New Massachusetts Forest Alliance being formed—Dana Hachigian

Massachusetts Forest Landowners Association and Massachusetts Wood Producers organizations are partnering in a new organization. Massachusetts Professional Licensed Foresters invited to join Alliance.

The proposed new organization called the Massachusetts Forest Alliance (MFA) is meant to be a group that will represent all segments of the forestry community in Massachusetts. The idea is that all the fractured groups in Massachusetts the Mass Wood Producers (MWP), Massachusetts Association of Professional Foresters (MAPF), and Massachusetts Forestlands Owners Association (MFLA) will join together as one new group to have a common message presented by the heads of the organization to the politicians and public on all matters related to forests, forestry, forest health, forestland, and forest industry and other related topics. This group will actively lobby for forestry. This group will be made up predominantly of loggers, truckers, foresters, landowners, and sawmills, with some representation from others such as equipment dealers, services etc. The group will be based on the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) model. This has been a very successful model that has worked well for New Hampshire Forest Industry and Private Forest Landowners. The proposed Massachusetts Forest Alliance will potentially have a twelve or thirteen member board of directors made up of at least 2 loggers, 1 forester, 1 sawmill, 4 landowners, and the rest being members at large. There will be two full time employees of this organization that will actively participate in legislative issues, respond, and give input to, public, private, and political issues related to forestry. They will look to the board of directors for input as to how to proceed on these issues. They will hold member meetings to present topics and gather input and opinions from the membership on various topics. There can be councils that can advise on topic pertaining specifically to that group, such as a timber harvester’s council or forester’s council. The Massachusetts Forest Alliance will be a non profit 501 (c) (6) under the Internal Revenue Service Code. This will allow the group to lobby politically without restriction. There will also be a sister organization that is a 501 (c) (3) that will mainly be for education and outreach. This branch will be able to receive tax deductible donations and will work with the MFA.

Special points of interest:
♦ UNH Celebrating 100 years of Forestry
♦ CFE Updates

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Introduction to “Buy Local”
The phrase “Buy Local” means to support local economies by purchasing locally produced goods and services. Here in New England, the “Buy Local” brand has been particularly effective in increasing consumer interest in and expanding markets for agricultural products, notably vegetable crops grown with or without organic methods. Interest in expanding this brand to include forest products and services has achieved some initial traction in at least two States—Connecticut via the “Connecticut Grown” program and Massachusetts with its “Commonwealth Quality” program. Historically, when a greater proportion of the population lived in rural communities, local marketing was the only way of doing business. But with an increasingly urban society and international markets ready and willing to provide for tremendous consumption rates, it is now often cheaper to buy goods from halfway across the world rather than locally.

Three authors in this issue of the NESAF newsletter address this theme. Peter Grima, Outreach Service Forester of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, uses “Hey! Wood Comes from Trees!” to describe some ways that foresters can begin the conversation about using local wood with an audience already attuned to consuming local food. Roger Monthey of the U.S. Forest Service and Doug Emmerthal of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection briefly summarize the “Connecticut Grown” program and its relatively recent inclusion of forestry products.

Sarah Smith, UNH Cooperative Extension Forest Industry Specialist, authored the short article “Buy Local: Marketing and Promoting New Hampshire Lumber” about a recently funded grant from the U.S. Forest Service.

“Hey! Wood Comes From Trees!”
Delivering a Local Wood Message to Massachusetts Consumers
Peter Grima, Outreach Service Forester, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
peter.grima@state.ma.us

In the spirit of building upon proven successes, Massachusetts recently began a U.S. Forest Service-funded project to deliver a “buy local” wood products message to consumers in the Commonwealth. Massachusetts residents have already demonstrated a marked interest in local agriculture, the success of which rests heavily on the attributes of taste and freshness, but also on the aesthetic of a working agricultural landscape and the warm fuzzy feeling of knowing that a tractor kicking up dust in the distance is ultimately going to put something on your dinner table.

But what about the dinner table itself? In short, people have been primed by the local agricultural movement and are already receptive to the notion of a local product having superior, if sometimes intangible, qualities. Forestry and the wood products industry are thus poised to make the best of this potentially favorable environment.

So what is the best way to proceed in broaching the subject of local wood with consumers who are just as likely to be vehemently opposed to harvesting? As the embodiment of this grant initiative for the Massachusetts DCR’s Service Forestry Program, I will describe some of the guiding principles I’ve devised to help me be more effective at reaching out to consumers. The intent is that such principles are easily adapted by any and all of the NESAF membership to help promote local wood products in their own daily pursuits.

A Convenient Truth

The underlying truth is that, by and large, people love wood. More correctly perhaps, people value wood, as is directly evidenced by realtors who are quick to mention features like wood floors, post-and-beam construction, wood-burning stoves, and a rural forested landscape punctuated by wooden agricultural outbuildings.

But, somewhere between the silent stillness of the woods and the fixed grain pattern of their furniture, people have forgotten where wood comes from. There is no connection between the product and the resource because it simply isn’t ever thought about. Just as beef and chicken show up in packages at the supermarket, and strawberries are on the shelves year-round, so too does lumber arrive at the usual retail outlets in readily available quantities. And that’s all that needs to be known about the process for the average person...at least until

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Quarterly Theme

someone makes them wonder what’s behind the product they’re buying, which is where every one of us has a part to play.

As foresters we are ever straddling the realm between wood and the woods. Our deep appreciation for the entire process of wood production is a potent asset...sometimes too potent! Thus, it is imperative that we recognize the sheer magnitude of the knowledge deficit that we face in the average citizen-consumer before we alienate them with the usual overwhelming glut of information. Time and again we have tried to bridge this gap by lionizing our profession, beating the drum of good forestry as if to convert people and make them think like foresters. But I would argue that this has been a shortfall, reaching only the upper echelon of people who were already receptive to the more sublime aspects of forestry.

