Swift Corwin, consulting forester, received the first John C. Calhoun, Forester, Professional Advisor Award from the Monadnock Conservancy during its annual event held August 25, 2012.

“Thank you so much for this award. I would like to dedicate it to both John and my mother,” Corwin said in being presented with the award named for John C. Calhoun Jr., a consulting forester and avid supporter of land conservation. “It was she who guided me into the woods in the first place. It was he who led me deeper into the forest. They will both be standing with us witnessing all good works to come.”

The Calhoun award inscription reads, “Presented to an individual or professional association whose counsel and advice to clients over time represents an enduring legacy for conservation of natural resources important to the people and communities of the Monadnock Region.”

Corwin of Peterborough, N.H., is an especially poignant choice as the inaugural recipient of the award: He was mentored by and worked for Calhoun for 17 years. Corwin continues this legacy as principal of Calhoun & Corwin Forestry, LLC. He studied forestry at the University of Wisconsin. Some of his favorite projects have involved land protection, working with children and creating trails that showcase special places such as Cranberry Meadow Pond in Peterborough.

The trustees of the Monadnock Conservancy, in cooperation with the children of the late John C. Calhoun Jr., established the John C. Calhoun, Forester, Professional Advisor Award in 2011. The purpose of the award is to recognize exceptional individuals and professional associations whose trusted service and technical knowledge guide client landowners toward a greater understanding of land conservation in the Monadnock Region. The award will continue to be presented from time to time when a deserving recipient is found, but not necessarily every year. The Conservancy board chose Corwin as the first person to be honored this year without any input by members of the Calhoun family.

Calhoun exemplified the role of professional advisor for nearly 50 years. Throughout his long career as a consulting forester serving clients in the region and beyond, he advised and guided many landowners to consider protecting the open space on their property in order to ensure continued forest management, wildlife habitat protection, water resource protection and agricultural production. Countless protected parcels across the region reflect the effect of his advice.
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Wind Energy Development in New England

Introduction
In this issue we present three short articles on wind energy development in New England. This can be a very controversial topic with widely dissenting viewpoints, and volumes have been written about the issue in newspapers, magazines, scientific journals, and other outlets. The following articles briefly convey some of these dissenting views. The NESAF Executive Committee wanted its readership to learn more about wind energy development, read what other natural resource professionals are saying about the topic, and perhaps sharpen their own personal views of wind energy development in New England. The three authors include 1) Scott Rineer, Regional Manager of Wagner Forest Management in Errol, NH; 2) Will Staats, Regional Wildlife Biologist, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, Lancaster, NH; and 3) Steve Wright, Retired Regional Representative of the National Wildlife Federation and former Commissioner of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, who currently lives in Vermont. We thank these authors for their willingness to share their thoughts on this hot button topic. What these authors have written is not meant to express the position of NESAF or any of its members.

Benefits of Wind Energy Projects: A Forester’s Perspective
By Scott Rineer
In recent years, many landowners throughout northern New England and upstate New York have entered into long-term lease agreements with wind development companies. As a forester for Wagner Forest Management, Ltd., I am part of a team that is managing timberland investments for several clients in the Northeast region of the United States who have entered into such an agreement. In the summer of 2011, three of these wind energy projects began construction in northern New Hampshire and western Maine.

There are many benefits for landowners and the surrounding region with a development project of this extent. The primary benefit for landowners is in the form of an annual lease payment, which can be quite lucrative. Contrary to what one may think, landowners actually lose very little in terms of productive forest land in this process. On each of these projects, the overall footprint of the tower pads and access roads was quite small relative to the surrounding land holdings of our client (<2 percent). This allows our forestry staff to continue with everyday operations without compromising sustainable management of the land. In most cases, access roads that the wind developer uses are also main haul roads that landowners use for timber harvesting operations. A major upgrade is made to this road infrastructure, which will be maintained throughout the life of the project, typically 20 or more years.

There are also many short-term benefits for the local economy during the construction phase of these projects. At any given time there were over 150 workers at each of the three project sites completed in 2011. Many temporary, yet full-time positions were filled by local people. A specialty labor force was also brought in from all over the United States to perform intricate tasks for each project. Many lived in local motels, ate at local restaurants, and shopped at local stores for their everyday needs for up to 9 months. Construction projects of this magnitude also require large equipment, and local fuel companies saw a direct benefit from delivery to these sites. Seaports in both Maine and New Hampshire were busy the entire summer season receiving and shipping turbine parts. Many local companies were also subcontracted to perform electrical work as well as....

(Continued on page 4)
Residents of towns where wind energy projects are sited are seeing a substantial relief in their property taxes and in some cases are even benefitting from a power subsidy payment by the wind developer. Many communities saw a much-needed upgrade to the local power grid as a result of these wind energy projects as well.

During the permit stage of each project, concerns about wildlife habitat disruption, sound, and even aesthetics were brought to the forefront. In each case, much consideration was put into minimizing any impacts that may have directly resulted from these development projects. Now that each wind turbine is fully online, critical high-elevation habitat has been protected through mitigation. Sound levels are continually monitored to ensure that noise levels will never be a concern, and many local residents who were at one time critical of how wind turbines may change the landscape have grown accustomed to their appearance.

In conclusion, the landowner can benefit financially in the long term through the lease with the wind developer as well as from the upgrade and continued maintenance of his or her road system. These financial commitments made by the wind developer help landowners remain focused on sustainable management of their timberlands as well as offset costs associated with land ownership, all while keeping the majority of their property in productive forest management. There is also a tremendous financial benefit to the local economy as well.

Wind Power and Wildlife
Will Staats, Regional Wildlife Biologist, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Due to the rapid increase in wind development projects in the Northeast, wildlife biologists and natural resource managers are expressing growing concerns regarding this large-scale development and its impacts on sensitive habitat and the wildlife that inhabit these areas. High-elevation land (2,700 feet and higher) is a scarce resource in the Northeast and is limited to approximately 4 percent of New Hampshire's total land area. Wildlife is impacted by industrial wind power development at both the landscape level and the stand level. Impacts are dependent on the wildlife species, location of the ridgeline, and the greater landscape context. At a stand level, forest cover is removed and permanently lost for some species due to the project footprint. Important wetlands can be compromised or lost in construction, and seeps and feeder streams are directly impacted. For birds and bats, turbines pose a new source of mortality in these habitats. At a landscape level, habitat connectivity and resiliency across the forest landscape may be compromised depending on the scale of the project and its context within the surrounding forest land. Terrestrial wildlife species that use these habitats include not only those species commonly found at lower elevations, but species that are found more exclusively at these higher altitudes. The softwood and mixed wood cover, with its associated complex stand structure, is preferred by American marten, a state-listed endangered species in Vermont and a state-listed threatened species in New Hampshire. High-elevation forests can provide stands that are older interspersed with natural gaps and holes.

