

Forest Certification *Its Legacy & Future*

While third-party forest certification has been around since the late 1980s and early 1990s, it has become a driving force in Maine – and nationally and internationally – over the last approximately 25 years (1993-2018). In this regard, now is an opportune time to reflect on the history of forest certification and how it has changed forest management, how markets for forest products have responded, and what the future holds. This conference is co-hosted by the University of Maine and Maine Division of the Society of American Foresters. The first day will focus on the land management perspective with the second focused more on the socio-economic perspective.

MEETING LOCATION

Wells Conference Center is located at 131 Munson Road on the University of Maine Campus in Orono. For detailed directions, map, and additional information, visit their website:

umaine.edu/conferences/wells-conference-center



Forest Certification

Its Legacy and Future in Maine

2019 MESAF Annual Meeting
October 7-8, 2019
*Wells Conference Center,
University of Maine*

*Co-hosted by the University of
Maine and Maine Division of the
Society of American Foresters*



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Monday, October 7

7:30 registration open

8:00-9:00 MESAF annual business meeting

9:00 coffee, refreshments

9:30-9:45 WELCOME

Opening Remarks/Introduction: Senator Angus King

9:45-10:45 As Maine Goes.....

Our keynote speakers will reprise the pioneering thinking of the earliest Maine landowners to become certified as they discuss their experiences and swap stories about: what expectations they had; what they didn't expect; what roadblocks were encountered and navigated. They will share their thoughts on whether certification as it stands now positions working forests well for the future.

Moderator: Dan LaMontagne, 7 Islands Land Company

Speakers: John McNulty, 7 Islands Land Company (ret.); Jason Limongelli, J.D. Irving, Limited

10:45-12:15 The Present and Future of Certification

Panelists will discuss how a quarter-century of certification has influenced commercial forestland management, what might be different if certification hadn't become widespread, what does the future look like, and will certification as it exists now fit into that future, and what may need to change for the future.

Moderator: Marcia McKeague, Katahdin Forest Management (ret.)

Panelists: Kyle Burdick, Baksahegan; Bob Chandler, Prentiss & Carlisle; Gordon Gamble, Wagner Forest Management

12:15-1:30 LUNCH

12:45-1:30 Forest Carbon: The Role of Forests in Tackling Climate Change

Our featured lunch speaker will discuss whether carbon sequestration is becoming a driver in the way we think about forest management, what are the pulls from the marketplace, how certification relates to moving toward where we need to be with forest carbon and the marketplace, and issues to be addressed and navigated.
Speaker: Mark Berry, The Nature Conservancy

1:30-3:00 Pioneering Concepts: Critical Contributions to Certification

This discussion will highlight the critical contributions of

Monday, October 7 continued

family forest owners as well as the related industries, how certification may be helping or hindering profitability and stewardship, as well as what changes may enhance and facilitate forest management in the coming decades.

Moderator: Ted Wright, Trust to Conserve Northeast Forest Land

Panelists: Tom Doak, Maine Woodland Owners; Richard Donovan, Rainforest Alliance (ret.); Andy Shultz, Maine Tree Farm Program; Steve Hannington, Hannington Brothers, Inc.

3:00-3:30 BREAK with refreshments

3:30-5:00 Forests for the Future

Speakers will address socio-economic sustainability and its relation to forest certification, how Maine's landscape has changed and what future changes may result from natural disturbances and climate changes, and an ecologist's perspective on certification as an influencer of land management.

Moderator: Michael Thompson

Speakers: Mindy Crandall, University of Maine; Erin Simons-Legaard, University of Maine; third speaker (*invited*)

5:00-6:00 Icebreaker Reception with Cash Bar

6:00-8:00 DINNER

Tuesday, October 8

8:00 am Registration and continental breakfast

9:00-9:15 WELCOME

Opening Remarks: Senator Susan Collins

9:15-9:30 Reflections on Day 1 – John McNulty, SAF President

9:30-10:15 Reflections on Corporate and Social Responsibility

Our keynote speaker will address the contemporary perspective of companies toward sustainability, incorporating thoughts on why large consumers of forest products want those products certified, what demands and outside drivers are influencing their purchasing decisions, how climate change may influence purchasing policies and what is forest certification's current and future role in meeting market demands?

Speaker: Bill Barry, MacMillan Publishing

Tuesday, October 8 continued

10:15-11:30 Markets and Marketing for Certified Forest Products

Looking forward from today, panelists will discuss what the future for forest products may look like in 5 and 25 years, what policy and economic drivers – locally, nationally, and internationally – are influencing the market place, will climate change affect policies influencing our industry, and what issues need to be overcome and is forest certification part of the answer?

Moderator: Eric Kingsley, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions LLC

Panelists: Rebecca Barnard, Sappi North America; Deborah Fasciano, GOLab, Inc.; Jamey French, Northland Forest Products; Dave Harvey, Nine Dragons; Josh Henry, GOLab, Inc.

11:30-12:30 LUNCH – Maine SAF Awards

12:30-2:00 Current Directions in Forest Certification & Management

Speakers will provide a brief overview of what's happening in the world of certification and address to what outside drivers are certifying agencies responding, what economic and policy influences are driving standards, what innovations/alternatives are forming, where will we be in 25 years and what do we need to be thinking about today to meet the needs of the future?

Moderator: Patty Cormier, Maine Forest Service

Speakers: Corey Brinkema, Forest Stewardship Council; Jason Metnick, Sustainable Forestry Initiative; Leigh Peters, American Forest Foundation

2:00-2:30 Where We've Been, What We've Learned, and Where to from Here?

Third-party forest certification has been around since the late 1980s and early 1990s and has become a driving force in Maine, although much has changed since the early days, and forests and forest industry remain dynamic. Our closing keynote will take a look back and look forward, synthesizing learnings from the past two days.

Speaker: Pat Strauch, Maine Forest Products Council

2:30 Wrap up

3:00 ADJOURN, Evaluations, Attendance Certificates