In light of this enormous knowledge gap, getting the average person to think like a forester is akin to converting them to a new religion. So, as a basic tenet, I don’t set out to convert people – rather I draw upon their existing positive sentiments for wood and trees and try to cultivate an appreciation for the interconnected beauty and utility of each. Whether it’s a piece of antique furniture, newly finished hardwood floors, or the tranquil rusticity of old barns, there are innumerable opportunities for us to link existing human sentiments directly to the physical resource.

Consumerism

The average person doesn’t buy solid wood products every year, let alone every week, so reminding them that they have been and still are consumers of wood products is the first step. The most current published numbers from the U.S. Forest Service Forest Products Lab indicate that U.S. annual per capita consumption of wood was 68 ft$^3$ (approximately 425 bf) as of 2006 (Howard and others 2010). This catch-all snapshot of wood consumption is complicated by countless products that never actually pass through a private consumer’s hands but are nonetheless consumed on their behalf by businesses and institutions (for example, government) that exist to support (and employ) them. For the keener set of consumers who are willing to listen, I find it to be worth pointing out how much of their consumption is more or less beyond their control, making it all the more important for them to execute good decisions for wood purchases that are within their grasp.

Transport of Goods

A major factor working in favor of local agriculture is the cost of transport, both economic and environmental, especially when viewed against the availability of the resource at hand. When people go to the grocery store in late June to buy strawberries and see that they are from southern California, they are likely to have an epiphany – “Hey! Those grow here!” With gas prices ever on the mind, the average consumer will wonder why they should pay for strawberries to be shipped 3,000 miles instead of driving 3 miles to go buy fresh ones (they may also wonder why the local ones are more expensive, but that is a very separate question!). However, the same individuals seem to lack an epiphany of any kind when they buy pine boards from Chile or New Zealand even though everyone knows that, “Hey! Pine trees grow here...year round!”

Herein lies the opportunity to challenge any wood consumer to the detective game of “Where does your wood come from?” Incidentally, the bigger outlets are onto this game, though they haven’t yet spoiled the fun! In particular, Home Depot has effected a policy to label every piece of wood in their stores with a country of origin, so consumers can...
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now travel the globe with just a stroll down the aisle – Canada, Sweden, New Zealand, Brazil, and yes, the United States.

While there may be some solace in knowing wood hasn’t crossed an ocean, a good detective will be dissatisfied with that level of resolution, especially when a local retailing mill could tell you the town, landowner, and maybe even which corner of the lot a particular batch of lumber came from. In general, challenging folks to this game will generally yield the answer “Not from around here!” or more likely “Don’t know!” We must be ready to direct them to the appropriate local outlets.

**Start with Something People Know**

If a branch falls in someone’s yard, does it make a sound? You bet! And the next sound is a chainsaw making haste to convert that branch into a few armfuls of firewood. A bigger branch falls – more firewood. A tree falls – lots of firewood! The lesson here is that people understand firewood. They see it consumed, use it themselves, or know someone who does, and therefore assign utility to a piece of wood that falls to the ground.

While most self-respecting country folk wouldn’t process a good log into cordwood, the general populace sees little recourse either because they don’t understand the higher use of the wood or they don’t know that there are options for salvaging lumber. I bet you readers do, though! But how many portable mill operators are in the phone book or even in your State’s sawmill directory? The challenge lies in getting these two parties to connect, which is often by word-of-mouth from those in the know. Additionally, just like seeing someone using a hydraulic firewood splitter inspires people to seek one out, seeing portable mills in action would certainly get the gears turning in more than a few heads.

**Measuring Success**

Here in the Pioneer Valley of western Massachusetts, the successes of local agriculture are palpable. We enjoy a profusion of farmstands (the kind associated with and often sited at actual farms), both produce and meat Community Supported Agriculture programs have become almost commonplace, and farmers enjoy broad recognition of their “local hero” status.

While this is perhaps a somewhat rosy summarization given that local agriculture is still just a drop in the bucket of consumption, it begs us to wonder what a similar level of success for local forestry would look like. Will there be an abundance of small woodsheds staged along State roads? Will the average citizen have a relationship with their local mill owner (much as people already have a relationship with their firewood provider)? Will loggers, foresters, or landowners be regarded as “local heroes”? Will people be comforted by the sound of buzzing chainsaws or smile at the sight of a trailered skidder headed down the road, knowing that the forest is part of a vibrant working landscape?

Let’s not get ahead of ourselves! We’re talking about an audience who categorically refers to all softwoods as “pine trees”! Positive progress, in any form, will be measured by degrees.

We are presented with a unique opportunity. Without a doubt, a prevalent receptivity to the concept of local products already exists, largely built upon the pillars of local agriculture and its paradigm of “supporting farms = supporting community + preserving a rural landscape.” Forestry represents an attainable analog to this model, yielding a host of charismatic and practical wood products from a much-appreciated rural forested landscape.

The first step for us, and perhaps the most daunting one, is to get people to consolidate three obvious facts into a single concept: 1) I use wood, 2) wood comes from trees, and 3) trees grow here. While this may seem remedial, there are major knowledge deficits within these concepts (primarily #1) and even more so in the linkages between them. Fusing these facts together will likely get most people thinking, asking questions, finding answers that are inadequate or displeasing, and ultimately asking what their alternatives are. While we are accustomed to being stewards of the resource in the field, it is imperative that our stewardship carry over into the marketplace as well. We have unique and insightful perspectives to offer given our sublime and intimate knowledge of the origins of wood, and if we can suppress our urge to prematurely blurt out the word “silviculture” to unsuspecting laypersons, then we stand to open many eyes by way of simple logic to the spectacular resource that we are all committed to conserve.

