NORTHERN LANDS

STUDY BEGINS

Changes in forest land ownership in many parts of northern New England and New York are leading to increased subdivision and development of large tracts of lands, a loss of traditional economic and recreational uses of these lands. Congress has directed the Forest Service, USDA, to study the timberland resources in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York and has appropriated $250,000 toward this end. The study is to be done in consultation with the Governors' Task Force on Northern Forest Lands, (see Govs. task force art) and is to be completed and submitted to Congress in one year.

The study will include identification and assessment of:
1. Forest resources including - timber and other forest products, fish and wildlife, lakes and rivers, and recreation.
2. Historical land ownership patterns including projected future land ownership, management and use.
3. Likely impacts of changes in land and resource ownership, management, and traditional use patterns, including - economic stability and employment, public use of private lands, natural integrity, and local culture and quality of life.
4. Alternative strategies to protect the long-term integrity and traditional uses of the lands, and will include - a sustained flow of renewable resources in a combination which will meet the present and future needs of society, permanent public access for recreation, protection of fish and wildlife habitat, preservation of biological diversity and critical natural areas, and new State or Federal designations.

The Forest Service is also to provide for public involvement including State and local governments, landowners, private organizations and the general public. Congress specifically stated that the study is not intended to lead to administrative action by any federal agency, but rather to provide Congress and the affected State governments with information for possible future action.

(continued on pg.3)

FOREST TASK FORCE NAMED

The northern New England states, facing impending sales of thousands of acres of forest land, will join together to study the best uses for the remaining 10 million acres of timberland now in private hands. Maine holds the bulk of the privately held timberland, about 9 million acres, with Vermont and New Hampshire sharing the remainder.

The three northern New England governors will join in a cooperative effort to advise the U.S. Forest Service in a study of timber lands and land ownership patterns in northern New England. Noting the mounting economic pressures for change in the undeveloped status of these lands, some of which contribute heavily to the employment, manufacturing, recreation and character of the region. Governors Madeleine Kunin, John Sununu, and John McKernan Jr. will each appoint three members to a regional task force to investigate the implications of such changes.

The task force will guide a study to identify the most important of these lands and recommend means of ensuring continued availability of their economic, recreational and aesthetic resources. Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy and New Hampshire Senator Warren Rudman's efforts resulted in Congress approving $250,000 for a year-long study to examine how best to protect other threatened lands in northern New England and New York.

SAF Position Paper

Major land transactions, the continued rapid pace of urbanization, and the increased likelihood of a more difficult environment in which to practice forestry, require that we forestry professionals take the lead, both publically and privately, in shaping the future of natural resource management in New England.

Building on the interest and information shared at the Annual Winter Meeting in Lowell, the New England Society of American Foresters has formed a Task Force to develop a "white paper" and a policy statement regarding forestry and development in our region. Our short run goal is to prepare a policy statement to be discussed by the membership at the upcoming winter meeting in Portland. Ultimately, we hope the policy statement itself will be a vehicle for foresters' participation in maintaining a working forest in New England.

(continued on pg. 3)
MEMBERS SERVING YOU IN 1988

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Exec. Dir. - Richard Watt, PO Box 954, Montpelier, Vt 05602 (H) 802-229-4111

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Immed. Past Chair - Quentin Mack, RFD 1, Center Conway, NH 03813 (H) 603-447-5216 (O) 447-5448
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Maine - Elbridge Cleaves, PO Box 55, Danforth, Me 04424 (H)207-448-2865 (O) 942-8295
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Vermont - Russell S. Reay, RR 1, Box 81, Cuttingsville, Vt 05738 (H)802-492-3323 (O)483-2315
Forest Tech Coard - Peter R. Hannah, 315 Aiken Ctr, UVM, Burlington, Vt 05405 (H)802-985-2793 (O)656-2620

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News Corres - Leslie Sargent, RD 1, Box 77, Lincoln, NH 03251 (H)603-745-2268 (O) same

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Treasurer - Peter Condaxis, RD 1, Box 24, E. Calais, Vt 05650 (H)802-229-5287 (O)864-1793
News Corres - Yuriy M. Bihun, PO Box 294, Albany, Vt 05820(H)802-899-2873 (O)755-6744

Maine
Chair - John McNulty, PO Box 23, St. Francis, Me 04774 (H) 207-398-3535 (O) 435-6039
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Vice-Chair - Hobson R.A. Calhoun, 505 Dugway Bridge Rd, W. Kingston, RI 02892 (H)401-789-9005 (O)231-6444
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News Corres - Chris Modisette, 31 Mary Elizabeth Drive, N. Scituate, RI 02857 (H)401-934-1543 (O)828-1660

Canada
News Corres - A.R.C. Jones - Sandra Howland

Council Delegate
James Wilkinson, 125 Tremont Street, Barre, Vt 05641 (H) 802-476-5359 (O) Same

The News Quarterly is the official publication of the New England Society of American Foresters. It is published in January, April, July, and October, and is mailed from Rutland, Vermont under a non-profit organization bulk mail permit. Address all inquiries to: Gary Salmon, Editor, RR 1, Box 665, Cuttingsville, Vermont 05738.
Northern Forest Auction

About 250 people paid a $5,000 deposit to take part on September 10 in what is believed to be the largest land auction in the region's history. On sale at the Mount Washington Hotel at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire was 14,500 acres in Vermont and 18,000 in New Hampshire, part of the 89,514 acres purchased in May by Rancourt Associates, a Nashua, New Hampshire developer from Diamond International Corporation.