Some wildlife use mountain ridgelines as a refuge from more developed areas at lower elevations. The mountain ridges may be the only undeveloped areas in a region and serve as critical corridors for wide-ranging species, including bobcat, lynx, bear, fisher, and marten. These animals exist more successfully with less human contact. Bicknell's thrush, one of the rarer birds in the Northeast, resides exclusively in high-elevation forests.

Bat mortality due to wind turbines is particularly alarming. Some scientists predict that wind energy development will pose a chronic long-term source of mortality for bats and that this loss will equate to a significant economic loss to agriculture. With several species of bats on the verge of extinction, we can ill afford to lose any at all. Migrating birds are killed at these sites from blade strikes. Although some would argue the numbers of killed birds are insignificant, this depends on the species. Many unanswered questions exist regarding the impacts of wind development on wildlife in these sensitive habitats that will take years to more fully...
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understand. How does increased human presence influence wildlife use in these habitats? What are the residual impacts on forest vegetation growing along roads and the project footprint over time? How do the dynamics of predator and prey change due to the edge effects of road cuts or hard-packed snow roads in the winter months? We know that wildlife have hearing far more sensitive than humans. How is the noise impacting the ability of wildlife to communicate, hunt, or breed?

It will be essential for resource managers and clean energy advocates to allow ongoing wildlife studies to be fully analyzed before committing to further industrial-scale projects on additional ridgelines. These studies need to look more broadly. Renowned wildlife ecologist Susan Morse has made the case that we need to evaluate the cumulative impacts of these projects in the broader landscape context instead of looking at each project in isolation. Biologists understand that it is critical to evaluate the importance of providing connectivity for wildlife across the greater landscape to ensure genetic exchange and access to habitat resources. Industrial-scale projects that sprawl across miles of undeveloped ridgelines may be fragmenting important forest land habitat far more than we now realize.

As these projects continue to be proposed, we have to seriously question the tradeoffs. Wildlife biologists and ecologists are unquestionably alarmed about global warming and understand the need for sensible, responsible renewable power. However, given the scarcity and fragility of high-elevation habitat, we need to question if these limited mountain ecosystems should even be considered at all as a choice for this type of intrusive development. As our wild lands continue to disappear at an alarming rate through a “death by a thousand cuts,” we have to ask ourselves—where will our wildlife reside in this ever shrinking natural landscape?

Industrial Wind Development on Ridgelines: A Dilemma for Land Managers

Steve Wright, Retired Regional Representative of the National Wildlife Federation and former Commissioner, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

(Continued on page 6)
Aldo Leopold once commented, “Humanity’s biggest challenge is to live on a piece of land without fouling it.”

Foresters—such as Leopold—have yet another reason to live by these words. Wind energy development on fragile landscapes is creating new forest management challenges. These projects are stark examples of fragmentation, “fouling” forest resources on a grand scale.

Atmospheric scientists, ecologists, biologists, and sociologists, along with a chorus of advocates, tell us we must significantly reduce fossil fuel emissions, now—that these emissions are driving climate change. Data suggest, however, that building new renewable energy generation systems does not yield significantly reduced emissions when the review process includes an economic assessment of environmental losses such as fragmentation and altered hydrology. Evidence is mounting that attempting to reduce emissions via ridgeline wind energy generation is expensive, inefficient, technically complex, environmentally destructive, and—from a climate action context—ineffective. Advocates disagree.

All this has special meaning in Vermont, where placing industrial wind turbines on mountaintop proceeds at random.

Vermont’s landscape is the primary contributor to the State’s number one economic driver—tourism. The State essentially declared upper elevations, generally above 2,500 feet, to be off limits for development. For example, no new ski area has been built in Vermont in 46 years.

Now, we have an industry—wind energy—that wants to locate large wind turbines on these upper elevations to take advantage of, as it turns out, a poor-quality wind resource. Curiously, only 4 percent of Vermont’s fossil fuel emissions comes from electrical generation. Seventy-four percent comes from transportation and heating. So why are we attempting to reduce emissions in an area that produces so few and is wildly expensive—economically and environmentally? Should we not focus on the sources where we can get the biggest emissions reduction per dollar of investment?

How did we get down this rabbit hole? Simply put: political muscle, money, and myth. The details, however, are much more complex, and the Lowell Mountains Wind Energy Project is a good example of what emerges when these three elements coalesce.

This wind energy project is sited in the Lowell Mountains on what was Vermont’s twelfth largest unfragmented habitat block. Construction required severing 29,000 contiguous acres with 7 miles of ridgeline crane path and access road, up to 400 feet wide at each of 21 turbine pads. A recommended 1,000-foot safety zone around the turbines can encumber hundreds of acres and how they will be managed in the future.

These mountains were performing their ecological functions: filtering water; growing trees; soaking up carbon dioxide; and providing flood protection, wildlife habitat, and other essentials that keep us alive. Now, the ridgeline is an industrial site, starkly visible from every town in the county and beyond.

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These projects also raise property rights issues. Advocates claim that the landowner for the Lowell project, who leased turbine sites to the developer, Green Mountain Power, has a right to profit from the land to which he holds title. In fact, private landowners, especially those with large holdings, make lucrative deals with wind energy developers.

Opponents agree with the fundamental concept of property rights; however, they point out that no development is allowed to damage neighboring property; drive neighbors off their property; render the property worthless; or degrade public resources such as water, wildlife habitat, soil, and air.

Given fresh experience with the permitting of industrial wind projects, many Vermonters feel a loss of control: what the energy developers want, they get. Others point to the State’s environmental community and its apparent acceptance of high-elevation impacts as part of a misguided climate change policy, or out of fear of political reprisal and loss of funding sources.

Biologically, this development has severed the mountain; sociologically, it has severed the town, region, and to some degree the State. As the enormous economic and environmental cost of ridgeline industrial wind becomes apparent across New England, citizens are left with an uneasy realization: drastic alteration of a healthy landscape for the purpose of protecting it from advancing climate change is ineffective at best and counterproductive at worst.

Blowing up mountains to save them is bizarre and scientifically indefensible. Land managers must begin to build an understanding of renewable technologies and their impacts on forest resources if they are to follow Leopold’s maxim.

Wind Energy Development on the Green Mountain National Forest – A Brief Synopsis

On January 3, 2012, the Forest Supervisor of the Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Deerfield Wind Project. The decision was to approve authorization of the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands within the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) to construct and operate a turbine wind energy facility. According to Robert Bayer, project coordinator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont, “This is the first-ever wind facility approved on National Forest System lands.” The project is very controversial and a lawsuit has been filed by environmentalists to stop the project.

