from 2018 will be available later this year. For information on the survey, estimation methods, and other results from 2013, please see Butler et al. (2016b). Although all private forest ownerships in the U.S. are included in the NWOS, this article only includes data from forests over 10 acres in size. In order to compare dynamics of women and men landowners, we examine only forestland owned by one person. Joint ownerships contain complex and important gender dynamics, but are beyond the scope of this article. Values presented here are estimates from the NWOS and should be considered with the associated variability (standard errors are reported), especially for the small sample sizes for these populations in New England. The NWOS in 2013 received 8,576 surveys from landowners with over 10 acres of forestland; for this article, we included those owners in New England who are the sole owner of their forestland; this included 76 female and 150 male respondents.

Results

Ownerships and acreage

Sole women landowners own an estimated 784,000 (± 6000 acres) forested acres across New England, which accounts for almost one-third of the total forestland held by sole owners. At the state level, 40% of forestland with a sole female owner is found in Maine, and the smallest amount in Rhode Island (1%) (Fig. 1). Maine also has the highest number of female landowners, compared to other New England states, with roughly 6,000 female FFOs. In Vermont, there are around 1,900 sole female owners, comprising 10% of total ownerships and 9% of the total forest acres owned. Sole women landowners in New England were, on average, 64.5 years old. The majority of these women had a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree and mostly fell in the under $100,000 annual income category. They were more likely than

their male counterparts to have inherited their land (29% of women versus 9% of men). On average, parcel size for female owners is 44 acres of wood (± 11 acres), and women have owned their forested land for 24 years (± 5 years).

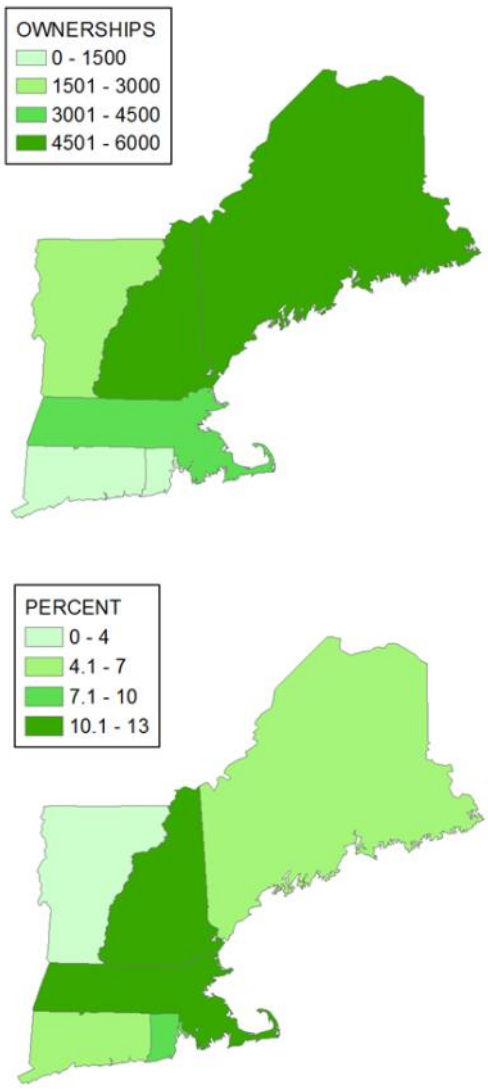

Figure 1. (Top) Number of family forest ownerships (10 + ac) owned by a sole, female owner. (Bottom) Percent of 10+ acre family forest ownerships in each state that are owned by sole female owners.

Objectives

Priorities for owning land were similar between female and male landowners, although the order of objectives that they reported as "Very Important" or "Important" differed between the groups. Overall, the most common objective female owners in New England reported was "To protect or improve wildlife habitat", followed closely by "To enjoy beauty or scenery," "To protect nature or biological diversity," and "To protect water resources." This differed from the most common reason for owning by male respondents, where "To enjoy beauty or scenery" was the most commonly reason for owning and "To protect nature or biological diversity" was second (Table 1).

Objective for owning land	Female	Male
To protect or improve wildlife habitat	1	4
To enjoy beauty or scenery	2	1
To protect nature or biological diversity	3	2
To protect water resources	4	6
To raise my family	5	7
For privacy	6	3
For land investment	7	8
For recreation, other than hunting	8	5
For firewood	9	9
To pass land on to my children or other heirs	10	11
For hunting	11	10
For timber products	12	12
For nontimber forest products	13	13

Table 1. Most common reasons for owning forestland for female and male owners in New England. Order represents how often the reason was reported as being "Very Important" or "Important" for a landowner out of the thirteen objectives; one is most common reason.

Concerns

When female landowners in the Northeast were asked about their concerns for their wooded lands, the most commonly reported concern was "Misuse of wooded lands, such as vandalism or dumping" (Fig. 2). "High property taxes" and "Keeping land intact for future generations" were also commonly reported. However, there is wide variability around these estimates due to the small sample size and no differences were found between female and male landowners.

Management

Male owners were more likely than women to engage in many of management activities asked about on the NWOS, although there is high variability across the activities (Fig. 3). Timber harvesting, either for sale or personal use, was the most commonly reported activity regardless of gender, followed by road or trail construction or maintenance. The most striking difference is in "Improving wildlife habitat," which 34% (± 7%) of men reported doing, but only 7% (± 4%) of the women reported this activity occurring on their land.

(Article continues on next page)