By days end more than 22,400 acres were sold in parcels ranging from 3 to 4,328 acres for approximately $5.7 million to buyers who varied from local people wanting to protect property near their homes to real estate brokers to land speculators from southern New England. According to a Sunday Rutland Herald article on September 11, "the New Hampshire land, facing fewer development restrictions than land in Vermont, brought the highest prices." "On the average, New Hampshire property sold for $290 an acre while Vermont land sold for $220 an acre." The original purchase price paid by Rancourt Associates in the $19 million dollar deal averaged $212 an acre.

According to the Herald "Rancourt did not accept relatively low bids on the largest parcels in both Vermont and New Hampshire. Two nearly 1,700 acre parcels in Lunenburg and Concord were not sold" due in large part to a combination of their unsuitability for development and the lack of a market for really large parcels of forest land.

In earlier deals this summer both Vermont and New Hampshire purchased tracts from Rancourt facing fewer development restrictions than land in Vermont, brought the highest prices. In early July the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and the Nature Conservancy purchased 45,210 of the New Hampshire acreage including the Nash Stream watershed for $12.7 million and in August the Nature Conservancy purchased 7,700 acres of forest land in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont for $2 million.

What the purchase of this large forested tract of Northern forest for development has created is a regional concern by the public, the legislatures in at least two states, and the media over the "value" of large undeveloped tracts of forest land for the future. It has stirred two states into purchasing outright a portion of the original Rancourt purchase and set Governors in three states into creating task forces to examine the value of these lands for the citizenry. Congress has appropriated $250,000 for a Northern Lands Study and the public at large has voiced great concern for a forest resource that until recently was producing only timber and a false image that producing only timber and a false image that servicing land and timber interests. At the Weymouth Point biomass study site the group was able to see variations in stand development following mechanical harvesting, and review continuing work on the effect biomass harvesting may have on nutrient cycling and water quality. The tour was an excellent opportunity to see the research and management practices being used to produce spruce and fir in Maine. A similar field trip is being planned for New Hampshire next summer. Stay tuned!!!!

Northern Maine Working Group Tour - On July 13-15 the Silviculture, Soils, Tree Physiology, and Ecology Working Groups held a joint field meeting in northern Maine to view firsthand some of the research and forest management practices currently being used in this spruce-fir region of Maine. The twenty forester tour started at the University of Maine, Orono campus under the leadership of Max McCormack, Mike Coffman, Bob Frank, Tony Filauro and their associates and concluded two days later with a Russ Briggs led discussion on his plans for integrating the various studies done on soil site relations in Maine over the years into a workable scheme for predicting and mapping site quality.

The tour included a visit to various physiology study sites that Mike Coffman is conducting on ozone's effects on the flowering of various species, a Bob Frank led tour of the Penobscot Forest at Bradley to observe regeneration by the shelterwood and selection method, and precommercial thinning work, and a Max McCormack tour of some of the successes and challenges of naturally regenerating spruce and fir, and the effect of various herbicide combinations in controlling competition.

Friday's session reviewed, with Tony Filauro and Max, Great Northern Paper's experiences in utilizing white spruce, in utilizing natural regeneration for stand establishment, and in controlling competition. At the Weymouth Point biomass study site the group was able to see variations in stand development following mechanical harvesting, and review continuing work on the effect biomass harvesting may have on nutrient cycling and water quality.

The trip was an excellent update on some of the research and management practices being used to produce spruce and fir in Maine. A similar field trip is being planned for New Hampshire next summer. Stay tuned!!!!

Working Group Leader Change - Russell Briggs, University of Maine (CFRU), Orono, is the new leader for the Forest Soils Working Group replacing Larry Safford.

Winter Meeting Opportunity - Working Group Leaders should be planning their own Winter Meeting Opportunity at their own convenience and localities and employers, we certainly want to hear from anyone who wishes to make a contribution. The Task Force members are: Gibb Dodge, Phil Auger, Wendy Holmes, Katherine Webber, Al Childs, Bill Guenther, Star Childs, and Russ Richardson. Ted Howard and Dick Watt of the NESAF Executive Committee are also participants. Comments on forestry and development in New England may be sent to Ted Howard, Department of Forest Resources, UNH, Durham, NH 03824, or Dick Watt, PO Box 954, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

(SAF Position from Pg. 1)

The Task Force has already met twice to define the issues and prepare background information. And, while the make-up of the group covers wide ranges of experiences, localities and employers, we certainly want to hear from anyone who wishes to make a contribution. The Task Force members are: Gibb Dodge, Phil Auger, Wendy Holmes, Katherine Webber, Al Childs, Bill Guenther, Star Childs, and Russ Richardson. Ted Howard and Dick Watt of the NESAF Executive Committee are also participants. Comments on forestry and development in New England may be sent to Ted Howard, Department of Forest Resources, UNH, Durham, NH 03824, or Dick Watt, PO Box 954, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.
This will be the twelfth and last column of comments from your District VI Council representative. During the past thirty six months I have tried to communicate with you the members of the two state societies. Most of the time this has been a one way effort but I hope that the message has been received and has been instructive and of interest. Even if you did not like the message, you won’t have to kill the messenger for a new one is in the process of being selected.

As your struggling messenger I’ve tried to communicate my primary concerns and interests for SAF and for all of us in the forestry profession. Three broad categories have been addressed: professional ethics, women in forestry, and administration and management of state and national SAF’s. As a result of these articles you can understand “where I’ve been coming from” and “where I’ve been headed.” This philosophy, these concepts, which have been formed and molded over a lifetime of experience, family influence, training and the social/cultural milieu in which I’ve been involved, consciously and unconsciously have guided me in the tasks and responsibilities as your representative on the SAF Council. They’ve shaped the decisions and judgments I’ve made for the past three years. There have been several specific successes and one (at least) notable disappointment. Without undue modesty I believe that I have served you well and have had some positive influence in the Society’s affairs.