The following is a very brief synopsis of the history of the project and some of the conclusions of the ROD, which were taken entirely from the ROD. Readers are encouraged to read the entire ROD at http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/greenmountain/landmanagement/projects for a complete understanding of this project rather than drawing conclusions based solely on this summary.

The proposal for a land use authorization for construction and operation of a commercial wind energy facility on the GMNF was submitted in March 2004, by Deerfield Wind, LLC. Following a screening of the proposal, the GMNF formally accepted an application in November 2004 for authorization to develop a commercially viable, utility-scale wind energy facility. The application was fully analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act and was presented in a Project Environmental Impact Analysis (EIS). The analysis included three phases of documentation: the Draft EIS, the Supplemental Draft EIS, and the Final EIS (FEIS). The FEIS is available at the Web site above and was released in January 2012 along with the ROD.

Four significant issues were identified in the EIS based on a public involvement (scoping) process conducted between July 2005 and September 2007. Other resource concerns studied included land use, climate and air quality, noise, cultural and heritage resources, ecological resources, recreation, socio-economics, transportation and roads, telecommunications, safety and security, and environmental justice. These four significant issues were used to...
drive the analysis and to develop a range of alternatives:
Avian and bat species — mortality of avian and bat species, including migrating and local populations, due to collisions with turbines and turbine blades;
Black bear habitat — removal of critical beech habitat;
Visual resources — adverse effect on the visual resources of the area, especially with regard to the character of the ridgelines; and
Soil and water resources — sedimentation, erosion, and loss of wetlands.

The selected Alternative (Alternative 2) was primarily developed to address issues associated with avian and bat species, black bear habitat, and visual resources. Three other alternatives were considered in detail. A comparison of these alternatives is available in the FEIS, but they are not discussed here. The ROD specifically addresses the four significant issues, which are summarized here. The ROD, and especially the FEIS, addresses these in much greater detail.

**Avian and Bat Species**
The ROD expresses most concern about potential impacts on bats and birds because of the documented instances of mortality due to collision with turbines and turbine blades at wind facilities across the country. Potential mortality is related to the number of turbines proposed, siting, geographic location, topography, and various ecological considerations. The project analysis concluded that mortality would be similar to that observed at ecologically similar sites on forested ridgelines in New England. Concern is expressed about the effects that White Nose Syndrome (WNS) has on resident cave-dwelling bats in Vermont and throughout a large portion of their range in the central and eastern part of the United States.

The ROD concludes that although mortality from wind facilities is more prevalent for migratory bat species unaffected by WNS (rather than resident species affected by WNS), there will be some cumulative impact on resident bat species that are not immune to mortality from wind facilities. As a result, the ROD requires important mitigation measures and monitoring activities with the primary mitigation involving operational constraints. The specific operational constraint is curtailment of turbine operations from June 1 through September 30 from 30 minutes prior to sunset until sunrise when air temperatures are greater than 50 °F and when wind speeds are less than or equal to 6 m/s (13.4 mph). This has been shown to effectively reduce bat mortality, and a reduction in bird mortality may also result. In addition, post-construction monitoring will be required for bat and avian mortality for a minimum of 3 years using the best available science. A group of technical and scientific experts (Federal and State agencies and other recognized bat and avian experts) will be convened to help with these applications and other mitigation as needed. Data gathered from onsite monitoring will be used to adaptively manage the wind facility.

In addition, the ROD states that the Permit Holder is required to conduct acoustic bat surveys and breeding bird surveys every 5 years during operation of the facility to update the relative abundance and species composition of bats and birds in the project area and see if these change over time.

The ROD states there is concern about the possible Federal listing of certain bat species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Readers of this summary article need to carefully refer to the ROD and FEIS for information pertaining to the possibility of Federal listings of bat species. There is much more information in the ROD and FEIS regarding impacts on bats and avian species that the reader should study at length.

**Note:** Observed population declines for bat species in the Northeast caused by WNS have prompted a Petition to the Secretary of Interior to list northern long-eared bats and eastern small-footed bats as endangered or threatened under the ESA. In June 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the Petition presented substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that listing of these species may be warranted and concurrently announced initiation of a status review of these species to determine if listing is warranted.

**Black Bear Habitat**
The primary concern about black bears is the removal of bear-scarred beech (BSB) trees. This concern has been especially expressed by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The selected Alternative will remove approximately 350 to 360 of these trees. Some bear experts feel this removal could result in reduced winter survival and cub production among local bears. However, the ROD declares that there is no consensus among bear biologists with regard to the magnitude of this impact and the de-
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dgree to which it may be offset by two things: 1) the increased diversity of forage opportunities resulting from the creation of successional habitat at the site, and 2) the availability of other BSB trees in the project area and surrounding vicinity. According to the ROD, the removal of BSB trees will impact about 1.3 percent of the 28,000 BSB trees within the project area, leaving a substantial amount of BSB trees for bear use. Thus there will likely be no undue or unacceptable adverse impact on bears; potential impacts will be adequately addressed with required design criteria and mitigations.

Visual Resources
The concern about visual resources is that wind turbines may be viewed from remote parts of the GMNF including wilderness, recreation areas, and the Appalachian Trail/Long Trail corridor. Visual impacts were evaluated in a comprehensive visual impact assessment (VIA) as discussed in the FEIS. The assessment identified visually sensitive resources, visual quality, and viewer sensitivity within a 10-mile radius around the turbines. According to the ROD, the VIA concluded that the project area is visually appropriate for the facilities because the ridges are not visually distinct focal points in the surrounding landscape, and wind turbines from the existing Searsburg Wind Facility already occur along the eastern edge. Most of the views from major viewpoints will be long-distance views such that the turbines will not dominate the landscape views. Any views from the nearby Aiken Wilderness will be very limited and mostly only during leaf-off season. The ROD concludes that the project is consistent with the Forest Plan and is confident that the design criteria and mitigation will minimize visual impacts.

Soil and Water Resources
Concern over soil and water resources appeared to receive the least attention from the public. However, due to the steep slopes, there is potential for sedimentation and soil erosion. The project area will disturb 85.4 acres, including 28.6 acres of steep slopes (those that exceed 15 percent). All soils in the project area are considered to be highly erodible. Access roads will also be constructed that include four stream crossings. However, there are only a few streams in the project area that could be affected, and most are small intermittent or ephemeral streams. An estimated 56.5 acres will have soils directly impacted by the project. Direct impacts on wetlands will total 3,652 square feet; the potential area of indirect impacts totals 49,527 square feet. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may require compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts. The ROD states that it is confident that Forest Plan standards and guidelines, best management practices, and the design criteria and mitigation (stated in Attachment 1) will control erosion and sedimentation and will satisfactorily minimize or eliminate adverse impacts. The ROD also declares that the selected Alternative will not result in any substantial long-term impacts because water resources on and adjacent to the project site where actual disturbance will occur are very limited; the selected activities will impact 0.9 percent of the 9,523-acre project area.