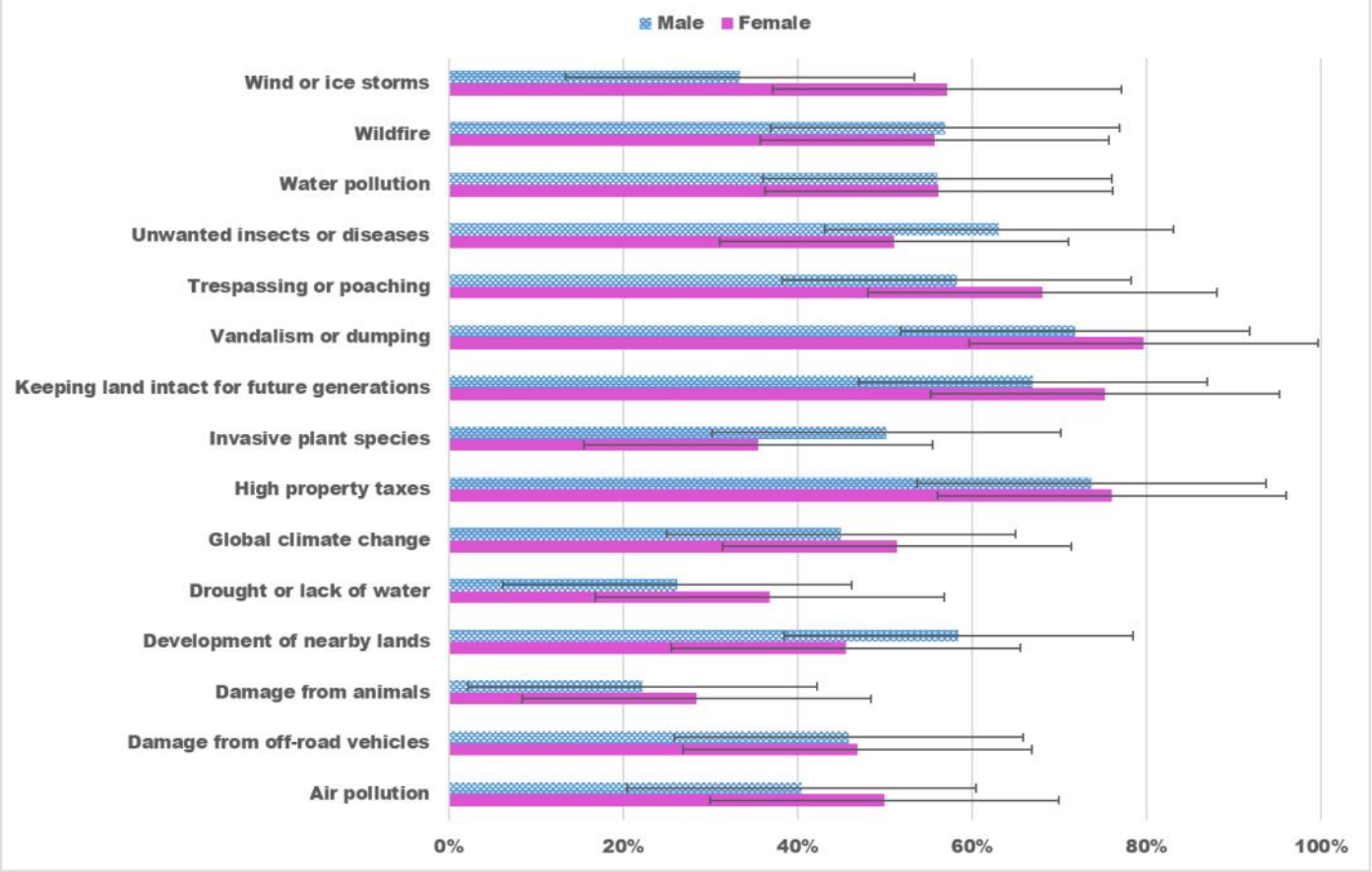

Figure 2. Percentage of female and male forest owners in New England by concerns. Bars represent owners who reported an item as a concern or great concern. Error bars represent the upper bounds of the standard error.

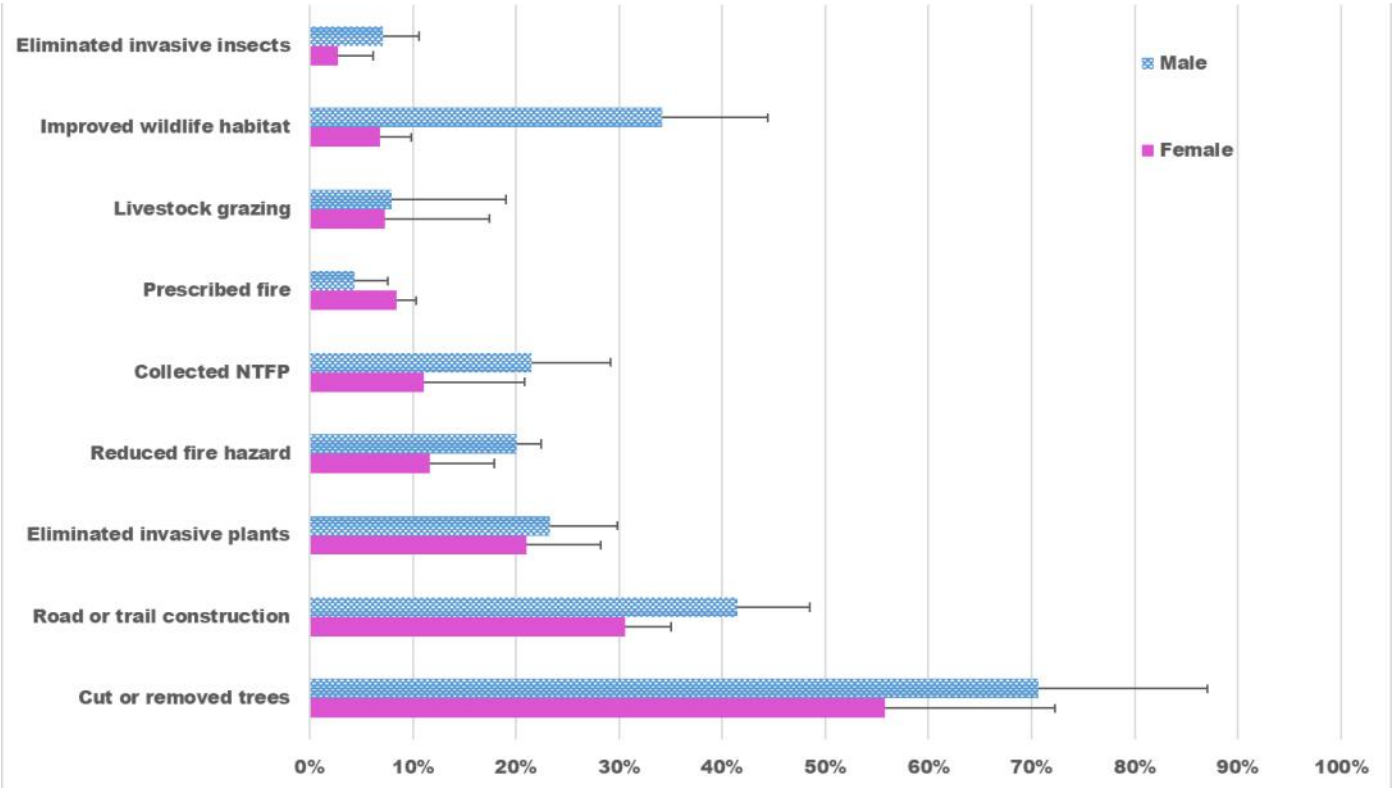

Figure 3. Reported activities in the past five years for female and male sole landowners in New England. Error bars represent the upper bound of the standard error.

An estimated 33% (± 10%) of female owners in New England have a management plan, compared to 26% (± 6%) of men. Of female owners with a management plan, about half had it written by a private forester and a third wrote it themselves. Of male owners with a management plan, three quarters had it written by a private forester and about a tenth wrote it themselves.

Women tended towards higher participation in programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes, with 51% (± 16%) of female landowners reporting engagement, compared to 33% (± 8%) of male landowners.

Both female and male landowners reported similar rates of interest in selling their land in the next five years. Around 17% of women and 15% of men were "Likely" or "Very likely" to sell in the next 5 years. Although these numbers are relatively small, this represents a substantial acreage that may be transferred in the not too distant future.

Discussion

Similar to the national patterns, sole women owners in New England trend towards less engagement in management activities compared to men (Fig. 3, Butler et al. 2017), despite similar priorities in their objectives (Table 1). Interestingly, protecting wildlife is the highest priority for women in New England, but this is not reflected by their past management activities – that is, very few women report managing for wildlife in the past 5 years (Fig. 3). This suggests the potential for targeted outreach and landowner engagement to enable women landowners to take action specifically toward this stated objective. The power of such targeted programming is supported by the success of the Women Owning Woodlands network (Huff 2017). Butler et al. (2017) suggest that men are more likely to conduct wildlife habitat improvement in order to improve hunting on their land, whereas women likely hold wildlife as a primary objective due to passive wildlife enjoyment like bird-watching or for protecting certain species. Outreach about management targeting women could potentially include more environmental-focused messaging, rather than on the hunting benefit (Ozanne et al. 1999).