But that is looking to the past. The future needs a 180 degree reversal of focus. What does that future hold for SAF? I’m no great prognosticator, but here are a few sure things that will need the attention of the leadership and of the membership.

Internally
1. Continuing progress in reconciliation with RNRF, with preservation of SAF interests.
2. Encouraging longer term employment commitment by Bethesda office staff members in the volatile beltway - D.C. employment environment.
3. Membership growth and retention in a presently limited professional growth field.
4. Continuation of efforts to strengthen state societies, and to decentralize activities to the extent feasible and acceptable.
5. Preservation (yes) of Wild Acres as a green oasis in the suburban development jungle of North Bethesda, Maryland.

Externally
1. Continued improvement in communications with other natural resource organizations and with the general public on all common resource policies and issues.
2. Professional ethics.
3. Certification and/or registration/licensing of professional foresters.
4. The challenge and opportunities of women and minorities in the profession.
5. Providing in-house and public information emphasizing an ethic of service, not only to members, but to the profession and to society as a whole.

Jane Difley or Ed White, as your new District VI Council representative, probably will develop another personal view for the future. However, I am confident that with the election of either Ed or Jane the New York and New England Societies will be well represented. I know them both well and am both pleased and proud to have such fine and capable people willing to serve in that important office. I urge you to support your Council representative and to keep in communication with her or him. That’s about the most effective encouragement we members can offer.

Finally, I want to thank you for giving me the honor and the opportunity to serve you and SAF for the past three years. Playing a part in the leadership responsibilities of the Society has been a stimulating, instructive and gratifying experience, truly a highlight of my professional career. I do appreciate it.

Would You Have Done The Same?

Regional Forester John Mumma commended Montana's major forest products operators for voluntarily pulling their logging crews out of the forest as a preventive measure during this extremely dangerous fire season. Even though a regional memorandum stated that the Region 1 forests would remain open to logging operations, timber operators decided to close their woods operations rather than risk starting a fire.

"This is an excellent example of responsible citizenship," Mumma said, adding that "it is easy to talk conservation and speak in support of sound resource management, but it is another thing to make such a personal and financial sacrifice to help the fire suppression efforts in Montana."

Mumma hoped that other wood workers, sportsmen, and recreationists will follow the industry's example.

(NFPA Public Timber-This Week 9/16/88)
Forester Defined

"The forester is an amateur woodsman with a college education. "There are two classes of foresters. One believes in keeping abreast of broad, dynamic movements of the present day that challenge the best efforts of the Nation's thinkers. The other class fights fire, builds truck trails, plants trees, handles timber sales, looks after millions of tourists and hunters, and wears old clothes.

"Some foresters have offices, some live in cities, and some work in the woods. Lots of foresters spend practically their entire lives in God's great out-of-doors. They love to hunt and fish. They would, too, if they only had time."

"It use to be said that a forester's best friends were his horse and his axe. Today a forester has little need for a horse and the safety officer is afraid he might cut himself with an axe. Years ago most every forester wore a big Stetson hat and carried a gun on his hip and a flask in his pocket. Nowadays big Stetson hats are worn only in the movies, and you hardly ever see a forester carry a gun."

"An interesting fact about a forester's life is that he sees all kinds of people from hobos to millionaires. It is not uncommon for a forester to have the privilege of personally doing a millionaire a favor. However, there is no record of a millionaire ever doing a favor for a forester. But even if they don't make much money, it's nice steady work and they have lots of fun."

"Another satisfactory thing about a forester's career is that he is his own master, absolutely independent and answerable to no one for his professional conduct. That, except to his various official superiors, his wife, ladies garden clubs, sportsman associations, nature lovers, newspaper editors, and local politicians."

"Forestry is a very pleasant profession because it is so easy to get ahead. Many foresters graduate from college with only a few debts and immediately acquire a job and a wife. In about 10 years time, in addition to the same job and the same wife, they have more debts and five kids. "That's why foresters are so happy." "Anonymous"

SAF Wilderness Guidelines Made

The Society of American Foresters has proposed guidelines for management of the 89 million acres that comprise the National Wilderness Preservation System. "The Society believes that the highest level of wilderness purity, within legal constraints of that wilderness area, should be the overall objective of wilderness management," SAF Executive Vice-President William Banzhaf told members of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Parks and Public Lands on July 26.

Banzhaf drew his conclusions from a recently convened SAF task force on wilderness management composed of experts in both the public and private sectors. Among the recommendations:

- Minimize impact of recreation on wilderness areas, including restoring and rehabilitating overused sites and minimizing aircraft flights;
- Protect integrity of indigenous species of fish and wildlife, including permitting temporary measures that change the characteristics of a wilderness only when saving a species from extinction;
- Conduct mineral-resource inventories and valid subsurface extraction, only allowing additional development through legislation in the event of a national emergency;
- Assess impacts of water diversion on a wilderness by wilderness basis, ensuring that water volumes are protected to perpetuate vegetation, fish populations, primitive recreation, and aesthetic values;
- Control the spread of exotic plants, using only native species that will not disturb native species in rehabilitation efforts;
- Recognize the ecological role of fire within wilderness areas, while implementing controls to protect adjacent land, and threatened and endangered species;
- Undertake control of insects and diseases only when they threaten wilderness resources or adjacent land;
- Establish standards to protect air and water quality; prohibit weather modification projects directly affecting wilderness; and minimize airplane overflights.
- Wilderness is an inspiration to many individuals and will provide valuable lessons in the way natural ecosystems operate," Banzhaf noted. "These management guidelines, we hope, will serve as measures for future wilderness management efforts."