NESAF Award Nominations Due November 1st

Please take some time to think about the accomplishments of your various colleagues and perhaps team up with a co-worker to nominate one or more worthy professionals for an award this year!

Information about each of the awards and the nomination process is available on the NESAF website at www.nesaf.org.

Nomination forms are available online and can be emailed to me, or can be printed out and mailed to me.

Thanks in advance,

Dana Hachigian
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IN MEMORIAM

William Samal, Jr. of Belvidere, Vermont passed away unexpectedly August 23, 2012. Bill was a member of the Green Mountain Division Society of American Foresters (GMD-SAF) from 1983 – 2012 and held various offices over the years, most recently, Chairman of the Forest Policy Committee. Bill organized annual legislative outreach events on behalf of the GMD.

Bill was serving as the Green Mountain Division Representative to the New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF) at the time of his death and was the motivating force behind relocating the Vermont host site of the NESAF Winter Meeting from Burlington to the Lake Morey Resort in 2007 and 2011. He served as Arrangements Chairman for those events.

In 2007, Bill and three GMD-SAF colleagues received the NESAF Integrity Award “for adherence to principles and demonstration of high standards in the face of adversity” for work in drafting and obtaining passage of the “Heavy Cut Bill”, a law which controls liquidation cutting while protecting access by landowners to productive forestry practices.

Bill was a Certified Forester and held a professional forester license in the State of New Hampshire. Bill was passionate about natural resources policy issues. Bill also encouraged many new generations of foresters through personal support of student SAF Chapters as well as involving student chapters in many local SAF activities.

Bill was employed by the Burlington Electric Department from 1982 – 2012 as a Wood Procurement Forester, a position in which he demonstrated considerable skill and innovation. Bill worked for Champion International Corporation in Groveton, NH as a District Forester from 1980 – 1982, gaining a wealth of experience in biomass harvesting. Bill also worked in several professional positions at the Brown Company in Berlin, NH from 1976 – 1980.

Bill served for several years as Chairman of the Belvidere Vermont Board of Selectmen. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1976 with Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry.

Kenneth F. Lancaster, 88, died June 27. He served under Gen. George Patten as a tank driver and served in the honor guard at Patten's funeral. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in forestry from the University of New Brunswick and began his career with the US Forest Service on the Hoosier National Forest in 1961. He then joined Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, serving in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Cadillac, Michigan; Upper Darby, Pennsylvania and finally Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Many forest managers throughout northeastern United States and Canada will recall attending his popular and informative workshops. After retirement from the Forest Service in 1986, he and his wife operated a Christmas tree farm in Fredericton, New Brunswick. He joined SAF in 1965.

Ancyl S. Thurston, died May 12. Thurston graduated from the University of Maine - Orono in 1958, with a bachelor of science in forestry. He served in the US Army and was stationed in Virginia and Texas. After serving his ROTC duty, he returned to Maine. After active duty, he remained in the Army Reserve until 1979, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. On his return to Maine, he also began his career with the Maine Forest Service, first as district forester and then as the regional director. He next was the operations manager for the Spruce Budworm spray project for the duration of that project. His last position was as the special project coordinator, as liaison between the state and large landowners. His professional associations included the Small Woodlot Owners Associations, the State of Maine Tree Farm Committee, and the Western and Northern Maine Forest Forums. He joined SAF in 1958.
Common Ground Found?
Revisiting the Findings and Recommendations of the Northern Forest Lands Council
Joint Annual Meeting of the New England and New York Societies of American Foresters
Co-hosted by the Northeastern Forest Pest Council (NEFPC)

January 29-February 1, 2013
Saratoga Hilton - Saratoga Springs, New York

Tuesday, January 29, 2013
12:00-8:00 pm Meeting Registration
1:00-6:00 pm NESAF and NYSAF Executive Committee Meetings
1:00-5:00 pm Pre-Meeting Training Session 1:
Leveraging Technology to Improve Accuracy and Efficiency in Forest Inventory
By Brian Mitchell, North American Sales Manager, Haglof, Inc.
Pre-Meeting Training Session 2:
Expand Your Base!: Turn the New Generation of Forest Owners into Your Clientele.
Leaders: Michael J. Burns, Program Resource Manager, American Tree Farm System with Andrew Fast and Wendy Scribner, UNH Cooperative Extension

Wednesday, January 30, 2013
7:30am-5:00pm Meeting Registration
Before 9:00 am Breakfast On Your Own
9:00-11:30 am Opening General Session
9:00-9:30 am Welcome and opening comments, Kurt Zschau, NESAF Chair, Bruce Breitmeyer, NYSAF chair; Ed O’Leary and Mariann Johnston, Meeting General Chairs
9:30-11:30 am Setting the Stage Part 1: Who is the modern-day forest landowner? Stephen Long, co-founder and former editor of Northern Woodlands, and author, More than A Woodlot
History of the Northern Forest Effort: What was the Northern Forest Lands Council? Charles Levesque, former Executive Director, Northern Forest Lands Council
Perspectives of NFLC Regional Representatives: How did it work and what has happened since? John Harrigan, New England region and Robert Stegemann, New York region
Setting the Stage Part 2: What is the current socio-economic framework for meeting the recommendations of the NFLC?
Bradford Gentry, Director, Berkley Conservation Program, Yale University on the Berkley 2012 Workshop: What do healthy rural economies look like in the US and how might conservation organizations help support them?

11:30am-1:30 pm Box Lunch and concurrent working luncheon meetings:
• NESAF Business Meeting
• NYSAF Business Meeting
• Student Gathering and Meeting

1:30-5:00 pm Wednesday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions
(with 3:00-3:30 refreshment break in Exhibit Hall)

Concurrent Session 1- Theme: Protecting Exceptional Resources
1:30-3:00 pm Concurrent 1a: Protected Area Management
NESAF/NYSAF Program

- The Finch land deal: NYSDEC and The Nature Conservancy collaboration to protect special areas and working forest in the Adirondack Park, speaker pending
- Managing Moosehead Lake Conservation Easements, Steve Pollis, Resource Supervisor, Moosehead District of Plum Creek Timber Co. Maine
- The Conservation Land Category of Vermont's Use Value Appraisal Program, Nancy Patch, County Forester, VT Dept. Forest Parks and Rec

3:30-5:00 pm Concurrent 1b: Exceptional Resources Throughout Time: Dimensions of Northern Forest History

- Using Land Records to Determine Composition and Structure of Pre-Settlement Forests, Charlie Cogbill, historical ecologist
- Paleo-Indians and Early Humans in the Northeast, Mark Dailey, Green Mountain College
- Devonian Era Forests from Fossil Evidence in Upstate New York, William Stein, SUNY-Binghamton