Interestingly, 33% of sole women owners in New England have a written management plan, compared to 13% of all ownerships across the country (Butler et al. 2016b). However, a large portion of the women owners with a management plan wrote it themselves, as opposed to having it written by a professional. This supports the idea that women landowners are interested in their forestland, but there is a potential gap for some female owners between intention and the resources and information to fully engage with the management of their land. Nationally, women were less likely to receive advice about their woodland (Butler et al. 2017), which can translate to lower rates of management activity (Kilgore et al. 2015). On the other hand, 51% of women in New England reported that their forestland was enrolled in some kind of tax program, which implies they are taking advantage of some resources and support.

Women landowners influence much of the New England forest, both as sole owners and as part of partnerships and families. There is lots of variability in the data, highlighting the diversity of women's objectives, levels of engagement with their land, management activities, and barriers to fulfilling their goals. However, better understanding and serving women landowners will hopefully increase land management and conservation across the landscape.

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Women Own Woodlands. It's Up To Us To Engage Them.

Cassidy Dellorto-Blackwell,

Katherine Hollins

Sustaining Family Forests Initiative, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

In the early 2000s, a number of forestry professionals across the U.S. were confronted by the challenges women landowners faced in accessing forestry resources and assistance. While women were sometimes present at woodland owner events, they were often not active participants. The professionals would see women sitting in the back, or asking questions of the event leaders outside of the main sessions – lacking the confidence (or the language) to share their questions and concerns in groups dominated by men. They heard from women seeking advice away from the groups at their woodland management workshops and spoke with women who were spurred to come to the event because they were unsure of what to do for their land following devastation by natural disasters or unsolicited calls from loggers offering to "take care of their trees." It was clear to these professionals that the existing landowner engagement strategies weren't meeting these women's needs, and changes needed to be made to give them support and guidance in a more accessible way.

By 2005, programs dedicated to providing women with that support had begun to spring up in small pockets around the country. These programs were not structured like traditional expert-driven educational programming, but instead were rooted in peer-driven collaborative learning. They were developed to provide women landowners with the knowledge, language, confidence, and social supports to make informed decisions about the management of their land. To help facilitate adoption of these methods, those pioneers in women-focused land-owner programming published a toolkit for resource professionals in 2013.

Their publication, *Growing Your Peer Learning Network: Tools and Tips from the Women Owning Woodlands Network*, contains a wealth of information and practical tools for those seeking to provide greater access to forestry and land management information for all landowners.

The momentum around this work has continued to grow since those early efforts and its need is highlighted by the demographic shifts in forestland ownership in the U.S. The percentage of family forest ownerships where a woman is the primary decision maker doubled from 2006 to 2013. These women make decisions for 44 million acres of America's family forest land. Furthermore, women usually represent one half of joint ownerships, suggesting the potential to contribute to the choices made on many more millions of acres (Butler, et al., 2017). And, women tend to out-live men, meaning that it is likely that final land use decisions, including selling or dividing land, will be made by women—underlining the need to provide this audience with opportunities to learn about land management and planning.

To accelerate the transfer of knowledge and best practices among natural resource professionals working with women landowners, the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry enlisted the help of the Sustaining Family Forests Initiative (SFFI) to serve as a convener. In October 2017, SFFI organized an intensive training which brought together a group of twenty-six professionals to learn and share ideas around developing and sustaining women-focused landowner programming. The open sharing of ideas, challenges, and opportunities at this workshop provided a road map for resource development and knowledge sharing that the SFFI team has continued to steward since then.

SFFI is working with leaders throughout the country to grow the network of natural resource professionals actively engaging women landowners. In partnership with the Forest Stewards Guild, the *WOWnet Professionals Google Group* and shared *Drive* were launched in early 2018. This online community space serves as a resource, discussion, and collaboration center for natural resource professionals working on women-centered landowner programming (Everyone is welcome to join - visit the WOWnet Professionals Google Group and click on "Apply for membership"). Through the group, members are encouraged to ask and answer questions, discuss challenges and opportunities, and share ideas and resources. SFFI has also collaborated with a number of professionals working in this field to deliver presentations at national and regional conferences (like the recent presentation at NESAF) to increase visibility and acceptance of this work and spur more natural resource professionals to intentionally engage women woodland owners. The community undertaking this charge has embraced a collaborative sprit—sharing lessons learned and providing guidance to help those who are new to this work to get started. They are driving resource development, speaking at webinars and conferences, and serving as mentors to give opportunities for new practitioners to shadow their events and experience these efforts first-hand. To continue to learn and find areas for improvement, SFFI is working with Dr. Emily Huff of

Michigan State University to gather and analyze program evaluation data nationwide, to identify best practices and continue to improve these collective efforts. We expect to share our findings broadly and hope that this will increase efficacy and provide direction to those new to working in this field.

While there is still a lot of work to be done to make sure that landowner outreach and programming is inviting and accessible to women landowners, as well as other folks who have felt excluded in the past, the progress made over the past few years is heartening. Women-focused landowner events have now been organized in at least 20 states, up from 7 prior to 2017 (Huff, 2017), including blossoming programs in Vermont and Rhode Island, and a string of successful events hosted by the Forest Stewards Guild in New England. While the energy around this work remains high, it is important to keep moving forward by growing this network and sharing successes and challenges widely.

As we stand at the forefront of the largest intergenerational transfer of private forestland in American history (Mater, 2019) we must actively engage with private landowners to ensure informed decisions are made about the future use and management of their land. It is especially important to make sure that these conversations are open and inviting to *all* landowners. Bringing more women landowners to the table and empowering them to make informed decisions can help to ensure family forests across the nation are in capable hands. To learn more about Women Owning Woodlands and find resources for professionals, visit http://www.womenowningwoodlands.net/, and https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ozkxWd0yqX17TflRxhhL5I3FWKYuvwzl/view

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Critical Periods In Invasive Plant Treatment~ William Dunkley

Editor's note: This is the final installment of a three part series with a recent graduate. We are always looking for new talent, so please feel free to send in your submissions! J.P.

Nearly everyone in the natural resource world understands the issues that invasive plants pose to the Northeast. Wildlife eat a variety of invasive plant fruit which often are poor in nutrition and leave these wildlife ill-equipped for migration or the lean winter months. Plants like barberry harbor greater numbers of ticks than native plants and contribute to higher rates of Lyme Disease. Invasives spread throughout native forests, dominating the understory and preventing regeneration of ecologically and economically desirable species. The list goes on, but there is less consensus on the best way to approach invasive plant management. It is costly for landowners to manage invasives and though NRCS funding can help reduce landowner expenses, it is important that each dollar be spent in a way that maximizes the value of treatment and controls the problem efficiently. In some cases invasive plants have overrun a stand or property, are present in great densities in surrounding areas, making treatment financially and ecologically questionable. In such scenarios treating small areas with the goal of increasing native plant density is a realistic strategy, but eradication is not. There are many other critical periods in which invasive plant treatment can be highly cost effective and beneficial. Two such periods are highlighted below.

Perhaps the most critical period to control invasive plant spread is just prior to a planned harvest. In the fall of 2018, I treated a stand that was surrounded on 3 sides by field and where dense buckthorn grew on the edge. A light harvest was planned for the coming winter. Through coordination with the forester, we prioritized treatment on the interior of the stand and treated all seed producing buckthorn near areas to be harvested. The next priority was to treat smaller buckthorn in the stand that had potential to be released and become seed producers after the harvest. Finally, seed producing buckthorn on the edges of the stand were treated. Careful consideration of the best use of resources given the modest budget led to treatment which significantly reduced buckthorn during the first round of treatment. There are still small buckthorn plants present in isolated patches in the interior of the stand which will be treated in the second round of treatments in 2019.