**Reference**

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Quarterly Theme


Connecticut Grown Program

On January 1, 2011, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture agreed to add forestry products to the Connecticut Grown Program. This program has helped promote Connecticut agriculture and expand the State’s farming economy since its inception in 1986.

In a January 2011 Governor’s press release (“Connecticut Forest Products Now Marketed Under ‘Connecticut Grown’ Label”), then Governor M. Jodi Rell stated, “Expanding the Connecticut Grown label to forestry products makes absolute sense and will give these products a stronger presence in the marketplace. This initiative will appeal to the growing number of consumers who choose to buy locally grown materials and be a boost for our forest products industry and the jobs it creates.” Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner F. Philip Prelli also supported the expansion of the program: “The wood industry is not only an important component [of] our working woodlands, it is a valuable resource that our citizens utilize on a daily basis, and the sustainability of this resource is what our Connecticut Grown Program is all about. The proper maintenance of our forests provides a continuing agricultural product in our wood.” State Forester Christopher Martin (figure 1) was interviewed for the story “State to Promote Forestry Products,” which was published by WFSB Hartford Channel 3 on December 29, 2010. Martin also mentioned the success of the original Connecticut Grown Program in promoting locally produced food and other agricultural products as well as helping to prevent development of agricultural land. With a decline in Connecticut’s forest land base according to Forest Inventory and Analysis data, adding forest products to the Connecticut Grown brand may help stem the decline of forests as well.

General Manager Paul Baker of Country Carpenters, which constructs New England-style post and beam buildings in Hebron, CT, said that 95 percent of the company’s carriage houses, garden sheds, and country barns are made from eastern white pine, and 75 percent of the wood comes from Connecticut. He feels the Connecticut Grown Program will give his company a stronger market presence.

Connecticut Grown Forest Products*

Under Connecticut’s laws, the practice of forestry is defined as agriculture, Section 1-1(q). The forest products that result from well-managed forests are an integral part of Connecticut’s agricultural heritage. Products from the forest include:

- lumber
- beams
- flooring
- high-quality wood building materials
- witch hazel
- firewood
- landscape mulch
- maple syrup
- fencing

Because the wood from trees is then used to manufacture additional items, the list of products from Connecticut’s forests also includes items as wide ranging as:

- fine furniture
- wooden bowls
- unusual specialty items such as tall ships masts and wooden boat timber

Connecticut’s forest products play a key role in the State’s economic viability. According to a report by the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Connecticut, in 2007, Connecticut’s forest products industry contributed at least $250 million to Connecticut’s economy an-

Figure 1. Connecticut State Forester Chris Martin speaks about Connecticut Grown forest products in Bolton, CT. Legislators attended the event, as did representatives from the timber industry, landowner organizations, and the Connecticut DEEP and Department of Agriculture (DOA). Attendees included Paul Baker, General Manager of Early New England Homes by Country Carpenters; Joan Nichols, President of the Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association; Amey Marrella, then Commissioner of CT DEEP, and Susan Frechette, Deputy Commissioner of CT DEEP; F. Philip Prelli, then Commissioner of CT DOA; State Representatives Pamela Z. Sawyer and Clark J. Chapin; and Don Tuller, President of the Connecticut Farm Bureau.
(Continued from page 6)

tually and provided employment for thousands of its residents. Increasing the level of economic activity in and around forests and improving the economic viability of the local forest products industry through the Connecticut Grown Program will help create local jobs and expand the State’s economy overall.

By purchasing Connecticut Grown forest products, consumers will also have the opportunity to make a strong statement in support of forests, particularly those owned by private forest landowners. Private forest landowners own 85 percent of the forests in Connecticut. The increased economic value of products from local forests will provide private landowners and communities with additional incentives for keeping their forests as forest and not converting the land to other uses. Further, requirements within the program will ensure that “Connecticut Grown” forests are managed in a sustainable and responsible manner.

The Connecticut Grown Program also recognizes the value of the hardworking trees in our cities and towns. Wood products from urban trees qualify for labeling under this program if the trees were not removed as part of a sustainable urban forestry program. Indeed, sustainability is a key component of the Connecticut Grown Program for all forest products, whether they come from an urban forest, a rural forest, or somewhere in between. Forest products derived from land clearing to convert forest land to another use is not acceptable.

**How to Become Involved**

Prospective participants must fill out an application provided by the DEEP Division of Forestry and the DOA. Upon approval, participants must provide evidence of compliance with the program requirements including documentation tracing the origin of the raw material to a Connecticut urban or rural forest.


The conditions for entering the program (pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Connecticut DEEP and Department of Agriculture) include the following (to see the application, go to [http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/forestry/ct_grown/application.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/forestry/ct_grown/application.pdf):

1. Forest products sold as Connecticut Grown must be harvested, grown, and produced using sustainable forestry practices. Products that result from conversion of forest land to non-conservation uses are unacceptable.
4. Forest products sold as Connecticut Grown may include trees from urban forests provided there is evidence of a program of urban tree sustainability.

Forests are very important to the quality of life in Connecticut. As described by the Connecticut DEEP, “With 1.7 million acres (roughly 60 percent of its land area) in forest, Connecticut is one of the most heavily forested States in the Nation. Ironically, Connecticut is also one of the most densely populated States. Connecticut’s forests and trees add immensely to the quality of life for the people of the State. Not only do they produce locally grown forest products, they filter the air that is breathed, safeguard private and public drinking water sources, provide essential habitat for wildlife, and moderate summer and winter temperatures near homes. Whether people in Connecticut live in an urban, suburban, or rural setting, they are connected to trees. By buying ‘Connecticut Grown’ forest products, they help to foster sustainable practices.”