Concurrent Session 2 - Theme: Strengthening Economies of Rural Communities

1:30-3:00 pm Concurrent 2a: Forest Use & Dependence of Rural Communities

- Historical relationship between the forest resource and local communities, Hugh Canham, emeritus professor, SUNY-ESF and historian, NYSAF
- Modern relationships between society and the forest resources: lessons and challenges, Joe Short, Program & Policy Director, Northern Forest Center
- Looking to the future: speaker pending

3:30-5:00 pm Concurrent 2b: Encouraging Working Forests

- Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Initiative, Michael Snyder, Commissioner, VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation
- Encouraging working forests across New England, speaker pending
- What is New York doing to encourage working forests? speaker pending

Concurrent Session 3 - NYSAF & NESAF Graduate Student Research Presentations

1:30-3:00 pm Concurrent 3a: Graduate student presentations
3:30-5:00 pm Concurrent 3b: Graduate student presentations, continued

Concurrent Session 4 - Northeastern Forest Pest Council: Gerald N. Lanier Student Forum

1:30-3:00 pm Concurrent 4a: Student Forum
3:30-5:00 pm Concurrent 4b: Student Forum, continued

5:00-6:30 pm Poster Session, reception and cash bar

7:00-9:00 pm Student Quiz Bowl, we need pizza sponsors for this, please!

Thursday, January 31, 2013

7:30am-5:00pm Meeting Registration
Before 8:00 am Breakfast On Your Own

8:00-11:30 am Thursday Morning Concurrent Sessions
(with 9:30-10:00 am refreshment break in Exhibit Hall)

Concurrent Session 5 a, b - Theme: Fostering Stewardship of Private Lands

8:00-9:30 am Concurrent 5a: Conservation Easements Panel Session
Moderator: Lucas McKay, MF Student, Yale University
Introduction: history and scope of conservation efforts and conservation easements in New England and New York, by Moderator Lucas McKay, MF Student, Yale University
Panelists: Experience & perspective on the successes and challenges of conservation
**NESAF/NYSAF Program**

**Easements:**
- Tom Martin, Region 5 Natural Resources Supervisor, NYS DEC
- Sean Ross, Lyme Timber Company
- Not-for-profit land trust representative, pending
- Private landowner, pending

**Concurrent 5b: Encouraging and Maintaining Private Landowner Stewardship Practices**
- Stewardship and interfamily communication, Paul Catanzaro, University of Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Conservation,
- Taxes in the Northern Forest 20 years after the Northern Forest Lands Study, David Newman, SUNY-ESF
- How do local government ordinances impact timber harvesting, Robert Malmsheimer, Rene’ Germain, and Whitney Forman-Cook, SUNY-ESF

**Concurrent Session 6 a, b - Theme: Promoting More Informed Decisions**

**Concurrent 6a: Silviculture**
- Updated Silviculture Guide, Bill Leak and Mariko Yamasaki, USDA Forest Service
- Input from the NESAF Silviculture Working Group, Si Balch, New England Forestry Foundation
- Pending: Overview of Northern Hardwood Silviculture, Ralph Nyland, SUNY-ESF

**Concurrent 6b: Encouraging and Maintaining Forest Sustainability**
- Keeping Forests as Forests, Steve Sinclair, Director of Forests, VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation
- Conservation Buffers Guide: science-based guidelines and images as well as a description on how to use the guide to combine buffer functions such as water quality, biodiversity, soil protection, economics, etc., Richard Straight, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nebraska
- North Eastern State Foresters Association: Recommendations on biomass BMP’s, Sloane Crawford, NYSDEC

**Concurrent Session 7 a, b - Current Issues**

**Concurrent 7a: Climate Change, Vulnerability and Adaptation**
Moderator: Sandy Wilmot, Forest Health Specialist & Climate Change Coordinator, Vermont Dept. Forests, Parks & Recreation.
- Breaking news in climate change, Alan Betts, atmospheric researcher
- Pending: Climate resiliency, Mark Anderson
- Pending: Forest adaptation tools and approaches, Maria Janowiak

**Concurrent 7b: Encouraging and Maintaining Forest Sustainability**
Moderator: Sandy Wilmot, Forest Health Specialist & Climate Change Coordinator, Vermont Dept. Forests, Parks & Recreation.
- Pending: Managing forest carbon, Maria Janowiak
- Research findings on forest carbon and ecosystem science, Bill Keeton
- Changes in forest carbon and nitrogen cycling due to insects and diseases, Gary Lovett

**Concurrent Session 8 a, b - Northeastern Forest Pest Council Sessions**

**Concurrent 8a: NEFPC Sessions**
Business Meeting (8:00 am)
- State and Province Updates
- USFS Durham NH Updates
  - EAB update and latest findings, Mike Bohne
  - HWA work in the Catskills, Ryan Hanavan
NESAF/NYSAF Program

10:00-11:30 Concurrent 8b: NEFPC Sessions (tentative)
- Digital Aerial Sketch Mapping: What is it, tips & techniques, Bill Frament
- DASM: other uses, Eric Seaborn, Acting Urban Forestry Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Invasives: A Success Story, Hilary Smith, Director, Adirondack Park Invasive Plants Program

11:30am-1:30 pm Awards Luncheon

2:00-3:30 pm Thursday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session 5c- Theme: Fostering Stewardship of Private Lands continued
2:00-3:30 pm Concurrent 5c: Engaging Landowners
- American Tree Farm System: A Landowner Engagement Strategy, Michael J. Burns, Program Resource Manager, American Tree Farm System
- pending: NEFA initiative/pilot project on family forest landowner engagement
- pending: Outreach strategies for educating/encouraging forest stewardship

Concurrent Session 6c- Theme: Promoting More Informed Decisions continued
2:00-3:30 pm Concurrent 6c: Non-timber Forest Products
- Economics of managing maple trees for syrup or sawtimber production, Mike Farrell, Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Hardwood Silvopasture Management, Brett Chedzoy & Peter Smallidge; Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products; Jim Chamberlain, USFS, Blacksburg VA

Concurrent Session 7c- Current Issues continued
2:00-3:30 pm Concurrent 7c: Urban Forestry
- Community preparedness for invasive pests and engaging citizen scientists, Danielle Fitzko, Vermont’s Urban & Community Forester
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ response to ALB outbreak, Eric Seaborn, Acting Urban Forestry Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Utilization efforts that communities in the Lake States initiated to deal with EAB-killed ash, Ed Cesa, Wood Education and Resources Center, USDA Forest Service, West Virginia

Concurrent Session 8c- Northeastern Forest Pest Council continued
2:00-3:30 pm Concurrent 8c: Breaking News
- APHIS current efforts (Quarantines, protocols), Diana Hoffman, APHIS
- Insect traps – what are they all and how do they work?, Kevin Dodds
- ALB Traps, speaker pending

3:30-4:00 pm Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

4:00-5:00 pm Capstone General Session: Charting The Future
Interactive session summarizing what we’ve learned during this meeting, What’s our common goal, what can we take home to work on for the future? Facilitator: Mark Twery, USDA Forest Service; assisted by Janice Mulherin, USDA Forest Service

5:15-6:00 pm NESAF Working Groups, NYSAF Chapter Meetings
It’s Grant Time again!