Another critical period for invasive plant control is on the edges of a spreading infestation. It is highly rewarding to control the spread on the frontlines. Given a limited budget in such scenarios, it is best to target seed-producing stems on the edge of the infestation and work in from there. Reducing seed spread is the first priority, preventing medium sized stems from becoming seed producers is the next priority, and treating understory plants is last. A good long term management strategy is to 'hold the line' rather than attempting to push beyond the edge of the infestation into the heart of invasive plant dominance. It is paramount that follow-up monitoring and treatment occur after the initial treatment and reserving available funds for the future is important. A 'holding the line' strategy allows for realistic goals to be met and maximizes value from each dollar spent on invasive plant treatment.

University of Maine conducts student survey of natural resource ethics and professionalism

Dr. Adam Daigneault, Assistant Professor of Forest Policy, University of Maine School of Forest Resources, adam.daigneault@maine.edu

Dr. Lloyd Irland, The Irland Group

Professionals in natural resource management must often make judgments on issues that lack clear solutions and with information complicated by ethical challenges. The Society of American Foresters (SAF) accredits forestry programs, and requires that ethics instruction be provided. Teaching ethics in natural resources programs can be a challenge to faculty and administrators alike, as it should ideally be discussed across the curriculum as opposed to just a single course. Surveys of students indicate that they seek to learn how to practice to high ethical standards. Topics related to ethics of natural resource management is informally discussed in several University of Maine (UMaine) natural resource management courses, while students formally review the SAF's Code of Ethics in Forest Resource Policy, typically taken in their junior or senior year. So, how are we doing?

To assess students' exposure to and knowledge of ethics in the natural resources profession, we recently conducted a survey of students attending the University of Maine and majoring in natural resources. 80% of the respondents were juniors or seniors from a mix of majors (Figure 1).

The survey was distributed in Natural Resources Policy and Capstone courses. Students were told that participation was voluntary, and responses would remain anonymous. A total of 59 students completed the 23-question survey, which was administered in spring 2019, and took an average of 7 minutes to complete. The survey was approved by the University's Institutional Review Board.

Only 25% of the respondents indicated that they were part of a student club or organization related to their field of

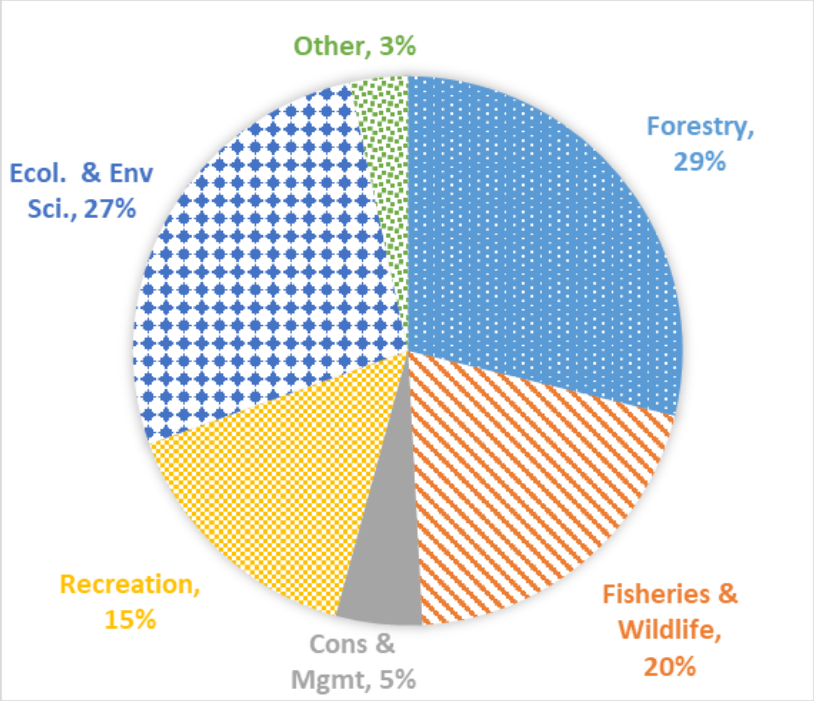


Figure 1. Proportion of ethics survey respondents by major (N=59)

study. Just 21% of those respondents (5% of total sample) reported attending a meeting of said organization and noticing any workshops or presentations on professional ethics on the agenda.

Students were also asked about their knowledge of the University's student code or policy on ethics. In this case, 79% said that they were aware of one. About 15% responded that they had noticed ethics violations at UMaine or their workplace, primarily in the form of cheating on exams or class projects. Of those who noticed violations, only 30% responded that they heard of anybody being disciplined. It seems there is definite room for improvement in terms of increasing enforcement on such violations.

Although most students claimed that they have not directly been involved in an ethically questionable situation, they did provide input on where they would turn for advice (Figure 2). Responses were varied, with the most stating that they would initially turn to a workmate (74%), followed by a family member (60%), friend (55%), or faculty member (44%). A majority of respondents listed at least three options too. Thus, there is not necessarily a dominant individual that is likely to field these types of questions.

Students were also asked to recall whether they have ever had exposure to ethics in their coursework, lectures, or student group activities (Table 1). A majority of the respondents recalled that they did receive general information on several of the topics raised, including workplace professionalism (93%), conflicts of interest (87%), plagiarism (98%), and duty to report ethical

(Article continues on next page)