NESA 89 Winter Meeting

"Forest & Wildlife Management in Northern New England--What Can We Afford?" co-sponsored by the New England Society of American Foresters, Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society, and the Atlantic International Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, will be held March 15-17, 1989, in Portland, Maine. Papers are invited on landowner incentives, retention of the resource base for wildlife and forestry, managing for rare and endangered species, technologies to improve efficiency, or other topics related to the theme of the meeting. For more information contact Donna Cassese, General Chair, c/o Scott Paper Company, PO Box 646, Bingham, Maine 04920 (207-672-5512).

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JOINT QUARANTINE ESTABLISHED

The New Hampshire Department of Agriculture and Department of Resources and Economic Development with the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation and Department of Agriculture are establishing a joint Plant Quarantine to prevent the movement of all hemlock articles and commodities into New Hampshire and Vermont from areas which may be infested with the insect, Hemlock Wooly Adelgid. This quarantine would require that all hemlock seedlings and hemlock nursery stock transported into New Hampshire and Vermont from infested areas must be accompanied with a certificate issued by the appropriate department in the state of origin. Hemlock logs with bark and hemlock lumber with bark attached would be admissible provided they are only shipped to pre-approved sites. If the material is shipped to other sites, it must be accompanied with a certificate issued by the appropriate department in the state of origin affirming where it was grown, that it is free of Hemlock Wooly Adelgid and the material originated from an uninfested area in the state of origin. Infested and quarantined areas include Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Additional areas in the western United States include Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington. For further information contact:

New Hampshire
Sigfried Thewke, State Entomologist
Division of Plant Industry
State Lab Bldg., Lab D
Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 (603-271-2561)
or
Alfred C. Avery, Forest Entomologist
Dept. of Resources & Economic Development
Division of Forests and Lands
105 Loudon Road, PO Box 856
Concord, New Hampshire 03301 (603-271-2217)

Vermont
H. Brent Teillon, Chief of Forest Protection
Vt. Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation
103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05676 (802-244-8716)
or
Jon Turmel or Anne Dorrance
Vermont Department of Agriculture
Montpelier, Vermont 05602 Jon-802-828-2438 Anne-802-828-2452

NE Wood Production On Increase

Despite the urbanization and development in the Northeast forest area, the amount of forest resources cut for manufacturing within the four-state area has been steadily increasing over the last ten to fifteen years.
Me. Tree Farmers Honored

Brothers Dennis and Doug Smith, Maine's 1988 Outstanding Tree Farmers, have been named the most outstanding Tree Farmers in New England by the American Forest Council. The Smiths were chosen best among the six New England states for their superior forest management. The Smiths, certified Tree Farmers since 1969, manage 881 forested acres in Sangerville, Maine with lots located in Dover-Foxcroft, Sebec, Guilford and Abbot. Included in the Tree Farm is approximately 75 acres of Christmas trees and a state-of-the-art greenhouse.

The Smith Tree Farm is not a hobby; it is a working forest with all of Dennis' and part of Doug's livelihoods being derived from the management operations. Between the forest land, Christmas tree and greenhouse operations, the Smiths are responsible for numerous full and part-time employees. Much of the seed used in the greenhouse is collected from genetically superior trees on the Smith Tree Farm. The Smiths have conducted extensive experimentation on root growth and development, various planting treatments, herbicide and fungicide applications and stratification effects on different seed sources and species. The greenhouse supplies seedlings for both the Christmas tree and timberland operations.

The responsibility to properly manage the forest for future generations is utmost in the minds of the Smith family. Their father was selected as Maine's Outstanding Tree Farmer in 1970. As the third generation of the Smith family to work the Tree Farm, the brothers are now planning for the involvement of their children who are learning the value of a well-managed forest and its direct benefit to society.

Executive Director's Report

-- Richard Watt --

In mid-September I attended the NESAF Executive Committee Meeting in Concord, New Hampshire realizing that it was also primary election day in Vermont. It seems that every pleasant warm fall hour becomes more precious as Vermont's long winter draws near and by the time I reached home I had decided that I would rather spend the few remaining hours of daylight working outside rather than making a detour to the polling place. Besides, my candidates had commanding leads over their opponents. My vote wasn't needed to help them win the primary.

Well I'm sure you've guessed the results as one of my candidates was upset by less than one percent of the total vote cast. Obviously my failure to go to the polls didn't cause the upset, but perhaps 277 other potential votes with my attitude did cause the upset. Another example of a close vote through misguided voter interest showed up in our Society's election last year when the contest for Executive Committee Representative for the Granite State Division was decided 42 to 41.

You will have received the NESAF ballot by the time you read these words. If you haven't made your selections and mailed your ballot, consider that YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT!!!!!!! Happily, I can report that participation in elections has increased from 33% in 1986 to 40% in 1987. Let's keep this trend going in 1988. Let's show that we do care who determines NESAF actions, policies, and programs.
Free Student Insurance

Beginning September 1, 1988 all student members will receive free accidental death and dismemberment insurance as a benefit of SAF membership. Available for the period of September 1, 1988 through August 31, 1989, the policy provides $15,000 life and variable dismemberment coverage. The new insurance plan will apply to both current student members and new members. An application form is necessary and is available from the national office in Bethesda.