To learn more about the expansion of the Connecticut Grown Program to include forestry products, call the Connecticut DEEP’s Division of Forestry at 860-424-3630.

Authors: Roger Monthey, U.S. Forest Service, and Doug Emmerthal, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

**Buy Local: Marketing and Promoting New Hampshire Lumber**

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) Cooperative Extension and the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands received an $80,802 grant from the U.S. Forest Service to promote New Hampshire lumber.

The project, “Buy Local: Marketing and Promoting New Hampshire’s Locally Produced Lumber,” is one outcome of the 2008 New Hampshire Governor’s Forest Industry Task Force Report. This re-

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port suggested that new markets and new marketing strategies would benefit the State’s sawmills. During today’s continuing, tough economic times, this project seems more important than ever.

“Because New Hampshire’s sawmills are diverse, it was important to design a program that accommodates each mill’s unique product. Participating sawmills will be able to tailor the marketing plan to meet their specific needs,” said Sarah Smith, Forest Industry Specialist with UNH Cooperative Extension. The project provides funding for:

Writing marketing plans for at least 10 sawmills, hopefully more. A marketing consultant will work closely with sawmill managers to develop and write individualized plans.

Conducting a workshop for New Hampshire sawmills on using social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, to enhance their marketing efforts.

Conducting two workshops for municipal code enforcement officials, architects, builders, and sawmill owners on New Hampshire’s local lumber law (Grading and Certification or Stamping of Native Lumber, RSA 434:59-61). This law allows lumber that does not have a grade stamp to be used in construction. Grade-stamped lumber is wood that has been graded and stamped according to Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association (NeLMA) criteria. Most of the large white pine and spruce/fir mills make NeLMA grade-stamped lumber. Smaller sawmills that sell lumber in the local area do not generally grade and stamp their lumber because of the cost.

This fall, a Request for Proposals was sent to over 50 marketing firms. Seventeen submitted proposals. The Glen Group from North Conway, NH, was hired to work directly with sawmill managers to develop marketing plans. The participating sawmills represent the largest and the smallest in the State.

The grant will also be used to update and expand a sawmill directory produced by UNH Cooperative Extension as well as develop a Buy Local display that includes samples of the most common commercial tree species found in the State. The wood samples were used at the recent Farm and Forest Expo in Manchester. In addition, a Buying Local Lumber workshop held at the Expo highlighted the diversity of New Hampshire’s forests and the wood products available within the region.

For more information, call Sarah Smith, UNH Cooperative Extension Forest Industry Specialist, at (603) 862–2647 or send an e-mail to sarah.smith@unh.edu.
DIVISION NEWS

Maine - Anthony Filauro

2010 Silvicultural Report
The Maine Forest Service indicates that acreage harvested in 2010 increased by 12% compared to acreage harvested in 2009. This was the first increase in harvested acreage during the last five years. The increase occurred primarily in partial harvest or shelterwood operations. Clearcut acreage increased slightly but only accounts for 4% of all acreage harvested.

Other silvicultural activities indicated that crop tree release using herbicides decreased by 27% and tree planting decreased by 28%; however PCT work increased by 51%. Most of the PCT work was conducted on lands of commercial size landowners (>100K acres).

The complete report can be viewed at the website www.maineforestservice.gov

Maine’s Hardwood Inventory
The Maine Forest Service recently reported the state’s hardwood inventory has increased almost 17% in volume since 1995 and current hardwood growth exceeds harvest volumes by 6%. Increase in volume is highest in southern and western Maine, is on par in eastern Maine but is negative in northern Maine. A copy of the full report is available at: www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/pubs/pdf/hardwood_resource_rpt.pdf

Maine Bug Watch
Maine’s resource managers have concerns about insect populations and their impact upon the forest and agricultural lands of the state. This interest has extended to the general public since the introduction of invasive insects such as the hemlock woolly adelgid and possible introduction of the Asian longhorn beetle or the emerald ash borer.

Maine Bug Watch is a Facebook page that reports on insect conditions and issues in the state and throughout New England. It’s a source of information that’s available to anyone. The Facebook page can be accessed at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Maine-Bug-Watch/286814954695063?ref=ts

Wood Processor Report
The 2010 wood processor report issued by the Maine Forest Service summarizes the volume of wood that is harvested, processed, imported or exported in the State of Maine. The report indicates that spruce/fir log volumes increased in 2010, the first increase in the past three years; however other log species were flat or decreased during the same time period. Pulpwood volumes also increased, mostly due to hardwood species but spruce/fir volumes decreased. The complete report can be viewed at the website www.maineforestservice.gov

Project Learning Tree
Project Learning Tree will host two teachers’ tours in 2012. Tours are scheduled for July 10-13 in Rangeley Lakes and western mountains area and July 24-27 at Leen’s Lodge on West Grand Lake. Foresters are encouraged to attend these tours to interact with members of the educational community and to discuss forestry issues. Additional information about the tours is available at the website: www.mainetreefoundation.org

MESAF Spring & Fall Meetings
Three field meetings will be offered to MESAF members in 2012. In late June, a tour of forestlands managed by the Downeast Lakes Land Trust in Washington County will focus on forest management and water quality issues. In late July a tour will be conducted of the Pleasant River Lumber facility in Dover Foxcroft. In late August a tour of lands managed by the Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust will focus on silvicultural practices in juvenile stands, recreation issues and habitat management. Exact dates of the meetings were not finalized at the time of publication of the Quarterly; however information will be available on the MESAF website: www.mesaf.org.