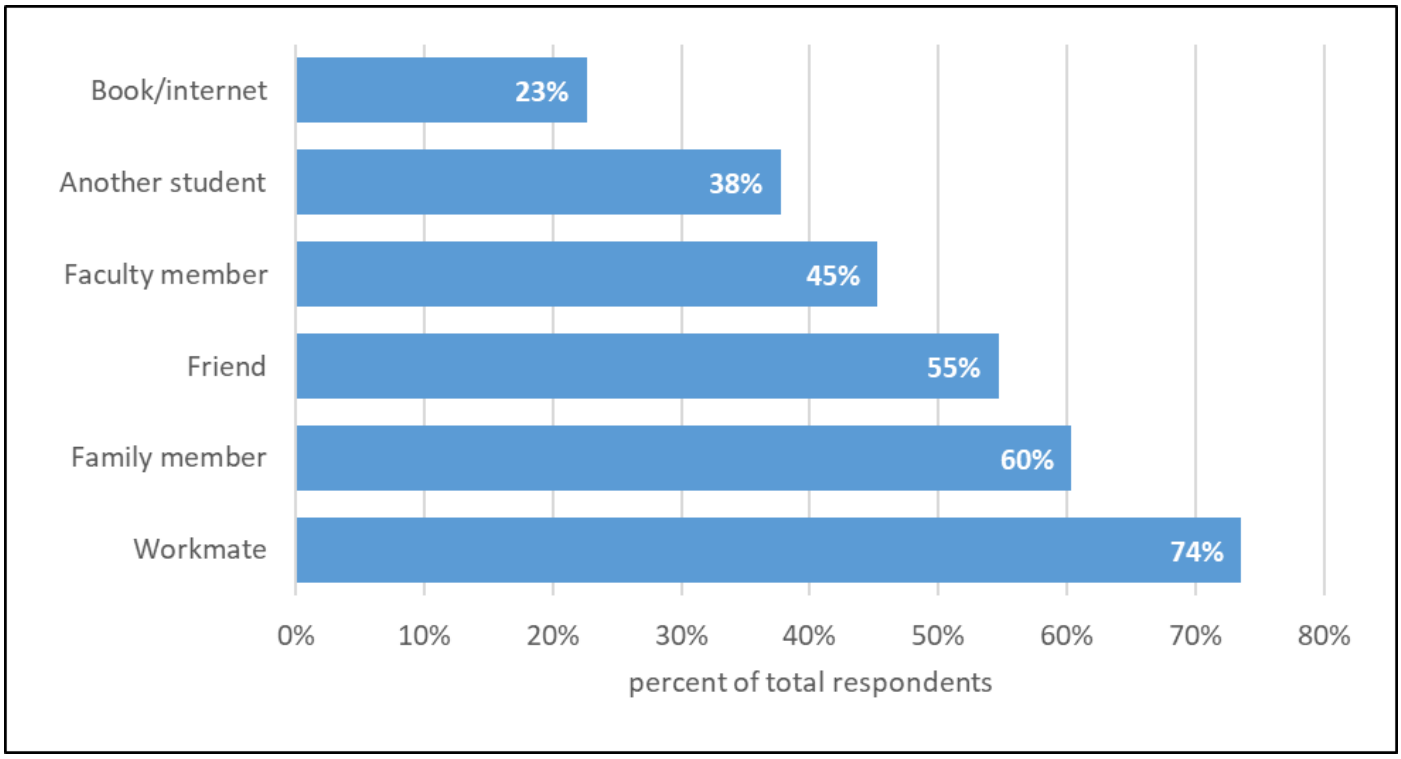
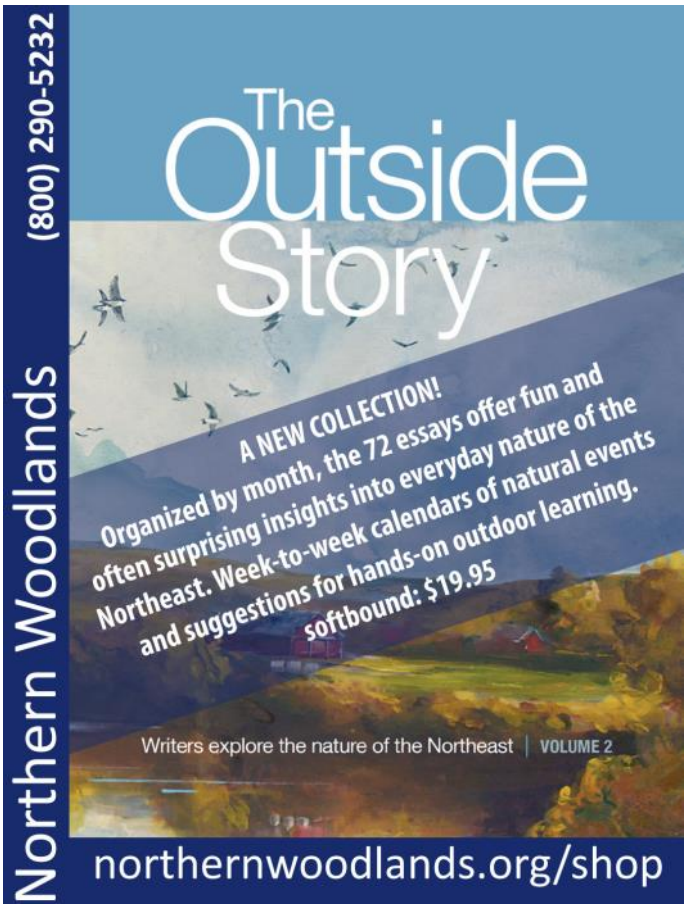


Figure 2. Distribution of responses of where students would turn to for advice on an ethical question (N=59)

violations (85%). However, less than half of the students noted that they had received any info on agency and trusteeship (45%), loyalty to their employer (48%), or whether it's appropriate for public employees to "moonlight" on their own time (40%). Most reported that these topics were covered in natural resource policy or environmental ethics courses, which are generally designed to include such material.

Survey responses suggest that courses at UMaine are adequately covering most of the topics one may consider important to a natural resource ethics curriculum, but that there remains room for improvement. Students suggested the topic could be better covered through wider use of case studies throughout the course curriculum, improved coordination across classes so topics do not fall through the cracks, having guest speakers talk about ethics, and developing short courses or workshops on ethics.

Future work will focus on conducting the survey at institutions across the US and Canada. If you would like to conduct the study at your university, see our questionnaire, and/or access the full survey results please contact the principal author at adam.daigneault@maine.edu.



Topic Covered	Yes	No	Maybe	Don't know
Professionalism at work	93%	2%	5%	0%
Agency and trusteeship	45%	18%	25%	11%
Loyalty to employer	48%	39%	11%	2%
Conflict of interest	87%	5%	7%	0%
Authorship and attribution	65%	13%	13%	9%
Plagiarism	98%	0%	2%	0%
Duty to report violations	85%	5%	9%	0%
"Moonlighting" as a public employee	40%	25%	20%	15%
Ethics of public policy advocacy	71%	13%	15%	2%
Competence and diligence reqs	62%	20%	15%	4%
Ethics of work safety practices	87%	2%	7%	4%
Rules on confidentiality	80%	5%	11%	4%

Figure 2. Distribution of responses of where students would turn to for advice on an ethical question (N=59)

Some Additional Ethics Resources ~ Lloyd Irland

Professional Ethics

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How Has the Rewritten Code of Ethics Held Up?
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Professional Credibility: Is Compliance Enough?
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Response to Radcliffe: How Has the Rewritten Code of Ethics Held Up?
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Forestry: Profession, Professional, Professionalism
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Upcoming in July issue:

Professional codes of ethics: lessons learned

Rich Burgess, Texas Tech

Ethics Codes of Professional Societies: a Quick Look.

Lloyd Irland

Silviculture Working Group Summer Field Tour ~ Nicole Rodgers

Members of the NESAF Silviculture Working Group and Maine SAF gathered at the Massabesic Experimental Forest (MEF) on June 27th for the annual Silviculture Working Group summer field tour. Twenty participants ranging from undergraduate students to retirees were joined by tour hosts Bill Leak (Research Forester) and Mariko Yamasaki (Research Wildlife Biologist) of the U.S. Forest Service, Northern Research Station. It was a treat to have those two share their knowledge with the group!

The MEF has been owned and operated by the U.S. Forest Service since the late 1930s and offers a unique opportunity to explore forest management and ecology in a region of New England otherwise under heavy development. Bill and Mariko directed the tour through several silvicultural treatments for the promotion of oak species and eastern white pine, including group and patch selection, uniform shelterwood, and commercial thinning. They explained the impacts of each treatment on tree species composition, quality, and growth rates, as well as local wildlife such as snowshoe hare, lynx, and songbirds.

Additionally, Dr. Bill Livingston (University of Maine, School of Forest Resources) shared updates on eastern white pine health concerns from across the state. All tour presenters encouraged participation from the group, resulting in many thoughtful discussions.

Thanks to all who were able to attend and willing to brave the bugs!