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In many important respects, U.S. forest land is unrivalled in the world. Roughly a third of the nation is covered by trees, which is about 70 percent of the forest land that existed here when Columbus arrived. This amounts to approximately 737 million acres of woodland, putting U.S. forests third in size behind the Soviet Union and Canada.

But the American forest ranks high in productivity, thanks largely to our temperate climate, favorable growing seasons, excellent soils and forest management expertise. As a result, the high productivity rates of U.S. forests provide our industry with a raw material volume the size of the Soviet Union’s even though that country’s Siberian forest alone is twice the size of our own, and contains almost half the world’s standing softwood acreage. So while South American forests grow trees faster than U.S. forests, and the Siberian forest is larger by acreage, the combination of advantages unique to U.S. forests makes them most productive.

The U.S. South has the highest concentration of forest industry mill capacity and employment of any region in the world. Since 1952, softwood inventories in the South have increased by 53 percent. These growth increases were possible in spite of a 46 percent increase in total harvests during the same period. In fact, because of its high productivity the American forest actually contains more wood today than it did in 1952. Despite the population pressures and rapid urbanization of the past 35 years, our forest land has added more than 200 billion cubic feet of wood—growing from about 603 billion cubic feet in 1952 to about 830 billion cubic feet today.

The nation diligently replants its forests. About 3 billion seedlings—roughly twelve for every American—were planted in 1987. The forest industry alone accounts for more than half of this activity, with individual tree farmers planting another 28 percent of the total. Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Oregon are the leading tree-planting states, in that order.

With the application of scientific forest management techniques, genetically improved seedlings, and improved methods of disease, brush, and fire control, the United States easily has the potential to provide a surplus of forest products to meet worldwide demand. (American Forest Council)
Wildlife Cooperative Agreement Reached - Seven Islands Land Company has entered into a cooperative wildlife management agreement with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the production of beech mast on T14R5 in Aroostook County. The agreement encompasses approximately 3,000 acres of stands stocked with mature to overmature beech, typically of low quality and poor vigor. The silvicultural objective is to remove this poor quality growing stock and regenerate these acres with more desirable tree species. This agreement reflects a joint concern on the part of both parties ensuring continued beech mast production in areas where wildlife are dependent upon this seasonal food source. The guidelines will result in 1,000 acres being managed on an uneven-aged basis to maintain mature stands of beech for mast production. The remaining 2,000 acres will be managed on a shelterwood and seed tree basis to produce maple, birch and other valuable timber species.

Stocking Adequate - Ninety-two percent of Maine spruce/fir forest harvested within the last 20 years is "adequately stocked" with young trees necessary to reestablish a new stand of spruce/fir according to the final "Report of the 1986 Midcycle Resurvey of the Spruce/Fir Forest in Maine," released by the Maine Department of Conservation's Forest Service. The resurvey was conducted by the Maine Forest Service in 1986 to validate earlier forecasts of wood supply and to supplement the 1971 and 1982 US Forest Service survey of Maine's woodlands. The Forest Service is scheduled to again resurvey the state in 1992. Maine Forest Service Director John Cashwell said "the data collected and reported in the MidCycle Survey clearly show that Maine's valuable spruce-fir forest is being regenerated. The composition and future growth of these stands depends largely on how they are managed. Copies of the report are available from the Maine Department of Conservation, State House Station #22, Augusta, Maine 04333.

Land Donated to Trail Corridor - Herb Hartman, Bureau of Parks and Recreation Director of the Maine Conservation Department, announced recently that the Bureau had accepted the donation of a sixty acre parcel of land in Ellsworth from the Patten Corporation. The parcel, including a 2 1/2 mile stretch of the Appalachian Trail corridor 1000 feet wide which runs through it, will now be permanently protected through public ownership. In making the donation, Patten Executive Vice President H. Craig Higgins said "the Appalachian Trail, and all that it represents, is exemplary of the kinds of values we hear expressed by the people to whom we sell property in Maine. To be able to play a role in adding to their experience and appreciation of Maine by assuring the future of the trail is important to us as well as to all the people."

Planting Milestone Achieved - Great Northern Paper planted its 11 millionth tree during the 1988 planting program. A total of one million seedlings were outplanted this year via Great Northern's nursery program which focuses on the production of black spruce seedlings. Great Northern's planting program began in 1976 with the planting of a 10-acre site west of Millinocket. Measurements taken this year indicate that many of the trees are now 15 to 16 feet tall on that site.

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Several factors remain to be settled before 1990. At this point in time it appears that the specific agendas to counter a feared proliferation of Pettee Hall, a 'must' as far as the acreage and possible legislative amendments. Included in the legislative agenda is submission of a "Right to Practice Forestry" Statement of Legislative Intent.

Newsmakers - Thomas A. Morrison has been appointed Maine State Entomologist and Director of the Maine Forest Service's Insect and Disease Management Division. Morrison will be responsible for supervising the Division's staff of 17 entomologists, technicians and related support workers. The Division originated in 1921 to protect Maine's shade and forest trees from insects and diseases.

Blaine Bloomgren, Champion International Northeastern Operation Vice President and General Manager, has moved to Milltown, Montana as Vice President and General Manager of the Western Operation. Tom Hart, General Manager of the Texas Region, has replaced Bloomgren.

Draft Forester Licensing Bill Ready for Comment

Gail Vaillancourt reports that her committee has completed their draft of the proposed forester licensing legislation as voted at the last annual meeting of the Granite State Division. Review of the proposal is scheduled for the fall meeting on October 14, where it will be approved or returned for revision.