Have a great project, and you could use some financial help?

The deadline for Grants is December 1st

For Grant information contact; Mel Harder mel.harder@snet.net or visit our website www.nesaf.org

Remember Grants have to come from the State Societies.

NESAF/NYSAF Program

6:00-8:00 pm  Alumni Socials (organized by respective colleges)

8:00-9:00 pm  Acoustic Jam Session (pending)

Friday, February 1, 2013

Before 8:00 am  Breakfast On Your Own

8:00 am- noon Friday Morning Workshops (with mid-morning refreshment break)

Workshop Option 1: Becoming a Forestry Technical Service Provider: Help your clients access USDA services and resources, by national/local staff, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Workshop Option 2: Strategies for Effectively Communicating about the Management of Young Forests. Attaining the young forest habitat goals that have been established in many state, regional, and national conservation plans will require the support of landowners, the general public, agencies and non-governmental organizations. Attaining that support will require us to become more effective communicators about the benefits of these habitats to wildlife. Attend this session and learn how to become a more effective communicator. Presenters: Shorna B. Allred, Cornell University, Jim Oehler, State Lands Habitat Biologist, NH Fish & Game Department, Tom Nardacci, President, Gramercy Communications, Neil Gifford, Conservation Director, Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission

Workshop Option 3: Finch Paper LLC Mill Tour, by Leonard Cronin, CF, Regional Manager, Finch Forest Management

Workshop Option 4: iMap Invasive Training, by Brent Kinal and/or Jenifer Dean, New York Natural Heritage Program

Workshop Option 5: American Tree Farm System Inspector Training This workshop is for forest resource managers interested in becoming certified Tree Farm Inspectors or for Inspectors who need a refresher. When you volunteer with ATFS, you ensure the American Forest Foundation’s (AFF) Standards of Sustainability for forest certification are met by Tree Farmers. By workings together, ATFS can make a significant contribution to the health, productivity and longevity of America’s private woodlands and you can too! Presenters: Erin O’Neill, Finch Forest Management and Michael J. Burns, Program Resource Manager, American Tree Farm System

It’s NEVER too late!

If you would prefer a paper copy of the News Quarterly

E-mail us at maggieandscott@myfairpoint.net

Or call 802-723-5010

Thank you!
NESAF is joining up with NYSAF again for a joint meeting to be held
At
The Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY
(See subsequent pages for more details and registration form)

There will also be a NESAF Spring Meeting
May 15–17, 2013
at Sunday River, ME
More details to follow.

Don’t miss these two important and worthwhile meetings!
In early summer, a population of winter moths, an invasive insect, was found in the Harpswell and Vinalhaven areas of Maine. The larval stage is a green inchworm that feeds on northern hardwood species, several varieties of fruit trees and blueberry spp. The insect, which is capable of causing significant defoliation, is indigenous to Europe and was first identified in Nova Scotia in the 1930’s. This is the first sighting of this insect that’s been documented in Maine. Biological control involving dissemination of a parasitic fly has been successfully employed in the past. It’s hoped that similar results can be achieved to control the current outbreak in the state.

Taxes on Timber

The Merger of Agriculture and Forestry
On August 30, the departments of agriculture and conservation merged into a single department under the direction of commissioner Walt Whitcomb and deputy commissioner Ed Meadows. Mr. Whitcomb was the Commissioner of Agriculture. Ed Meadows was Conservation commissioner in Maine between 1988 and 1995, before accepting a position within the Department of Natural Resources in the State of Michigan.

The new department in Maine was mandated by the 125 Legislature. The department will have more than 700 employees and a budget in excess of $96 million. Additional information about the new department is available at: http://www.maine.gov/acf

More Tick Problems?
It was recently documented that deer ticks, which can carry Lyme disease, can also carry Anaplasmosis, a bacterial infection that results in a lack of energy, body aches, fever and mental fatigue. During this year numerous cases have been documented in southern Maine. The condition is treatable, once it is diagnosed. Information on tick borne diseases, including Anaplasmosis is available at: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecd/infectious-disease/epi/vector-borne/

with Downeast Lakes Land Trust and Kyle Burdick with GLS Woodlands, spoke to the issue of fish passage as affected by different stream crossings, i.e. arch and D shaped culverts and bridge crossings. Historical and silvicultural information rounded out discussions at each site visited.

On July 18, a tour in Piscataquis County focused on “Exemplary Forestry & Wood Processing”. Jason Brochu, Vice President of Pleasant River Lumber Co. hosted a tour of their lumber mill. Kevin Doran and Jan Santerre with the Maine Forest Service; Gordon Moore representing the Piscataquis Co. Soil & Water Conservation District (PCSWCD), and Kirby Ellis, consulting forester, discussed silvicultural topics and forest operations in a variety of forest stand settings on the PCSWCD. A second field tour was offered in September to accommodate the large number of foresters that wished to participate in this tour.

On August 24, a field tour on lands of the Great
Pond Mountain Conservation Trust (GPMCT) in Hancock County focused on “Forests Through Time – Problems with Stands in Early Develop-
ment”. Roger Greene with Mason, Bruce, Girard Inc. and Cheri Domina Executive Director with GPMCT discussed woodcock habitat and the management of beech in juvenile stands, Ron Lemin discussed crop tree release, Roland Dupuis with NRCS discussed low thinning of hardwood stands to reduce beech competition and Brian Keegstra, land steward with GPMCT, discussed silvicultural operations, including the thinning of yellow birch, the planting of American chestnut and the creation of snag trees. Due to the large number of individuals wishing to participate in this tour, MESAF hosted a second tour on August 31st. Approximately 70 individuals in total attended the two tours. Each tour was well attended and well received. The three-tour venue involves considerable “leg work” to plan, organize and execute multiple tours during the summer field season. Forestry professionals benefit from the continuing education credits that are available and from the diverse topics, locations and time schedules that are offered to the MESAF membership. The Executive Committee and especially the Members-At-Large are to be complimented for their efforts to offer MESAF members the opportunity to select from a variety of educational field trips and programs.

**White-Nose Syndrome**

Earlier this year at Acadia National Park, several bats were identified as having white-nose syndrome, which resulted in the death to those animals. The disease continues to cause concern due to the 80+% mortality that has been observed in the northeast and the unknown mechanism that spreads the disease.