The fall MESAF meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 9th at the Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine, Orono. The meeting will focus on political, environmental and social changes that continue to affect Maine’s forestlands. The agenda for the meeting is in the draft stage; however SAF members are encouraged to save the date (Oct. 9).

(Continued on page 10)
Emerald Ash Borer
A survey recently completed by the Maine Forest Service, involving the inspection of ash trees in various parts of the state that were girdled to attract the emerald ash borer, did not indicate the presence of the EAB. That’s good news for Maine; however it’s only a snapshot in time. The insect might not be introduced on firewood or other primary wood products transported into the state if precautionary measures are not enforced. Adherence to the quarantine on primary wood products will minimize the accidental transport of this insect into the state.

SAF Membership Award
In 2011, Eugene L. Putnam was recognized as a fifty-year member of SAF. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Golden Membership Award and pin were recently presented to Gene by Ron Lemin, past NESAF chairman, during a visit to Hampden, Maine. Congratulations Gene.

Massachusetts — Dana Hachigian

2012 Growing Season Forest Health Conditions Report – Provided by Ken Gooch, DCR Forest Health Program Director, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Bureau of Forestry

Winter moth - Last year based on the annual aerial survey over 80,000 acres was mapped as defoliated primarily east of Rt.495. We saw a very heavy moth flight in November/early December 2011 which leads us to predict another heavy defoliation in 2012. Winter moth has been steadily spreading in the state with moths seen as far west as Worcester County. Winter moth larvae feed on maple, oak, and smaller ornamental trees and shrubs such as apple and blueberries.

Asian Longhorned Beetle - DCR in cooperation with the USDA APHIS continue to work on eradication of ALB from the state. Currently the quarantine area is 110 square miles encompassing all of the City of Worcester, West Boylston, Boylston, Shrewsbury, parts of Holden and parts of Auburn. Infested trees continue to be found in these areas. One of the major program concerns is delineating the boundaries of this infestation.

Hemlock woolly adelgid/ Elongated hemlock scale - HWA and ELHS continue to spread throughout the state. Past cold winter temperatures have kept the HWA insect in check for several years but we have seen a rebound in populations. Elongated hemlock scale also continues to spread across the state. We have not seen the tree mortality associated with these 2 insect pests as seen to our south in CT and RI. Too soon to tell if there’s some tree resistance to HWA and ELHS damage or if the past cold winter temperatures had an affect on insect populations.

Red pine scale and Diplodia - Several large stands of red pine have seen increased mortality in the state. In most cases tree death has been from a combination of red pine scale and Diplodia disease. We're seeing more instances where these two pests working together are causing mortality in a short amount of time (2-3 years).

Emerald ash borer - Though not found in Mass. as yet it is close to our western border with New York. Just recently found east of the Hudson River this insect pest, specific to ash species, will soon become part of our landscape. DCR working in cooperation with the USDA APHIS is planning on deploying 713 purple panel insect monitoring traps statewide this upcoming growing season. Traps will be one method to monitor for the presence of EAB in our state. If EAB is found county wide quarantines would go into affect to limit the spread of ash wood products.

(Continued on page 11)
(Continued from page 10)

Gypsy moth - Continues to be found at low levels with no defoliation reported from this insect.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR); Bureau of Forestry - State Lands News
The long process of the Forest Futures Visioning Process and subsequent Landscape Zoning will be drawing to a close soon. The three year process of public review and analysis of land management policy approaches on the Massachusetts state forest and park system should be ending in early April. After significant external public input and internal review, Final Landscape Designations (land use zoning) will be presented to the public. The 310,000 acres of land in this system will be zoned Woodland, Parkland, or Reserve. The zones will be dedicated to active forest management, recreation and passive management respectively.

The DCR Stewardship Council, which has statutory authority over management of these properties, will on April 6th be voting on the approval of the Management Guidelines for the zones. These guidelines will dictate the specific activities allowed within each one.

It is anticipated that active forest management will begin again in the Woodland Zone on DCR properties in 2012.

Massachusetts Forestry Legislative updates – Provided by Kent Lage, Director of Forestry Programs, Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.
Seven Bills have moved from original committee for further study in the Massachusetts Legislature. Below are recaps of four of those bills. One in particular will be of benefit for logging transportation. SB1725, if passed, will change the weight restrictions for commercial loads to follow the “gross vehicle weight rating” not the current load limit of 60,000 lbs.

Also of importance is the clear-cutting bill H 2006 – has been sent to a study to die!! As well as SB86 - An Act relative to the forester licensing board to enfold the forest licensing board into the State licensing board.

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<tr>
<th>Bill #:</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>HB236</td>
<td>An Act authorizing the establishment of old growth forest reserves</td>
<td>Directs the secretary of environmental affairs to designate a reserve comprised of old forest growth as well as buffer areas for same after said area is recommended to said secretary by a third party; directs said secretary to develop plans for the management and protection of said old growth reserves; articulates prohibited activities within said reserves. ISSUE – “Any ten citizens of the Commonwealth … may present areas for designation.”</td>
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<td>HB3438</td>
<td>An Act relative to protecting the natural resources of the Commonwealth</td>
<td>Strengthens Article 97 protections of state lands</td>
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<td>SB1725</td>
<td>An Act to promote environmentally sound transportation of agricultural products</td>
<td>Adds the words “commercial or farm” to the owner or lessee of any motor vehicle for permits to operate over weight restrictions. Also set “gross vehicle weight rating” as sole standard for permits – deletes “and the weight for which it is registered” language.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB836</td>
<td>An Act to protect tropical forests by restricting state purchases of certain wood products</td>
<td>Prohibits the commonwealth from purchasing wood grown in a tropical forest or products made substantially of wood grown in a tropical forest except where a public necessity exists and no other alternative is available, or the case of wood grown in a second growth forest carrying independent certification; requires the consideration of recycled plastic lumber as an alternate material in all bids for outdoor and marine projects.</td>
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Connecticut - Mel Harder