Local Harvesting Restrictions At Issue - The New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association is making significant progress in addressing the problems of municipal control of timber harvesting. Two workgroups, Municipal Outreach and Statutory Review, have prepared specific agendas to counter a feared proliferation of local harvesting controls through the I&E program aimed at municipal officials and possible legislative amendments. Included in the legislative agenda is submission of a "Right to Practice Forestry" Statement of Legislative Intent.

UNH Accreditation Not Finalized - Apparently several factors remain to be settled before an accreditation final decision is made. One big factor is the much needed remodeling of Pettee Hall, a 'must' as far as the accreditation committee is concerned. Another factor is that the department must maintain a minimum of 9 faculty in appropriate fields. At this point in time it appears that the best that can be hoped for is a department re-accreditation via an Interim Report in 1990.

UNH Projects - Dave Olson, UNH, is working on a cooperative research project with the US Forest Service on wildlife use of log landings. Dick Wyrick, UNH, is studying the effects of organic residues in streams on wildlife (primarily fish). Breck Bowden and Tat Smith of UNH have worked out a cooperative agreement with a paper company (un-named) to study the effect of various combinations of pulp sludge and wood ash on soil and water and are also engaged in another phase of the study with the wood energy folks on the effects of spreading wood ash on fields and forests.

NH Forest Field Days Successful - The Manchester Water Works hosted the NH Forest Field Days on October 5 & 6. The program was sponsored by the Forest Communications Council with J B Cullen and Jim Speilman co-chairing the event. Interest remains high in these field days started more than 30 years ago.

Forest Industries Committee Forms Sub-Committees

In an effort to provide more effective representation and communication for all sectors of New Hampshire's forest products industry, the Forest Industries Committee of the NHTOA recently announced the creation of logging, trucking, sawmill, pulp & paper, and biomass sub-committees. Subchairmen named will be Logging - Ralph Newell, Winchester; Trucking - Doug Currier, Gorham; Sawmill - Bob Foster, Andover; Biomass - Jim Walker, Deerfield; and Pulp & Paper - Brad Wyman, Berlin. The new structure will be especially important in addressing legislative issues.
Backyard Tree Farm Program Set For Launch
The NH Timberland Owners Association will be administering a new program for New Hampshire landowners this fall. Funded by the American Forest Council, this pilot "Backyard Tree Farm" program seeks to recognize exemplary resource management on backyard woodlots between 0.5 and 9.9 acres. The program will be initiated in the four southern New Hampshire counties and will operate similar to the Tree Farm Program whereby each prospective Backyard Tree Farmer will have to complete a series of forestry and wildlife projects. Charles Niebling, Executive Director of NHTOA commented that the program "will bring the forestry message to New Hampshire's growing suburban population, people who in general know or care little about traditional land uses like forestry, and who, through the power of their vote, are having a significant impact on resource policy in this state."

NEWMAKERS - Gail Vaillancourt, NH Division of Forests & Lands has been appointed to the SAF National Task Force on Women and Minorities. The Task Force will be meeting at the SAF National Meeting in Rochester. Gail welcomes on this important issue at any time. Charles Bridges, former Extension Wildlife Specialist at UNH has accepted a position as a biologist with the NH Fish & Game Department.

Bill Mautz of UNH faculty has returned from his year sabbatical concluding an around the world tour.

Bob Dionne, formerly of Kearsarge Reel is now employed by Cersosimo in Bridgeton, Maine.

Brooks McCandlish, New England Forestry Foundation, has been named the Outstanding Tree Farm Inspector for 1988.

Ken Sutherland Jr., has changed opportunities and is now with Baker River Lumber Company.

GREEN MOUNTAIN Division by Gary Salmon

SAF and Forest Festival Week - Two nicely designed workshops on maintaining water quality through proper road design and construction became the Green Mountain Division's contribution to Forest Festival Week on October 1st. The Joe Nelson and Russ Reay led tours in Richmond and Ludlow respectively provided forest landowners (thanks to a Tree Farm mailing) with on the ground training including on-site work showing the goods and bads of road design with a bulldozer. The workshop also reviewed the Water Quality Laws and the forest landowners obligations under them. While attendance wasn't as high as expected at at least one of them, it nevertheless was a good cooperative effort at landowner education from SAF and the Vermont Tree Farm Program.

Other SAF foresters were also instrumental in selling the forestry message during Forest Festival Week at various workshops, tours, walks, and meetings. Programs varied from "Forest Forum: Conflicting Demands on Windham County's Forest Resource - The Need For Planning" with Carl Reidel, Conrad Motyka, and Al Johnson, to "Walking Under the Trees" with Lynn Levine. Thanks also go to Sam Hudson, Jonathan Wood, Mark Riley, Brendan Whittaker, Roy Whitmore, Bill Hall, Terry Frey, Mike Meyers, Gary Salmon, Bill Guenther, Tim Morton, Nina Huffer, and Paul Barbour for forest involvement during Forest Festival Week in other programs throughout Vermont.

THRIPS COORDINATOR APPOINTED - With nearly a half million forest acres damaged to some degree by thrips this season, the number of organizations working on the problem, and the number of people asking for information about thrips, someone needed to be available to keep track of the problem and progress toward solving it. As of mid August that person is Sandra Wilmot. She is the Pear Thrips Coordinator and is the contact person regarding the status of current research and control efforts. Sandy is at the Forests, Parks, and Recreation office in Waterbury, 103 South Main Street, 05673. (244-8716).

