

Maine SAF Candidates for the 2021 Executive Committee

Chair-Elect (1 position)

Kyle Burdick

Kyle graduated from the University of Maine in 2007 with a degree in forest management. He has worked in the Adirondacks and Maine, practicing forest management on a mix of conservation, industry, and family ownerships. He currently serves on Maine's Outcome Based Forestry panel, the Maine Tree Farm committee, and is a Maine Woodland Owners member and chapter representative. He is the Woodlands Manager for Baskahegan Company, with responsibilities including management policy, forest certification, land acquisitions, carbon offsets, wood sales, and general company administration. He lives in Brookton with his forestry award winning dog Chaga.

Secretary (1 position)

We welcome write-in candidates for this position!

Treasurer (1 position)

Jake Metzler

I have served a variety of roles for MESAF and NESAF over the years and now look forward to helping MESAF once again as Treasurer. I feel humbled by all the opportunities I have had serving SAF and look forward to giving back more through this position. I enjoy the connections made through participation in SAF events and want to do my part to ensure they keep happening and the organization runs smoothly!

In the past I have been MESAF Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past-Chair (2008, 2009, 2010), 2009 NESAF Winter Meeting Program Co-Chair, NESAF Chair-Elect (2019), and NESAF Chair (2020). I have been honored to represent MESAF at the SAF Leadership Academy in 2006, and to have been awarded the Mollie Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award in 2010.

I currently serve in the role of Director of Forestland Conservation at the Forest Society of Maine, where I have worked in various capacities for 16 years.

Member-at-Large (3 positions)

Shawn Bugbee

Shawn is currently the Northern Maine Unit Manager at Seven Islands Land Company and works out of their Ashland office. He has been working for Seven Islands since graduating from the University of Maine where he received a BS in Forestry. He is the chair of the Northern Maine Forest Resource Education Center located at the Northern Maine Fairgrounds, director of the Ashland Logging Museum, and a Tree Farm Inspector.

Thomas Coleman

Thomas Coleman grew up in the Jackman region and attended the University of Maine, graduating with a BS in Forest Operations and minors in Mathematics and Surveying. Following school, while continuing to work as a recreational and whitewater guide, he started a business for himself as a forestry technician. That business grew into a small full service consulting business, and was run until 2011 when he joined LandVest, Inc in the Jackman office. He is currently the Upper Kennebec Regional forester for LandVest, overseeing ongoing timber management, new clients and inventory and valuation projects.

Thomas is also a certificated commercial pilot who operates a small flight business serving forestry and real estate needs across Maine, as well as scenic tours and photography. He has been an SAF member since college.

Jason McLellan

In January 2020 I became the operations forester for Baskahegan Company. I am from Washington county Maine and earned a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Maine with a minor in Surveying. During college I worked at the Penobscot Experimental Forest and the University Forest and then got a job with Seven Islands Land Company in Ashland, ME. I worked as an intern there for three years while I was in school and started full-time as an operations forester when I graduated and worked there for the next eight years until the opening at Baskahegan Company.

Cullen Utermark

Current Position: Silviculture Forester, Weyerhaeuser Company Bingham, Maine.

Education: State University of New York Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), BS Forest Resource Management May 2018, AAS Forest Resource Management SUNY ESF Ranger School May 2016.

Professional Accomplishments: FAA Part 107 Registered Drone Pilot.

SAF Activities: Presented at the 2019 NESAF Conference concurrent session "I Forester You Drone".

As a recent graduate, I believe I can bring a new perspective and ideas to this committee and organization. I have had the opportunity to work with some of the industry's most cutting edge technology in the field and I hope to be able to share my experience with this organization and my colleagues. I am passionate about this industry and I believe that my experience and fresh perspective will be a beneficial addition to this committee and I look forward to the opportunity to both work with and learn from the MESAF chapter and serve this community.

Maine Representative to New England SAF Executive Committee (1 position)

Karl Honkonen

Karl Honkonen joined the US Forest Service/Northeast Area, State and Private Forestry Program in March 2014 as a Watershed Forester. Karl is responsible for improving water quality in forestry operations in six New England States and New York. He provides technical direction and leadership for best management practices in non-point source pollution control and also provides expertise in silviculture and natural resource management. Additionally, he is often deployed to wildfire and hurricane incidents across the US.

Karl earned his B.S. in Environmental Conservation from the University of New Hampshire in 1981 and an M.S. in Education from the University of New England in 2008.

Prior to joining the Forest Service, Karl worked in a variety of positions, including jobs as: an Environmental Specialist at FEMA; a Forensics Specialist during Hurricane Sandy recovery; a High School Science Teacher in Maine and Surrey, UK; and an Environmental Consultant. Much of his expertise in watershed management came from his 20-year career with Massachusetts environmental agencies. During this time he served in a variety of positions, including Director of Water Policy, Watershed Manager, and as Chief of the Bureau of Interpretive Services for Massachusetts State Parks.

He lives with his wife, Anne, and their sons on an old dairy farm in South Berwick, Maine. When not working, Karl enjoys hiking, canoeing, cycling and camping on his woodlot at Moxie Falls as well as time away at camp on Schoodic Lake.