News from CTSAF - reported by Michael Bartlett, Chair
New officers for CTSAF have been seated. Michael J. Bartlett of Hull Forest Products, Pomfret CT, takes over as chair. Robert M. Ricard, UCONN Extension, is vice chair, and Dan Peracchio of Ferrucci & Walicki is secretary/treasurer. Term of office for all three is 1/1/12 - 12/31/12.

News from Yale Chapter SAF - received from Vic-
Discussion revolved around three key agenda items: introducing the Commissioner to the “faces” of the Connecticut forest products industry; 2) regulatory issues and 3) positive initiatives. The Commissioner was genuinely interested in the state of the industry and early discussion revolved around the economic climate and challenges the industry has had to face to meet these challenges. A bright spot in the early discussion was the $131.5 million dollar impact the industry has on the states economy despite a weak economic recovery. The fact that virtually 100% of the Connecticut forest products industry is made up of small businesses that drive this economic engine lead to the next topic of what the agency could do to assist the industry. David Trowbridge lead the discussion on what the agency could do to improve the execution of state timber sale contracts. Joan Nichols updated the Commissioner on what changes Timpro had proposed regarding proposed changes to the Regulations for Certified Forest Practitioners and asked what could be done to move the initiative to public hearing. The Commissioner agreed that it would be timely to get the changes implemented before October 1st when a large number of practitioners come due for certification.

The group also expressed sentiment for maintaining a favorable regulatory climate for the forest products industry. The meeting wrapped up on a positive note with discussion about the new initiative to include Connecticut forest products in the CT Grown program and the Joint Venture grant Timpro has been awarded. The group also highlighted community outreach such as the Log A Load for Kids Campaign which benefits the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and the cooperation between Timpro and the Division of Forestry on educational programs. An example given to the Commissioner by Doug Emmerthal was the filming of David Trowbridge installing a temporary bridge on a state lands timber sale to be used as part of training for municipal wetlands officials. The meeting was productive and positive and overall the group felt it was a morning well spent and appreciated the Commissioner’s time and undivided attention to the issues.

News from Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association (TIMPRO)
received from Joan Nichols, President
On December 1, 2011 four members of the Board of Directors met with Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Daniel C. Esty in Hartford, Connecticut. President Joan Nichols joined by Vice-President Henry Gundlach and Board members David Trowbridge and Doug Moore met with Commissioner Esty, State Forester Christopher Martin and Doug Emmerthal to discuss issues affecting the Connecticut forest products industry.
2012 GSD/SAF MEETING
A sunny day eased traveling for the more than 150 that attended the Feb. 10, 2012 GSD/SAF winter meeting held in Bartlett at the Attitash Grand Summit conference center. Acting State Forester Brad Simpkins reported that 29 timber sales contracts are active on state lands. In 2011, 1,454 harvest inspections and 259 law enforcement actions were taken by the 9 rangers. The Memorial Day weekend flood in May washed out roads to campers at the Nash Stream State Forest and Hurricane Irene in August damaged roads at Crawford Notch State Park, again stranding campers and residents, requiring a coordinated rescue/recovery effort. His office is tracking 35 proposed bills in the legislature. A new poster of the state tree, the white birch, is available for schools and the USFS and state foresters are preparing a positive publicity effort in conjunction with the release of the animated movie, The Lorax. See the USFS site www.discovertheforest.org.

UNHCE Forest Industry Specialist Sarah Smith said that residential foreclosures are slowing recovery from this 4th year of the recession. However, she sees a renewed emphasis to buy American and support local industry. Log markets continue depressed, but chips for biomass and paper production are in steady demand. White Mountain National Forest Supervisor Tom Wagner reported more than $10 million in damage to logging roads and recreational trails and bridges from Hurricane Irene washouts. Surmounting this difficulty, 15 timber sales are under contract. NHTOA Executive Director Jasen Stock is active watching more than 80 bills in the legislature, with a bunch involving property rights. Prime wetlands regulations are being revised to provide an exemption for timber harvesting on dry land. NHTOA’s Eric Johnson reported that the Timber Harvesting Council trained 500 loggers last year and did 2 workshops for landowners on red oak silviculture and logging with farm tractors. US Fish & Wildlife forester Tom LaPoint reported on the Silvio Conte Refuge, as well as Pondicherry and Umbagog Refuges. New PLT Director Caroline Amport will be moving their annual meeting from November to April. After completing a 3 year project with the Bicentennial Elementary School in Nashua, students showed a 32% increase in science test scores. SPNHF President and Forester Jane Difley has more than 100 land steward volunteers caring for protected properties. More than 1,700 donors gave to provide a 5,800 acre conservation easement on the historic Balsams Resort in Dixville Notch.

Forester Licensing Board representative Don Winsor reported 280 licensed foresters with 10 new in 2011. Renewal will be changed to your birth month and CEU certificates will need to be kept for 4 years.

Mike Lynch and Ryan Dubois gave a presentation of NRCS forestry programs and outlined the process for foresters to become TSPs, so that they can participate as well. Classes have been held as an introduction and more assistance is available at www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov.