SUMMER MEETING ON "CLEARCUTTING IN VERMONT - SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED" - July 8 found the Green Mountain Division in Kirby viewing a 1,500 acre clearcut and asking the question to ourselves "how could a forester not be concerned about large clearcuts?" Several clear cuts were visited after the business meeting in Montpelier with discussion centered around administration, visual impact, and strips vs. patches. But the real issue (and one that generated a resulting questionnaire) was the impact of large clearcuts on aesthetics, wildlife, regeneration, water quality, and soil site factors. The summer meeting opened some eyes and concerns that will continue into future Green Mountain Division work.

VERMONT TREE FARMS - Vermont is third only to Arkansas and Mississippi in the ratio of tree farms to resident population, according to American Forest Council statistics. There is one Tree Farm for every 586 people in Vermont, while by comparison, one Tree Farm for every 11,687 New Yorkers, 35,071 New Jerseyites, 60,000 of those people from Utah. According to the Vermont Tree Farm News the next study will be to calculate for 1989 the ratio of Holstein cows per Tree Farm for each state.

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Newsmakers - Peter Hannah, NESAF’s 1988 Outstanding Forester, is on sabattical from UVM to work at the Bent Creek Experimental Forest in North Carolina for a year. His office is near Asheville and he can be reached at Bent Creek Experimental Forest, Rt 3, Box 1249, Asheville, North Carolina 28806 (704-667-5261).

Terry Frey of the Green Mountain National Forest has taken a new position in Morgantown, West Virginia where he will be the Public Affairs Specialist for the Appalachian Integrated Pest Management Project whose goal is to slow the spread of gypsy moth southward through 40 counties in Virginia and West Virginia.

Steve Harper has resigned as Green Mountain National Forest Supervisor to assume the position of Coordinator for the Northern Forests Study Group. Alfred Johnson, Resource Staff Officer for the forest, is replacing Steve as Acting Supervisor.

YANKEE Division

The Southern New England Continuing Forestry Education Workshop will be held on December 8 at the Ramada Inn in East Windsor, Connecticut (located right off I-91). The topic will be "Regenerating White Pine in Southern New England: Alternatives Based on Site Quality and Overstory Conditions." This workshop is jointly sponsored by the Yankee Division, SAF and Cooperative Extension in Connecticut and Massachusetts. A brochure with registration information and program details will soon be available. For more information contact Dave Kittredge (Ma Extension Forester: 413-545-2665) or Steve Broderick (Ct Extension Forester: 203-774-9600)

Massachusetts by David Robb

Tree Problems Continue - The Mass. Acid Rain Research Program, under the direction of Dr. Gretchen Smith, has completed a second field season evaluating the relationship between air quality and forest health in the state. Ozone pollution levels broke all previous records causing obvious leaf damage on many sensitive tree species including ash, cherry, and white pine. Acid rain monitoring continues on the summit of Mt. Greylock with the addition of a cloud water chemistry unit. Permanent observation plots were established in ten sugar maple stands across a 5 county area as part of an international study of sugar maple decline. Attention has also been directed at pear thrips infestation and the possible predisposing influence of air pollution. Management recommendations for sugarbushes and maple stands in the wake of this insect attack are being developed. Other studies include possible involvement of mycoplasma-like organisms in ash decline by a research team from SUNY College of Forestry, and a continuing study on red spruce decline in the Berkshires. Field results will be analyzed over the coming months for publication on spruce decline at a later date.

Chapter 61 Applications Continue Decline - During FY88, 126 new applications/management plans (9,017 acres) for certification under the Forest Tax Law were processed. This is an 11% decrease from FY87 and the 4th year in a row to show a decrease in new Chapter 61 applications. Recertification plans also declined by 15% from last year. The totals for land certified under Chapter 61 as of June 30, 88 are 2,788 forest management plans covering 212,958 acres.

Timber Cutting Activity Up In FY 88 - Based on Chapter 132 cutting plans filed with DEM in FY 88, timber cutting activities in the state moved up slightly over FY 87 levels. FY 88 plans filed for cutting totalled 664 which represented the harvest of 51.2MMbf and 42,800 cords. These figures represent a 9% increase in plans filed and a 7% increase in sawtimber harvested. However these figures remain far below record levels for 1985 in number of plans filed (1,123), timber harvested (76MMbf), and cords produced (88,000).

DEM issued 545 timber harvester licenses in FY 88, a 5% increase over last year. Sixty nine licenses went to out-of-state harvesters with the balance issued to residents.

David Brynn, Forester for the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation in Essex Junction, is temporarily assigned to other duties to gather all the field data on Vermont Legislated study of Timber Harvesting Practices in Vermont.

David Brynn, Forester for the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation in Essex Junction, is temporarily assigned to other duties to gather all the field data on the Vermont legislated study of the impacts of timber harvesting practices in Vermont. The study was legislatively called for in 1988 and funded with a $25,000 appropriation.

Thom McEvoy and Yuriy Bihun have spent a good deal of 1988 preparing a series of statewide Silviculture Education Workshops for loggers in addition to other duties.

Todd Sturtevant has been hired as a forester with Vermont Forestry Associates in Fairlee. Todd is a 1988 graduate from UVM and will be doing consulting forester work with this firm.
First COVERTS Training Session - The Massachusetts COVERTS Project will conduct its first training session for forest landowners on November 3-6. This session is patterned after COVERTS activities for cooperating forest landowners operating in Vermont and Connecticut for the past 3 years. Over 200 enthusiastic forest landowners have been trained to encourage their friends, neighbors and peers to practice forest management under this program. For more details contact David Kittredge, Extension Forester, at 413-545-2665.