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Maine Division News ~ Anthony Filauro

Fall MESAF Meeting

The fall meeting, cosponsored by MESAF and the School of Forest Resources, is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, October 7 & 8, at Wells Conference Center, University of Maine. The meeting will review twenty-five years of third-party forest certification in Maine and how certification has affected landowners, retail businesses and forest management practices. The program agenda is currently being developed and has not been finalized; however please save the dates (Oct. 7 & 8).

Beech Leaf Disease

It's recently been reported that American beech is dying in parts of the central U.S. and Canada from a disease that affects the foliage of the tree. Affected foliage becomes darkened in appearance and the leaf surface becomes shriveled and leathery in texture. How the disease spreads from tree to tree is not understood. The disease is fatal and takes several years to run its course. Additional research is expected to be undertaken to understand this disease and its potential effect upon American beech.

Collective Bargaining

The Maine Legislature recently approved LD 1459, An Act to Expand Application of the Maine Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1973 to cover Harvesters and Haulers of Forest Products. In June, LD 1459 was signed into law by Governor Mills.

The new law permits loggers and wood haulers to be included in the Maine Uniform Agricultural Cooperative Association Act, which currently includes potato farmers, lobstermen and fishermen. This act permits agricultural producers to join associations to improve working conditions, promote policies that benefit the industry and to collectively bargain on wages, working conditions, benefits, etc. The law will have an effect within the forest industry.

Maine's Forestry Future

Much continues to change in the Maine Woods. Markets that once took wood of marginal quality have declined or have ceased to exist. This has impacted how forest harvest operations and forest management practices are now conducted. However, technology now offers new opportunities for Maine's forestry future.

Recently the Maine Technology Institute awarded two grants to companies in Maine that utilize wood that's harvested in-state. Biofine Developments Northeast in Bangor, ME received a $750K grant to develop technology for a bio-refinery facility that's to operate in Bucksport. The Bucksport facility will produce a renewable heating oil product.

A second $750K grant was awarded to GO Lab Inc. in Belfast, a building products company, to manufacture a wood fiber building-insulation product. The grant will help with costs to begin manufacturing the product at the idle UMP pulp and paper plant in Madison, ME. The company also received an additional $250K Wood Innovation Grant from the U.S. Forest Service to assist with development of the project. The company is scheduled to commence production in 2020. The company will employ 100+ employees and will annually use 80K cords of softwood species.

By year's-end, a 3D printer will be operating at the Advanced Structures and Composite Center at the University of Maine, Orono, that's capable of producing large dimensional sheets composed of nanocellulose and polylactic acid, suitable for manufacturing products that have the durability of metal. This venture has potential to regenerate markets for wood of marginal quality. This project is an outgrowth of work by the federally funded Economic Development Team established in 2016 to help Maine's flagging forestry economy.

Improving Maine's economy will be an outcome of the above projects. Development of these technologies and their expansion is integral to the future of forestry in Maine.

(Article continues on next page)

Society of American Foresters
Growing better all the time

Granite State Division News ~ Stephen Eisenhaure

Executive Committee

The Granite State Division SAF's executive committee remains busy this quarter. They continue the process of updating their strategic plan while also working on forestry education and policy. They have awarded three NH employers $1000 each to help pay for a forestry intern through gifts from membership. Two educational opportunities they are co-sponsoring include a Red Oak Workshop on June 28th in Hillsborough and a Low-Density White Pine management workshop at Bear Brook State Forest in Allenstown coming late August or September. They are also speaking with the NH Forester Licensing Board about incorporating SAF's Certified Forester into NH's rules.

News within the State

Thirty-nine years and more than 400 graduated students later, Professor of Forest Technology at UNH's Thompson School, Matt Chagnon, has retired. For the many of us that he educated he has had a profound impact and been an enormous resource. It's clear forestry in NH and the program at the T-School have meant a lot to him as well. According to Matt, he has a new student to focus on now, his 3 year old grandson. Good luck Matt!

The new faculty member at the Thompson School, Ethan Belair, received his Bachelor's Degree in Forestry in 2012 at UNH then a Master's Degree in Silviculture from Purdue University in 2014. Since graduating, he was a research forester for UNH for three years before becoming the Hillsboro County Extension Forester with UNH Cooperative Extension.

"*I'm really looking forward to the opportunity to work with students in the Forest Technology program,*" says Belair, "*So many of the foresters, loggers, and arborists I work with rave about their experience coming through the Thompson School's program, so there's a lot of history to live up to. I'm excited to help keep the program strong, and see what new opportunities we can create for the students to develop their professional skillset.*"

Two of our other favorite foresters were recognized. Bill Leak recently received the Forest Service's Silviculture Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019. Tim Fleury, Cooperative Extension Forester was awarded the James W. Toumey Outstanding Service Award.

In other news of recognition, the Town of Gilford's Kimball Wildlife Forest was awarded Outstanding Community Tree Farm of the Year for 2019. A tour of the property will be held later this year.

Another round of legislation important to NH's biomass industry is being considered. The NH House has passed an amended bill, HB 183 to make the biomass energy industry viable. The fate of this bill will be decided by our Governor.

Maine Division News ~ continued

Maine's Logging Workforce

The logging industry is confronted with a shortage of workers that's expected to worsen in coming years. The closing of pulp mills and biomass plants and reduced wages offered to contractors for logging services, has contributed to the current situation. Maine's logging industry is unable to fill between 750 and 1,000 jobs for truck drivers and equipment operators. The workforce that is currently 65 years of age or older will increase the shortage by another 400 workers when they retire. The workforce in 2018 stood at 3,652, down from 3995 workers in 2010, a more than 9% reduction.

To help address the problem, Senator Angus King and Representative Jared Golden are introducing legislation titled the "Future Loggers Careers Act " to allow teenage family members to work in logging businesses' to help alleviate the worker shortage situation and to attract more individuals to the industry. The effect of this legislation remains to be seen; however wages, wood prices and markets need to improve in order to change the current trend.

MESAF Website

MESAF chairman, Kirby Ellis, recently announced that the MESAF website will join with the New England SAF website. This change will improve overall efficiency, consolidate regional information and result in some cost savings. Layout of the new website has been outlined; however additional work remains to be completed. MESAF members can access our current website at www.mesaf.org , which remains active and will be maintained as a link to the NESAF website.

Green Mountain Division News ~ Ginger Anderson

The Green Mountain Division announced that Ben Church, a Junior at the University of Vermont was awarded the James Wilkinson Award, an annual award given to an outstanding Forestry student in Vermont. Ben has been active in the Student Chapter of SAF/UVM Forestry Club since his freshman year, serving as President during that time. He and Luke Huntington co-lead the UVM Forestry Club in 2019.

In other UVM SAF/Forestry Club news, six of their members are making plans to attend the National SAF Meeting in Louisville this fall.

Emerald ash borer was found in Bristol, Vermont in May, the first discovery in Addison County. It was found in a street tree in the center of town.

The Vermont Legislature considered several bills of interest to Forestry in Vermont. They authorized a legislative carbon marketplace development workgroup. A logger safety curriculum to begin to bring down high workers compensation rates for Vermont loggers was passed. The Legislature also repealed the sunset of the sales and use tax exemption for advanced wood heat equipment. Funding sources for clean water programs and changes to how clean water would be funded will affect forestry here as portion of the sediment and phosphorous pollution in Lake Champlain is credited to forestry uses throughout the Champlain Basin and included in discharge reduction planning.