At the business portion of the meeting, the following officers were elected. Chair, Hunter Carbee; Vice Chair, Wendy Weisiger; Secretary, Kerry Yankus; Treasurer, Susan Francher; NESAF, Janice Mulherin; Tree Farm, Brooks McCandlish and Education, Steve Roberge. The budget was approved, with an additional $400 appropriated for PLT. A moment of silence was held for 2 that had passed away. Peter Allen was an SAF member and forester at Fox State Forest. Hermel Pelletier was a respected logger in the southern portion of NH.

During lunch, Tree Farm updates were provided by Andy Fast and John O’Brien. The NH Tree Farm Rating Sheet has been slightly revised. See www.nhtreefarm.org. Five Tree Farmer workshops were done last year, with 5 more planned for this year. Ben and Debbie Kilham are the NH Outstanding Tree Farmers for 2012, and will be hosting the annual Field Day and BBQ on Saturday, Sept. 22 at the Dartmouth Skiway in Lyme.

(Continued on page 14)
The Green Mountain Division held its annual winter meeting in Fairlee, VT on January 27, 2012. The meeting was well attended with a good turn out of people from the division and members that traveled from afar. The afternoon session discussed various aspects of silviculture and was well received by all with numerous silviculture experts from around the region.

50 Year Member
Dave Stevens was recognized at the meeting as becoming a 50 year Golden member of SAF. He was awarded a pin and SAF certificate. Congratulations Dave!

Four inspector certification training sessions were held last year, with 114 foresters participating. Andy Fast was the top reinspector, completing 17. Scholarships of $1,000 each were awarded to 3 students at UNH. At the Thompson School, William MacMartin; at the 4 year school, Ethan Belair; and at the graduate school, Michael Simmons, were the recipients. The Forester of the Year award went to Dan Cyr, long time forester for Bay State Forestry Services, based in Francestown. The afternoon program was a forest health update, with topics on insects, disease and other influences. Speakers were Kyle Lombard and Jennifer Weimer of the NH Division of Forests and Lands, Piera Siegert, State Entomologist with the NH Department of Agriculture, Isabel Munck and Michael Bohne with the USDA Forest Service. The extensive annual forest health report of NH is available at

Green Mountain - Bill Samal

Rhode Island - Paul Boisvert No News

Forestry at UNH
100th Anniversary Celebration
April 26, 2012

Begun in the 1911-1912 academic year, the University of New Hampshire’s Forestry Program is marking 100 years of forestry education, research and outreach on April 26th. Join us for this special event that includes seminar and banquet speaker Charles Myers, USDA Forest Service, Regional Forester, and tours of newly renovated James Hall (Gold LEED Certification).

Event Information and Banquet Reservations: http://www.nre.unh.edu/events
NE SAF AFFAIRS

Council Corner Dec- 2011
George F. Frame, CF
Council Representative District VI

This year’s first formal SAF Council Meeting was held in Detroit the beginning of March. While heavy snows in the UP of Michigan prevent one member from attending most were able to avoid the tornados, snow storms, high winds and rain that plagued the country that particular weekend.

Our new President Bill Rockwell and Vice President Joanne Meyers-Cox lead a well organized meeting. Three new members were welcomed to the Council and we were able to attach faces to the voices we had heard during a round of budget related conference calls in January.

The Strategic Planning Committee met on Friday afternoon with the full Council meeting all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Other sub-committees met in the evenings and there was considerable group discussion around the supper table.

Council plans to continue working on the Good to Great (G2G) process with the hope of having a set of decision filters that will help guide the direction of SAF and provide focus to the myriad of issues and concerns that come before the group. At the same time, the Strategic Plan that was completed in 2010 will be updated and used to provide guidance until the G2G process is concluded. We have enlisted a consultant to shepherd Council and staff through the strategic planning process this year.

The sale of the Bethesda property was on the agenda again as another glitch, this one related to the condominium owners need to sign off to clear the title (associated with the RNRF portion of the tract) was discussed. This issue has delayed the process by about 30 days but optimism prevails.

Bob Malmsheimer, of NYSAF and Chair of the Committee on Forest Policy (CFP) presented three position statements which the Council voted to accept. The first was on Non-Native Invasive Species, the second on Forest Carbon Offset Projects, and the third on the Use of Forest Biomass for Energy. All three will soon be posted on the National web site. A comment was made during Bob’s report that the Carbon Task Force Report published last year, “Managing Forests Because Carbon Matters: Integrating Energy, Products, and Land Management Policy,” has received over 12,000 hits on the website for downloading.

As a final note, recent statistics coming from Michael Goergen show membership renewals to be ahead of last year and renewal income already at

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<td>By: Ed Oleary</td>
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My understanding is that you will not be receiving this issue of the News Quarterly until the 2012 NESAF annual winter meeting has taken place, so I will talk about that next time.

Speaking of meetings, I just wanted to remind you that instead of our traditional annual winter meeting in 2013, we will once again be holding a joint meeting with the NYSAF from January 30 through February 1, 2013 in Saratoga Springs, NY. We still could use more NESAF members who would be willing to work on a joint planning committee, so if you would be willing to help out in that capacity, please let me know.

For those of you who feel that Saratoga Springs, NY is a bit too far to travel for a meeting, thanks to the Maine Division, a field type summer NESAF meeting will be hosted by them in 2013 in Maine. Please talk with Ron Lemin or Will Mercier for more details.

Also taking place this year will be the third NESAF/NYSAF joint student conclave, to take place in Baxter State Park. Jeff Hutchins is taking the lead for NESAF with regard to this meeting, so please contact Jeff for further details.