Service Forester Award presented - The 1988 DEM Service Forester Award has been presented to Joseph Smith of Winchendon. Joe is the service forester for northern Worcester County and in addition to his regular duties, serves as statewide coordinator of the Forest Cutting Practices Act and chair of a sub-committee working on the statewide GEIR project on forest management practices.

Steve Hubner, Bureau Forester in Berkshire County, joined hands with foresters and other firefighter throughout New England to quell the fires in Yellowstone. However Steve and the other "volunteers" from Massachusetts were required to use vacation leave as Massachusetts is the only New England state that does not pay its employees for firefighting out-of-state. A bill is pending in the legislature to cure this situation.

Pest Update - George Stephens reports confirmation of a pine wood nematode infection in Scots Pine in Harnden. The nematode, transported by a long-horned timber beetle, grows in the wood of previously weakened trees. It is unclear whether drought, air pollution, mower blight, gypsy moth, or combination thereof was the initial factor. However it is the first report of pine wood nematode in Connecticut.

New Publications - At Home In The Country, The Value of Connecticut Forests To Her People, is a new publication from RC&D, US Forest Service and the Connecticut Bureau of Forestry. The booklet explains the value of forests to the quality of life and the economy of the state. It will be distributed to legislators, town officials, and others involved in land-use decisions. The Connecticut-Rhode Island Christmas Tree Growers Manual, edited by Steve Broderick, is now available. The publication is free to new members of the Connecticut Christmas Growers Association and available for $4.00 per copy from the County Extension Offices or $5.00 per copy from the UConn Agricultural Publication Department in Storrs.

Happenings - October 29, 9:00-4:00, Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers fall meeting at Dzen Christmas Tree Farm, Niederwerfer Road, South Windsor. Contact John Olsen, 376-2370 for details.

Voluntary Registration Update - Regulations effecting voluntary registration of foresters and loggers were approved by the Legislature's Regulatory Review Committee. The regulations are expected to be published in the September issue of the Connecticut Law Journal. This is the last step before the regulations go into effect and a published list of foresters and loggers from DEP is expected within six months.

RC&D Subcommittee News - A position statement has been adopted by this organization in support of wood biomass electrical generation and cogeneration projects. The statement focuses on the beneficial impact of increased demand for wood chips and acknowledges the precedence of other environmental issues, such as air quality and groundwater protection. The statement was drafted by Steve Broderick at the request of the Forestry Subcommittee, was passed by each of the RC&D Executive Committees and will be forwarded to the State Office of Policy and Management.

This subcommittee will also be revising the 208 guidelines booklet, Logging and Water Quality in Connecticut, first published in 1981. Companion materials to provide technical details will also be assembled. Work on this project will begin in November and all foresters with an interest should contact Tim Hawley.

DEM forestry management teams contributed $558,000 in contractual revenues and "in-kind services" during FY 88 from state forest lands. Over 3.8MMbf of sawtimber and 5,200 cords of fuelwood and pulp growing on 1850 acres were commercially thinned or harvested.

Newsmakers - Dr. Matthew Kelty has joined the faculty of the UMass Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management effective September 1, 1988. In his position as assistant professor of silviculture, Dr. Kelty will be responsible for teaching, research and extension activities in the area of silviculture and also cover non-industrial private forestry.

Will Snyder has been selected as the new Project Learning Tree Coordinator for Massachusetts. He is a 4-H Agent in Concord with an active interest in natural resources. He is in the process of organizing a PLT steering committee and can be reached for information on PLT at 508-369-4845.

Marc Tremblay, a 1979 UMass Forestry and Wildlife graduate, has been hired to work with Project Learning Tree and coordinator on the Yankee Forest Cooperative Project. Marc previously worked as a service forester for the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Jon Breed has been hired as the Marketing and Utilization Forester for the Bureau of Forest Development. Jon is a 1988 graduate of the UMass Wood Technology Department and will be based in Boston and Lancaster responsible for responding to requests on forest industry information.

Connecticut by Tim Hawley
Call Before You Dig - The State Museum of Natural History announced a new effort to identify and preserve archaeological sites. State Archaeologist Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni said that areas near water are the most likely sites. Marlborough and East Haddam have maps on file detailing "archaeologically sensitive areas." Although forest management activities are unlikely to disturb artifacts, any one aware of potential sites is asked to contact Dr. Bellantoni.

Newsmakers - Jeffrey Campbell has been hired by the Cooperative Extension Service for work on a new urban forestry initiative project. He will also provide geographic information system support to towns and assist Steve Broderick with the Coverts project. Jeff is located at the West Hartford Extension office and welcomes comments and questions regarding the project.
Earth Second?

Earth First!, whose membership tabloid regularly carries tips on tree spiking and other monkeywrenching, has never bothered to copyright its name, its logo or its slogan. This oversight has been remedied by Carl Anderson, security manager of the Pacific Lumber Company, Scotia, California, who has obtained the copyrights for himself. Anderson said he plans to notify the Earth First! group that its use of the name and logo is an infringement on his property. Will they become Earth Second?  
(NFPA Public Timber-This Week 8/26/88)

Cubic Coming?

Over 50 industry, government and independent scalers gathered in mid-August at the Louisiana-Pacific Corporation mill in Hayden Lake, Idaho to field test the draft cubic log scaling rule. This was the fifth test of the draft rule conducted during the last fourteen months. The National Forest Products Association Measurement Systems Task Force will present its final report to the Federal Timber Purchasers Committee later this fall, including the completed cubic foot log scaling rule. For more information contact David Ford at 202-463-2752.  
(NFPA Public Timber-This Week 8/19/88)