Populations of bats that normally roost at different locations in Maine, currently exhibit little or no presence in the state. It's believed the state’s bat population has been significantly reduced and the prospect of their future recovery is uncertain. Typically a single bat can consume 1000 insects during a single evening of feeding. The present situation does not bode well for the recreating public or the agricultural community, as the potential now exists for future insect problems to increase.
Cussed types, location, maintenance and protection of nesting boxes and examples of target birds, nest box raiders and other predators.

Cutting Methods Study 30 Years of Growth and Yield presented by Jeff Ward

Visited a White Memorial forested area that has had several different cutting methods applied; observed discussed results, successes, failures, suggestions.

The program was granted 4 category 1 credits for SAF CF, and 1 credit for CT forester licensing.

Yale Student Chapter - Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Submitted by Victoria (Tori) Lockhart, President

The Yale SAF Chapter is looking forward to a great fall. In preparation for our annual Christmas Tree and Wreath sale, a dedicated group of SAF members took time this summer to clear additional space at our Tree Farm and weed around saplings planted by a group of volunteer students this past May. Proceeds from our sale last year will support our trip to the SAF National Convention in Spokane. SAF members are also looking forward to engaging in the upcoming accreditation review for Yale’s Master of Forestry program.

Updated Contact Info, Yale Student Chapter

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CT Professional Timber Producers Association (TIMPRO)

Joan Nichols – President
CT Professional Timber Producers Association
PO Box 71, Lebanon, CT 06249

www.timproct.org

TIMPRO offers two $250 scholarships annually to Connecticut high school seniors entering the field of natural resources. This year’s recipients are Bianca Beland of Barkhamsted and Jeffrey Curless of Watertown. Mr. Curless is a graduate of Nonnewaug High School an will be attending the University of Maine to earn a degree in forestry and/or wildlife biology. Ms. Beland is a graduate of Northwestern Regional High School and will also be attending the University of Maine to pursue studies in forestry. Both students were enrolled in the agriscience programs and were active in their FFA Chapters.

TIMPRO is proud to sponsor the 2012 Log A Load for Kids Campaign during the month of September. In 2007 Timpro became the sponsoring trade association for the nationally recognized Log A Load for Connecticut. Since 2007 TIMPRO has helped raise $14,741 for the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center in Hartford, CT. Every September TIMPRO solicits donations for the Campaign from companies and individuals of the Connecticut forest products industry. In addition TIMPRO holds a drawing during the Southern New England Game of Logging Competition held in conjunction with Celebrating Agriculture at the Woodstock Fairgrounds in Woodstock, CT. A chance to win a new chainsaw and other donated items helps raise money for the campaign. TIMPRO member Stephanie Gillotti will be raising money for the campaign at the Goshen Fair on Labor Day weekend and TIMPRO will be at Celebrating Agriculture on Saturday September 22, 2012 to host its annual campaign. No amount is too small and 100% of the proceeds goes directly to the Children’s Hospital to help children who do not have insurance or the financials to pay for necessary medical procedures. A donation form may be downloaded from the Timpro website by visiting: www.timproct.org and clicking Log A Load for Kids on the home
Granite State - Jon Nute

Forest Biomass a Concern
Public objections to timber harvesting on state forest lands in Massachusetts and Vermont have caused revisions in management for these properties. Besides wildlife, aesthetics and sustainability, nutrient depletion from whole tree harvesting is a concern. In 2010, the Forest Guild published their 16 page "Forest Biomass Retention and Harvesting Guidelines for the Northeast" (see www.forestguild.org). A field excursion and an indoor presentation were recently held to explore this topic. A morning field trip was held on June 30 at the Southeast Land Trust, Cole Farm property in Newfields, NH to view a recent biomass harvest. Forest Guild members and NH foresters Jeff Smith and Charlie Moreno, along with Land Trust forester Phil Auger lead the group on the tour. The trees were mostly white pine and mixed hardwoods (red oak, red maple, hickory, ash, birch and cherry) grown up over 90 years from previous pasture. Modified patch cuts were the harvest treatment. Another section of the property had been liquidation clearcut about 20 years ago and 15 acres of this area was biomass harvested (of the merchantable stems) and then cleared with a brontosaurus (of the smaller unmerchantable stems) to create a wildlife opening. It is expected to be cleared by a brontosaurus on a 10-15 year schedule to maintain the opening, so no woody debris was left, as this may hinder the mowing. In the patch cuts, Forest Guild guidelines were followed to provide snag trees of different sizes, buffers for wetlands and sensitive sites and retaining ½ to 1/3 of the tops and limbs from the harvest (6-18 tons per acre). Some of this woody debris can be the material brought back in the woods by the grapple skidder from the brush pile accumulated at the chipper. At the evening July 26 indoor session at the Bridgewater town hall a panel of 4 speakers made brief presentations. U. Maine Associate Professor Dr. Jeff Benjamin authored the 2010 seventy page “Maine Woody Biomass Retention Guidelines”, looking at whole tree harvest (WTH) and cut to length (CTL) harvests. With WTH, 800 cu. ft./acre average of woody debris was found after harvest, mostly in the trails and mostly 3” species. Transport of these materials outside the quarantine area is prohibited without a permit issued by APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) of the USDA. APHIS approved treatments include bark & 1/2” wood removal, kiln sterilization, fumigation and heat treatments. The rules also affect material originating outside the quarantine area but entering or passing through. For quarantine details contact the CT Agricultural Experiment Station: phone: (203) 974-8500, web: www/ct.gov/caes.

CT Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine
In July the emerald ash borer was found in Prospect CT. The director of the CT Agricultural Experiment Station put in place an internal quarantine effective 8/9/12. The quarantine area is the entirety of New Haven county. Regulated articles include ash nursery stock, uncomposted ash wood/bark chips, ash debris, green lumber, and hardwood firewood of any species. Transport of these materials outside the quarantine area is prohibited without a permit issued by APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) of the USDA. APHIS approved treatments include bark & 1/2” wood removal, kiln sterilization, fumigation and heat treatments. The rules also affect material originating outside the quarantine area but entering or passing through. For quarantine details contact the CT Agricultural Experiment Station: phone: (203) 974-8500, web: www/ct.gov/caes.

