

Maine Division 2005 Fall Meeting
Fifteen Years of ABC (Anything but Clearcutting) Silviculture: How are We Doing?

EVALUATION FORM

RESULTS – based on 88 respondents= 44%

♦ **Was the topic adequately addressed?**

- Yes (68).
- Good overview of the issue, good panel discussion.
- No. Many speakers addressed threats to the forestry profession + working forest.
- Yes., but raised many more questions.
- Yes, however quite broad.
- Endless topic.
- Yes, seems like we are maybe making too much of it (ABC).
- Yes, the presentations and presenters were very good.
- On the edge of “Doomsday” or “Pity Party.”
- Yes, panel discussion left something to be desired.
- Yes, good discussion by speakers and audience.
- Real good.
- As best that it could be. There are still uncertainties in available data to provide concrete answers.
- Somewhat, but it seemed like we focused a lot of time on other issues, such as the advantages of using Landsat data, “good” silviculture & a variety of other topics.
- By about half of the speakers.
- Yes, by most speakers.
- Yes, but as usual, no consensus reached!
- Yes, good overview.
- The current state of the forest by K. Laustsen was excellent. But then we seemed to be off target—I’m not sure we really talked about silviculture of ABC.
- The topic turned out not to be the topic, but was discussed/addressed well.
- Yes, very interested discussions.
- Yes, good data and thought-provoking commentary.
- Yes, for the most part.
- Yes, for a one-day session. Good idea to have a field session in the spring to further this discussion.
- Yes, free form to address issues is good.
- Yes, but primarily for the northern part of the state. Southern Maine has forests (and problems) too!
- Not sure that people truly addressed what had taken place since FPA 1993.
- OK, more research needed.
- Yes, although it was a wider presentation than I expected.
- Very good,--best yet.

♦ **Was the Corbett Business hall satisfactory?**

- Yes (62).
- Very satisfactory.
- Very comfortable, easy to get to.
- However, eating is somewhat difficult. However it was handled as well as could be expected.
- Yes, although not having a lunch “room” was inconvenient.
- Yes, and good parking nearby.
- Couldn’t find it! GPS coordinates?
- Yes, except for acoustics—you need a far better PA system with clip on microphones.

- Yes, but a stand at lunch was not the best.
- Yes, like the roped off parking.
- Yes, three screens provided excellent viewing.
- Lack of eating space.
- Good acoustics and visual equipment, but no place to eat, which would be a problem in cold or wet weather.
- Drafty, no place to eat.
- Very good—remote mic for panel/audience would have been better.
- Yes, would have been better if seating for lunch was available. Room accommodates large group.
- Yes, but tables are easier for notes and lunch.
- Very good for presentations, not so good for lunch.
- Yes, but the map on the brochure was illegible.
- So-so.
- Yes,--great auditorium—how about some coffee—snacks? (Please offer low-carb, sugar-free options).
- Need GPS to find it.
- No.
- Yes for the crowd.
- Yes it was a very good facility.
- Yes. Good meeting room—comfortable, good audio-visual provisions. Appropriate size. Parking in close proximity.

♦ **Which location do you prefer for fall meetings? (Please circle one)**

Wells Conference Center =20

Corbett Business Building =35

Black Bear Inn =16

Remainder had no preference.

♦ **Was the meeting worth the registration cost?**

- Yes (74).
- No (4).
- Very much so.
- Yes, however need to make sure university supplies adequate amount of coffee and drinks.
- Yes, informative and thought-provoking.
- Yes (great attendance).
- Yes (even at the non-member rate).
- Barely.
- Should be more like \$20.
- Yes, registration cost could be more.
- NA. My employer paid.

♦ **Future Meetings**

♦ **Should the 2006 Spring Field Meeting be a follow-up on the ABC topic?**

- Yes (30).
- No (14).
- Or ownership changes in Maine.
- That would be helpful.
- Too soon? Influences of legislation on ownership longevity.