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for advertising information.

Also, for those of you who may be interested in receiving a paper copy of the *NESAF News Quarterly*,

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Yankee Division News ~ Mel Harder

memo from Tom Worthey - 5/29/19

Transitional memberships awarded

At the 2/15/19 meeting, Yankee voted to provide free SAF transitional memberships to five qualified individuals. Transitional memberships are available to recent graduates (up to five years post-graduation) with a degree in forestry or natural resource management. The grants cover the $95 cost of transitional membership to National SAF, plus $25 for the NESAF and local state chapter (CT, MA, RI) dues. Tom Worthley reports that four early-career foresters have applied for and are receiving checks to cover transitional membership dues.

$300 grants to chapters available

Tom Worthley reminds us that each state chapter can request an annual $300 grant from Yankee to support state-chapter-level projects. A letter describing the proposed project and how the funds are to be used should be sent to Tom at *thomas.worthley@uconn.edu*.

YANKEE Division forestry scholarship

An annual $500 scholarship is available to one undergraduate student (junior or senior) enrolled in a four-year college for studies leading to a career in forestry. A scholarship winner may apply annually for renewal of the grant during his/her years as a college undergraduate. Contact Tom Worthley at *thomas.worthley@uconn.edu* for the application procedure. Completed applications must be received by December 1.

A committee has formed to work on the 2020 NESAF Meeting, with Adam Moore as general chair. One hour conference calls occur on a monthly basis, and opportunities exist to fill a few positions. Specifically, we are looking for a fundraising coordinator. Please contact J.P. Barsky or 203-974-8540 if interested. The meeting will be in Springfield, MA from March 25-27.

Through Yankee Division, the UConn Forest is donating five pints of maple syrup to NESAF to be used as raffle items at the 2020 promotional booth set up during the 2019 National Meeting.

Save The Date!

The Yankee Division of the New England Society of American Foresters
invites you to attend the 100th Annual Winter Meeting
in Springfield, MA~ March 25-27, 2020.
The anniversary theme will be
NESAF turns 100! Celebrating the past, looking to the future

The Springfield Sheraton is conveniently located minutes away from I-90 and I-91, the Springfield Train Station, and 20 miles from Bradley International Airport. It's a short ride to shopping, eateries, the Basketball Hall of Fame, the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, and other local area attractions.

Please watch the NESAF website for more information, or contact Adam Moore.
We are actively seeking vendors, sponsors and raffle items!

Connecticut Chapter News ~ Mel Harder

memo from Mel Harder

I need someone to take over duties as CT SAF representative. to NESAF, as well as CT SAF/YANKEE correspondent to the NESAF Quarterly. As the CT SAF representative you would be a voting member of the NESAF executive committee.

The NESAF executive committee meets quarterly and also at the NESAF winter meeting, and deals with all the business of running NESAF. As correspondent, you would be responsible for quarterly reports on CT SAF and YANKEE activities for publication in the Quarterly.

Also, as grants coordinator for NESAF. Grants coordinator duties include tracking NESAF & SAF Forester Fund grants and reporting to the E.C. You would also be a voting member of the E.C. I can be contacted at *mel.harder@snet.net*.

On May 22, the CT SAF Chapter, UCONN, CT-DEEP, and the USDA-NRCS hosted a Forest and Soil GIS/Smartphone workshop at the University of Connecticut. The all-day workshop consisted of a series of presentations and hands-on sessions covering: accessing and manipulating geodata such as LIDAR imagery, CTECO mapping and the Web Soil Survey/SoilWeb, Freeware GIS options, and exposure to a suite of Smartphone Apps that are relevant to the forest practitioner. Approximately 40 individuals attended the workshop.

CTSAF is sponsoring a Foresters For The Birds Workshop and Summer Meeting on July 15 at the Sharon Audubon Center. Contact Nick Zito, nicholast.zito@gmail.com for more information.

Grant$

Another funding season is just around the corner!

Have an idea for a project or program that is in need of financial support?

The NESAF Grants Program will fund approved projects developed for the following purposes:

- **To educate NESAF's many publics about professional forestry, and,**
- **To advance the role of the profession in society by promoting the role of foresters in forest resource management**

Interested? Contact Mel Harder or any EC member on page 2 with questions!

Time to Vote

It's the time of year when we are looking around for a few good individuals to serve as candidates for Chapter, Division, and NESAF Officers! Perhaps you attended a Leadership Academy, helped out an a Annual Winter Meeting, or are looking to serve in different capacity? An opportunity awaits you as there are several positions which may interest you.

The opportunities are:

NESAF Chair-Elect

State Representatives from Canada, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

and several local and working group chair positions

Contact Rob MacMillan or any EC member on page 2 with questions or more information before Sept 1, 2018

Rhode Island Chapter News ~ Chris Modisette

Women Owning Woodlands Comes to Rhode Island

A grant from the Rhode Island Tree Farm Committee is allowing the Rhode Island Resource and Development Area Council to partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization, to present a series of workshops to help bring together and help educate women who already own or who are interested in owning and managing woodlots.

The first workshop was held on May 4, 2019. State Forester Catherine Sparks welcomed a group of twelve (12) landowners who listened to a variety of presentations ranging from basic tree identification, the elements of a forest management plan to discussions focusing on connecting with other women who own and manage woodlands. Speakers came from a variety of organizations to include; the RIDEM -Division of Forest Environment, and the RI RC&D Council, and the USDA-NRCS. Cumulatively, the participants own or make decisions on approximately 900 acres of forest land ranging in size from 5 to 188 acres.

The next workshop is scheduled for June 29, 2019.

For more information, contact Paul Dolan at: rircd2283@gmail.com.

Massachusetts Chapter News ~ Mike Fleming

In light of recent legislative proposals, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has recently published a whitepaper on carbon storage of MassWildlife lands. The full report can be viewed here: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/carbon-storage-on-masswildlife-lands

Hey, have you seen the new NESAF website? No? Well, what are you waiting for? Wendy Weisiger, our webguru, has redesigned it and we have plenty of space to build out some blog content, update Division and Chapter information, explore job opportunities, and upcoming workshops of interest!