Recently I was given a copy of the new book: More Than a Woodlot by Stephen Long published by Northern Woodlands. Northern Woodlands has been a long time supporter and partner of NESAF and in sharing a copy of the book with me, Northern Woodlands hoped that I would recommend it to all of you as something you might want to give or recommend to woodland owners, teachers, and others with whom you work as a member of the forestry profession. I found the book very valuable and it should be quite beneficial to you to help inform others about what woodland management is all about. Please get yourself a copy and take a look for yourself – you won’t be disappointed!

Finally, as I begin to approach the beginning of the second half of my second year as your Chair (I have now been a member of the NESAF Executive Committee for over seven years) I would like you all to consider running for one of the many offices for which we need candidates. As has been said many times before, an organization is only as good as its members who get involved, so I strongly encourage you to seriously consider rolling up your sleeves and make yourself available to NESAF in this capacity. I have found my time quite rewarding and enjoyable and I am sure that you would as well.

(Continued on page 16)
94% of budget. Over 150 new and returning memberships have been received as of January 30. The tiered dues structure appears to be well received with 78% of renewals at the Gold level, 20% at the Silver and 2% at Platinum.

P.S. I am looking for a replacement as my term on Council will come to an end this December. If you are interested on serving as a Council representative give me a call or send me an email and we’ll talk. Or you can skip the talk and just take a chance by throwing your hat in the ring for the upcoming elections, either way I’m sure you will find it fascinating, frustrating and fruitful.

(Continued from page 15)

IN MEMORIAM

LADD, Abbot B.-of Belgrade, passed away Sunday, March 18, 2012, at the age of 86. Abbott was born on Aug. 8, 1925, in Waterville. He was the youngest of five boys and enjoyed a spirited childhood. The brothers shared a uniquely warm relationship and to his last days, Abbott took great pleasure in relating the youthful adventures of the Ladd lads.

Toward the end of World War II, Abbott graduated from Waterville High School and immediately joined the U.S. Navy. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy on May 18, 1948, and in July 1952 was honorably discharged from the Naval Reserve. Abbott was always proud of his country and of his service for the United States of America.

Then Abbott enrolled in the University of Maine and attended classes in Brunswick. On June 15, 1948, he married his sweetheart, Miriam L. Wort. The couple moved to Orono and completed their education together.

Abbott earned his degree in forestry in 1951 and worked for Great Northern Paper Co. at Pittston Farms. He then moved to Greenville, where he worked for the U.S. Postal Service for two years, after which he joined the Maine Forest Service. From 1955 to 1959, Abbott lived with his growing family in Waterville, then moved to Dixfield, where he took a job at Oxford Paper Co., which later became Boise Cascade. He was a Tree Farm Family For- ester for Boise until he retired in 1987.

But Abbott never really retired. He became the first executive director of the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine and in the early 90s, took leave from there to work in his woodlot and Christmas tree farm full time. He enjoyed meeting his faithful Christmas tree customers year after year.

Abbott earned and received many awards for his work in the field of forestry. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters in 1988, he was awarded State Runner Up Outstanding Tree Farm in 2005, was awarded an Outstanding Forest Steward, and was Kennebec County Outstanding Tree Farmer for 2012. He was honored by and proud of his accomplishments.

At the age of 86, he was still selling Christmas trees, cutting and splitting his own wood, collecting and boiling maple sap for syrup, marking trees in his woodlot, serving on the Maine Tree Farm Committee as county chairman, playing his cornet and serving faithfully at his church. He was a loving husband, a caring dad, a wonderful grandfather, a terrific uncle and a loyal friend. Abbott touched many lives and will be deeply missed.

A private graveside service with full military honors will be held for immediate family only.
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<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>Broadleaf Weed ID</td>
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<td>The American Chestnut Tree</td>
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<td>Identifying Inland Wetland Soils</td>
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<td>Inland Wetland Plant Identification</td>
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<td>Fire Ecology at the Montague Plain</td>
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<td>Stream-Smart Road Crossing Workshops for Foresters</td>
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<td>A Westford Oasis</td>
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<td>NPDES Permitting and How it Affects Our Profession</td>
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<td>Forest Health Information Meeting</td>
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<td>Maine Forest Practices Act</td>
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<td>Conservation Planning and Application for Forestry Technical Service</td>
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<td>Principles and Fundamentals of Weed Science</td>
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<td>Conservation Planning and Application for Forestry Technical Service</td>
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A new forestry has taken hold across the northeast.

Many forest owners want to take a more ecological approach to managing their woods, and they feel right at home with a more natural forestry that’s focused on the forest and not just the trees.

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Steve Long has written the indispensable primer on what every owner of a family forest ought to know, from silviculture to taxes to estate planning, and he’s written it as Edmund Wilson admonished us all to write: with lucidity, force, and ease. Read it now so you won’t have to weep over your mistakes later.—Robert Kimber, author of Upcountry

This refreshingly honest book has all the practical information you might want about timber cruising, insects, silviculture, harvest contracts, and taxation, as well as coverage of trusts, easements, and estate planning. It is written in the wonderful tone and style that we have all grown to love about Northern Woodlands. But the best part of the book is not its facts or style, but its philosophy that quietly seems to run through every page. Letting nature take its course is just fine, but those who are more actively engaged with their woods will realize rewards of learning, entertainment, and satisfaction.—David Kittredge, professor and extension forester, UMass-Amherst

The Northeast and its million and a half forest landowners need this book and will benefit greatly from its insights. Each of us who owns a small piece of this vast forested region has challenging decisions to make concerning conservation and management and our collective actions will largely determine the fate of one of America’s most intact and majestic landscapes.—David Foster, Director of the Harvard Forest, Harvard University

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