- Yes, some of the Maine state inventory data has yet to be assimilated and disseminated, ie where is the state headed in the hardwood log quality department.
 - Yes, let's go look at the "everything" but clearcutting results + decide whether they are good or not.
 - Yes if good fair poor results can be separated from initial stand conditions.
 - Yes, it would be appropriate.
 - Only if there is significant new info or movement on the subject.
 - Yes, do a field tour to see examples.
 - Probably, that always helps cement the ideas raised here.
 - If not then sooner than later.
 - Possibly—solutions.
 - No, cover other topics.
 - Maybe, but it doesn't seem a critical issue.
 - More specifically, on defining "good" silviculture.
 - Yes, but I'm not sure what the focus of the meeting would be. A theme or focal point is needed.
 - Definitely.
 - No opinion.
 - Yes, perhaps ½ session.
 - If possible. Obviously data is still being collected and if there is more insight to share, then the topic should be covered. It might be good to look at some areas clearcut in the 80's + 90's to see what those areas look like.
 - New topics.
 - Yes, I think the topic would work well.
 - Seeing sites would be of benefit.
- ♦ **What topics should be addressed in future field meetings?**
- Ownership changes and investors in Maine's timberland.
 - The future of the forestry profession.
 - Examples of harvest types.
 - Different silvicultural methods, new technology methods.
 - "Advertising"/selling forestry → increase opportunities for more foresters.
 - PCT sites.
 - Progress of old clearcuts. Thinned sites and unthinned.
 - Public perception of good forestry & sound silvicultural management: are they the same? Can they be? Let's see examples.
 - Field visit to ABC site.
 - How to get forester recognition for managed woodlands from mills as certified wood. Look at sites in field.
 - Ways to educate the public about forestry.
 - ABC would be a good topic for a field meeting.
 - On the ground—synthesis of silviculture & wildlife/biodiversity. High quality forestry showcase.
 - Seeing examples of on the ground results tied to remote sensing imagery, wildlife habitats, etc.
 - Managing mixed N.Hwd/SF. Managing, (not setting aside) LS stands.
 - Biodiversity (whole forestry. Managing the "Total" forest).
 - Let's also look at the ideal silviculture + results for comparison purposes.
 - Controlling unwanted regeneration species in "partially cut" stands, such as Huber has done with beech using mistblowers; costs/benefits, monetary and otherwise.
 - The effects of forest management by government fist—(silviculture?)
 - Harvesting vs. regeneration. The trade off with various silvicultural options.

- Something with a positive slant!
 - Effects of sprawl.
 - Silviculture, BMPs
 - Northern hardwood silvics.
 - Silviculture systems with good examples.
 - Can we regenerate valuable species such as white pine, red oak through current harvesting practices. Do we need clearcuts + burns?
 - Biomass; diameter limit cutting.
 - Defining “partial harvest”, setting standards.
 - Silviculture to meet defined goals of stand improvement in hardwoods.
 - Timber marking cost/benefit analysis; techniques for timber marking.
 - Follow-ups on partial cutting to see results.\
 - Precommercial activities.
 - Is it good forestry or bad forestry?! Why? What’s going on in the Maine forest.
 - Ways to efficiently reduce residual stand damage.
 - Look at range of partial cuts, good and bad.
 - Issues with partial cutting.
 - Silviculture of varied low quality, high-graded stands. Thinning vs. regen. Experimental forests.
 - PCT growth.
 - Rehabilitating stands (after highgrade, diameter limit cut, etc.). Modern sugarbush management in Maine.
 - Not allowing the special interest groups to dominate a professional organization, with political manipulation and special interest funding.
 - Cost of conducting forestry as a result of existing laws. Does this cost reduce the stewardship attitude of NIPL. Does it contribute to people selling land to highest bidder to get away from cost/liability? Managing forests in southern Maine, where land demand for development is high.
 - Review of intensive silviculture results: last 25-30 yrs. of planting, herbicide, PCT, TSI—I would like to see long term results.
 - Consultant forester issues for small landowners. SWOAM/Forester issues.
 - Precommercial thinning.
 - Wildlife habitat examples and mgt schemes to achieve these. Tour of Penobscot Experimental Forest.
 - Visit some of Plum Creek’s commercial thinning harvests in the Bingham area.
 - Invasive species ID and control.
 - Invasive species.
 - Use of biomass tops as a water diversion/rutting prevention tool. Long-term effects of this practice.
 - Forest road systems. Innovations in forestry equipment.
 - MFS is interested in assisting and sponsoring vernal pool workshop—not sure if this venue would be good fit. Let’s talk—Chris Martin 287-1073.
 - What are some examples of substandard forestry.
 - Exemplary silviculture.
 - Techniques for dealing with difficult terrain situations such as road building in rough ground, harvesting in wet soils, etc.
 - Beech decline, non-timber forest products.
 - Logging practices.
 - Regeneration of different treatments.
 - Forester stewardship?
- ◆ **What topics should be addressed at future indoor meetings?**
- Return of spruce budworm. Will the practices of the past be tolerated?