Check it out at NESAF.org

Continuing Forestry Education Update ~ Andrew Fast, UNH

DATE	TITLE	LOCATION	CATEGORY
18-Mar	Beech and other Forest Management Challenges	Orono, ME	4.0/I
19-Mar	Markets and Forest Roads	Orono, ME	3.0/I
19-Mar	Forest Roundtable	Randolph, VT	5.0/I
26-Mar	Stream Smart Phase I Workshop	Holden, ME	3.5/I
4-Apr	Steam Smart Phase 1 Workshop	Falmouth, ME	3.5/I
6-Apr	VWA 2019 Annual Meeting	Randolph, NH	2.5/I
23-Apr	Managing and Using Forest Ecosystems	Berlin, VT	6.0/I
24-Apr	The Emerald Ash Borer & What it Means for You	Rochester, NH	1.0/I
24-Apr	Ticks and Tick Associated Disease Conference	Milford, MA	3.0/II
25-Apr	Conservation Forestry & Skidder Bridge Workshop	Sutton, NH	3.5/I
26-Apr	Water Quality and the Importance of BMPs	Bridgton, ME	4.5/I
2-May	Vermont Arbor Day Conference	Montpelier, VT	4.0/I
2-May	Vermont Forest Industry Summit Day 1	Burke, VT	1.0/I, 1.5/II
3-May	Vermont Forest Industry Summit Day 2	Burke, VT	1.5/I, 1.5/II
7-May	Wagner NH & ME Foresters Workshop (Day 1)	The Forks, ME	1.0/I
8-May	Wagner NH & ME Foresters Workshop (Day 2)	The Forks, ME	5.5/I
9-May	Wagner NH & ME Foresters Workshp (Day 3)	The Forks, ME	3.0/I, 1.0/II
9-May	Blackfly Breakfast	Henniker, NH	3.0/I
9-May	NH Tree Farm Inspector's Training	Henniker, NH	3.5/I
16-May	Road Stream Crossings for Healthy Habitat and Native Fish Passage	Ashland, ME	3.5/I
23-May	Massachusetts Foresters Council Spring Meeting	Northhampton, MA	2.5/I
29-May	Business Plans for Forest Businesses	Newport, VT	6.0/II
30-May	Business Plans for Forest Businesses	Rutland, VT	6.0/II
31-May	Regeneration Harvesting in a Challenging Environment	Cavendish, VT	5.5/I
5-Jun	U.S. Army Corps Wetlands Delineator Methods	Portsmouth, NH	6.0/I
5-Jun	3rd Climate Smart Land Network Member Gathering (day 1)	Atlanta, GA	3.5/I
6-Jun	Soil Genesis	Goffstown, NH	6.0/I
6-Jun	3rd Climate Smart Land Network Member Gathering (day 2)	Atlanta, GA	4.5/I
6-Jun	Ash and Forestry Forum: Management within the Context of EAB	VT	4.5/I
6-Jun	Stream Smart Phase 2 Workshop (Day 1)	Ashland, ME	6.0/I
7-Jun	Stream Smart Phase 2 Workshop (Day 2)	Ashland, ME	6.0/I
7-Jun	Grasses for Beginners	Portsmouth, NH	5.5/I
8-Jun	Logging with Tractors	Bridgewater, NH	4.0/II
8-Jun	Stone Fence Farm Guild Gathering	Unity, NH	6.0/I
13-Jun	Forest Structure for Wildlife Workshop	Rutland, VT	4.0/I
14-Jun	Woods, Water and Warblers Workshop	Fair Haven, VT	3.0/I
14-Jun	Woods, Water and Warblers Workshop	Whitehall, VT	3.0/I
18-Jun	Stewardship Forester/Tree Farm Inspector and Information Meetings	Scarborough, ME	6.0/I
20-Jun	Stewardship Forester/Tree Farm Inspector and Information Meetings	Augusta, ME	6.0/I
21-Jun	Stewardship Forester/Tree Farm Inspector and Information Meetings	Brewer, ME	6.0/I
22-Jun	Forestry for Maine Birds	Skowhegan, ME	2.5/I
22-Jun	EQIP Training for Landowners and Foresters	Essex Jct., VT	4.5/I
24-Jun	Logging Emergencies Workshop	Belchertown, MA	5.0/II
28-Jun	Road to the Mill, Fish Passage Improvements and Tour of Woodland Tissue Facility	Princeton, ME	4.0/I
28-Jun	Red oak….the book and beyond	Hillsborough, NH	5.5/I
28-Jun	Long-Term Silviculture and Wildlife Management at the Massebesic Exp. Forest	Alfred, ME	5.0/I
10-Jul	Ash and Forestry Forum: Management within the Context of EAB	VT	4.5/I
10-Jul	Soil Morphology/Describing Soils	NH	5.5/I
17-Jul	Soil Morphology/Describing Soils	NH	5.5/I
24-Jul	Soil Morphology/Describing Soils	NH	5.5/I
15-Aug	Identifying Ferns of Northeastern New England	Portsmouth, NH	5.5/I
22-Aug	Identifying Late Season Grasses	Portsmouth, NH	6.0/I
28-Aug	Big Reed Forest Preserve	ME	4.5/I
5-Sep	Invasive - Ailanthusaltissima: Targeting the Tree of Heaven	Concord, NH	3.5/I
19-Sep	Managing your woodlot for ash with EAB on the doorstep	Vassalbor, ME	3.5/I

NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please check the box next to the award for which you are submitting a nomination

- □ **INTEGRITY IN CONSERVATION AWARD:** Presented to an individual or organization working with natural resources for adherence to principles and demonstration of high standards in the face of adversity. The work may be in process and the effort need not have "won" or "lost" – only that it was conducted in an outstanding manner in an adverse operating environment. Nominations need not be limited to members of NESAF.
- □ **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE:** The purpose is to give official recognition to professional achievement in forestry; to make known to the general public outstanding contributions of individual foresters to their profession and to enhance the public image of the forestry profession. The criteria include: professional achievement in the field of Forestry or closely allied fields (i.e. working group of the parent society); participation in SAF; and service to the local or regional community.
- □ **JAMES W. TOUMEY AWARD:** Presented for Outstanding Achievement in Service to the New England Society of American Foresters.
- □ **AUSTIN CARY PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL AWARD:** Presented to a member who has shown outstanding achievement recently or over a period of years as a practicing forest manager or consultant forester.
- □ **ERNEST M. GOULD, JR. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD:** Presented to a member who has made outstanding contribution to natural resource science and management through education, extension, or youth service.
- □ **MOLLIE BEATTIE YOUNG FORESTER LEADERSHIP AWARD:** Presented to a member who is less than 40 years old at the time of nomination and has shown leadership in a program or project benefiting the practice of forestry.
- □ **DAVID M. SMITH AWARD:** Presented annually to a member engaged in research, teaching, or the field application of silviculture whose work reflects Dave's advice that, "*we should observe and analyze the patterns of stand development first and devise silvicultural treatments to fit or modify them afterwards.*"

Nominator (*Your name, address, phone number, email*):

Nominee (*Name, address, phone number, email of the individual or group you wish to nominate*):

A complete nomination package must include these four elements

1. **NESAF AWARDS NOMINATION FORM**
2. **NOMINATION LETTER:** The Nominator's description of how the nominee meets the stated award criteria. Please limit your comments to a maximum of two pages.
3. **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:** A one-page (maximum) biographical sketch of the nominee's education and professional experience.
4. **TWO LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT:** Please supply 2 letters of endorsement, which provide additional descriptions of how the nominee meets the stated award criteria.

Mail/email entire package to:
Kenneth Laustsen, NESAF Awards Committee Chair
17 Perennial Way
Oakland, ME 04963
KALaustsen@twc.com
Award nomination packages must be received by December 1st

Deficient and incomplete nomination packages will be returned to the nominator, with allowance of a resubmission prior to the above deadline

NEWS QUARTERLY,
c/o Joseph P. Barsky,
editor
48 Mariner Circle
Trumbull, CT 06611

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New England Society of American Foresters

forests. resources. communities.

Our mission as foresters is to be responsible stewards of the earth's forests while meeting society's vital needs. The challenge of our mission lies in keeping forest ecosystems healthy and intact while concurrently drawing on their resources. We will meet this challenge by carefully monitoring and managing the effects of natural and human forces on the forest. Our decisions will be guided by our professional knowledge, our compassion for all living things, our desire to improve citizens' lives, and our respect and concern for the entire forest ecosystem. By advancing forestry science, education, technology, and the practice of forestry, NE SAF will provide the leadership to achieve its mission.