- Education.
- Changes in landowner objectives.
- Meeting demands of the markets. Good forestry is dependent on keeping a vibrant and healthy forest products community.
- Future of Maine forests, what will happen after TIMOs sell?
- The overall decline of Maine's forest-based industry relative to world market factors.
- Elevation of stature of foresters.
- Conservation easements.
- Forestry education for land trusts, NGO's etc.
- Post-harvest stand modeling results: quality silviculture? Quality residuals? Carbon sequestration; LSOG—the 5W's
- Dropping license for foresters in Maine. Replace test with portfolio of work for license foresters.
- Labor issues.
- Consultant forester issues for small landowners. SWOAM/Forester issues.
- Tree Growth Tax issues + application of same. Or tax issues overall re long-term forestry viability.
- Review of current state of Maine forest industry: greater understanding of geographic differences; stand/species differences; what are the trends; also what are the actual net growth rates in Maine.
- Strategies for combating those organizations minimizing the importance of prof. forestry.
- "Best" logging systems for various silvicultural practices. Merits/pitfalls of certification.
- Taxes.
- Growth modeling.
- Standards for foresters, public awareness of forester roles.
- How to get society, market to pay for better forestry.
- Prescription communication & implementation—not many foresters mark wood these days, so information regarding effective prescription communication & implementation would be helpful.
- Forest economics and markets.
- Promoting scientifically based forestry to the public. Landowner changes/land partitions.
- Timber marking cost/benefit analysis; techniques for timber marking.
- The economics of silvicultural treatments that are precommercial.
- Revisit forest licensing and the process involved.
- Meeting needs of small landowners.
- Property valuation and taxation issues. Future demand for forest products in Maine.
- How can we (Maine) better compete in a more competitive global marketplace and keep the same quality jobs we have now and perhaps make them more attractive.
- Free trade and protectionism in the N. American timber industry.
- Educating the public: I have heard this mentioned at SAF meetings for over 30 years in ME, NH and MI. We have not figured out how to do it yet. So just how do we educate the public? Can people at the UMaine business school help?
- The current position of forest ownership.
- How to "sell" forest management to the public, ie public relations/education. Finding balance between wise-use (conservation) and non-use (wilderness/non-use).
- GPS for dummies.
- Effects of liquidation harvest regs. Forest certification values to landowners.
- Follow up on more information from what the "new ownership" objectives are and if they really do vary from "traditional" management or how they can be worked into "good forestry/silviculture."
- How does the Maine forester community plan to change its reputation as a professional organization.
- Land ownership changes, economic issues (incentives, taxes, etc.)
- Ways to educate the public about forestry.

- Mill recognition for forester involvement for certified wood.
- Continue on silviculture and future policy stance of SAF.
- Changing ownership of industrial forests—how new objectives drive foresters practical and long-term effects.
- The growing trend of environmentalism (particularly eco-terrorism) & how we can prepare for this trend, possibly avert it, etc. How can foresters be pro-active to limit the problem?
- Landowner rights vs. silviculture.
- White pine silviculture, growth, stocking in So. Maine—will the supply survive? Will the pine mills survive?
- Ownership changes & investors in Maine's timberlands.

Additional Comments

- What the hell does global climate change have to do with ABC silviculture?
- Expected a better lunch.
- Many foresters travel a great distance to attend these meetings. Consider ending the meetings by 4PM at the latest. The last break was ½ hour long→ too long. Shorten breaks to the 15 minutes, particularly near the time to leave.
- I wish everyone would forget about certification and concentrate on how to get better results on the ground without it. Tax incentives, etc., etc., etc., Educate public about foresters/forestry + difference between logger + forester. Movie video at Home Depot was a great idea!!!
- Seems we are looking for an issue to discuss, we should recognize that these are good times to be a forester.
- I thought the speakers were very good. It is important to have good speakers with clear presentations.
- Excellent program today—timely.
- Good variety of speakers and panelists.
- Let's cheer up, we are growing beaucoup trees!
- My first SAF meeting here today, did not know many people. Would be nice to have a list of members and a brief background of them.
- Always good to meet with your peers.
- Alec gets so political that he ruins his talk and degrades his message. Satellite imagery very informative.
- Thanks for setting aside a parking area.
- Good program and discussion. Meeting should end by 4:00 PM, at the latest, considering the distance that many travel. Shorten the break to 10 min. and start earlier.
- I believe the panel discussion should have included an ACF consultant, probably one near urban areas + one that deals with landowners (NPIFLA) typical of the area. The panel discussion seemed to encompass more than the ABC topic to the point where discussions of my client type, So. ME should have been discussed.
- Don't turn lights off completely, hard to see speaker and/or notes.
- Thank you for your hard work to put this together. Individual comments were great. Much experience and good sense in this group. John Mills.
- Certainly one of the better meetings.
- I like Bob Seymour's idea on establishing new task forces, but think that it would be a great idea for us (MESAF only 300 members) to work with other organizations, Wildlife Society, ACF, etc. MESAF would spearhead the effort.
- A great session and discussion.
- Don't require attendance @ business meeting for CFE credits.



▫ Are the talks available on-line? If not, it would be a good idea to think about it in the future. There was a lot of great data that I'd love to be able to go back and look at.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- ♦ Would you be willing to serve on a future MESAF Executive Committee? Which position(s) would you consider (please circle)?
- ♦ Chair-Elect (automatically Chair the following year)

Sec/Treasurer

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Communications Committee

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Other?: [Advances in Forestry Tech.](#)

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