New Hampshire Law Expands RPS to Include Thermal Renewable Energy (excerpt from the Massachusetts forest update)
With the recent signing of Senate bill 218 into law, New Hampshire is now the first state to fully incorporate renewable thermal energy into its RPS program, and grant incentives to biomass, solar and geothermal project developers that are equivalent in value to those for developers of renewable electricity projects. Renewable energy certificates (RECs) will be worth up to $29 per megawatt-hour of useful thermal energy produced by qualified thermal projects, and the program authorized at

(Continued on page 21)
Winter moth (Wm) was predicted to cause heavy defoliation in 2012 based on the male moth flight seen the previous fall of 2011. Because of the record high temperatures in March Wm hatched early which didn't match up to the bud break of many woody plant species it feeds on leaving it with no food source. Subsequent cold temperatures also affected the already hatched Wm causing a major decline in numbers. There were pockets of heavy defoliation caused by Wm mapped on the outer Cape (Brewster/Orleans) area and North Shore (Gloucester/Rockport) area. For the past 3 years the DCR Forest Health Program has done an early season aerial survey to map Wm both defoliation (late May-early June). This year we mapped large areas of defoliation on Martha’s Vineyard and Cape Cod. Mid June we started getting reports from the Vineyard from property owners and green industry people of large scale oak defoliation and mortality. In cooperation with UMass Extension we visited sites on Martha’s Vineyard and on the Cape and determined the damage on Black oak trees to be caused by a Cynipid Gall Wasp, Bassettia ceropteroides. The areas where we were seeing the defoliation and mortality from the gall wasp were areas previously thought to be Wm defoliation. At this time the future damage potential from this insect pest has not been determined. There has been previous damage from this pest documented on Long Island New York in the late 1980’s and early 1990’s with insect populations declining after 5 years.

The past two years we have seen extensive white pine needle discoloration in late May and early June especially along the Route 2 corridor. This year’s aerial survey mapped over 3,000 acres of damage to white pine. Samples were taken by the US Forest Service and determined to be brown spot needle blight. This needle disease has been causing widespread white pine defoliation to the north in Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine for the past few years. Past weather conditions have played a part in this needle disease being so severe the last couple of years. In cooperation with the US Forest Service we have set up long term monitoring sites in this area to help predict future defoliation events. In addition a 50 acre site of white pine in Great Barrington was affected by another needle cast disease Canavirgella banfieldii. This site had serious needle drop with some trees completely defoliated. Again current weather events play a part in the severity of the needlecast disease.

Gypsy moth has continued to be at low levels across the state. We have seen increased egg mass counts in some of our central Mass Gypsy moth plots but it’s too early to tell whether this is a trend towards future increased defoliation from this pest.
Asian Long Horned Beetle continues to be found within the quarantined areas of Worcester County. This is a very large infestation and will take many years to eradicate this pest. USDA and DCR crews working in this area continue to survey trees and remove infested trees when they are found. The DCR Forest Health Program received a US Forest Service grant to deploy 1000 ALB pheromone traps throughout the Worcester County area to help delineate the infestation. The traps have been successful in finding some previously unknown infested areas.

Hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) has been noticed across the state in 6 new communities this growing season. Areas of heavy HWA populations have been seen and some tree mortality due to HWA documented. Working in cooperation with the US Forest Service we continue to monitor HWA predator release sites across the state. Warm winter temperatures have allowed the HWA to survive in greater numbers which in turn relates to the increased spread of this insect pest.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has just been confirmed in Dalton based on a find from one of the purple panel monitoring traps. DCR will be working with the USDA APHIS and Forest Service to determine the boundaries of the infestation and next steps in terms of dealing with this serious insect pest. The DCR Forest Health program in cooperation with the USDA APHIS received a grant to deploy 715 of the purple panel traps throughout the state this growing season.

The detection of the Ash Borer was officially confirmed on September 12 followed by a Press Release Announcement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The Release confirms that the EAB is residing in the western Massachusetts town of Dalton which makes Massachusetts the 18th state in the country to detect EAB. The steps that will be taken by DCR and DAR to prevent the spread of the invasive beetle include:

• Defining a quarantine area that would only allow the movement of certain wood products under certain conditions.
• A de-limiting survey to help identify the extent of the infestation.
• Working with stakeholders to ensure they know how to properly treat or dispose of infested trees and materials.
• A survey with federal agencies to determine how long the area in which EAB has been present in our state, information which will help determine strategies in how to best address the threat.
• DCR will also maintain a ban that has been in place against bringing any firewood into state parks and forests.

Quabbin Reservoir to Wachusett Mountain FY2014 Forest Legacy Project Proposal
A coalition of Central Massachusetts Landowners and myriad other stakeholders are partnering to apply for funds from Congress (yet to be allocated) to conserve 3500 acres of forest land in Central Massachusetts. The land would be conserved for the following uses:

• Support the local forest-based economy,
• Secure a source of wood products and fuel for future generations,
• Protect the drinking water supply for millions of Boston-area residents dependent on the Quabbin Watershed, as well as for residents of six central Massachusetts cities and towns,
• Provide habitat for the state’s threatened wildlife, and
(Continued from page 22)

• Expand outdoor recreational opportunities for the general public including hunting, hiking and nature study.

A letter has been drafted and will be submitted to Congress this month.

Massachusetts Forestry Legislative updates – Provided by Kent Lage, Director of Forestry Programs, Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.

The formal Massachusetts legislative session ended on July 31st, 2012. Massachusetts has a two-year legislative session. While this current session technically runs until December 31, 2012, neither the House nor the Senate typically meet "formally" from August through the end of the year. Both will meet in “informal” sessions from August until the holidays, giving the incumbents the time to run for re-election.

It is a misconception that bills do not pass during informal sessions. Countless bills are passed into law during this time. However, while in informal session, there has to be unanimous support of the members present for the bill to move on in the process. If one legislator opposes a bill, it will not pass in informal session.

There is one particular bill, now known as Senate Bill 2118, which has a good chance of passing during the informal session this fall. This is the bill to change the weight allowed on vehicles with farm plates from the current 60,000 pound limit, to the gross vehicle weight rating for the vehicle. This will be a big help for many log trucks that have farm plates. The bill has passed the Senate and has one more step to be passed by the House, which can be done during an informal session and then to the Governor for his signature. Farm Bureau has worked with the forestry community for a number of years to get this bill passed into law. We are hopeful it will happen yet this fall.

All the other forestry bills we have been writing about for the last two years, will have to be re-filed when the new Legislative Session begins in January, when the newly elected legislators are sworn in following the November 6 election. Also this is the first election after the process known as "redistricting". Redistricting takes place every 10 years, after the census is taken, to reflect the changes in population. This means there are a new set of lines drawn outlining what towns are in what district – this happens for your Representative and Senate seat on Beacon Hill AND your Representative in Congress in Washington. So make sure you know who is running in your town – it may have changed.

To find your voting place and who is running go to: http://www.wheredoivotema.com/bal/myelectioninfo.aspx

Massachusetts Forest Alliance (MFA)

The Massachusetts Forest Alliance (MFA) - the merger of the Massachusetts Wood Producers Association (MWPA), the Massachusetts Forest Landowners Association (MFLA) and the Massachusetts Association of Professional Foresters (MAPF) – has been formally organized, formed as a non-profit Massachusetts corporation, formed an initial Board of Directors and hired an Executive Director. The Board of Directors are: Dicken Crane, Fred Heyes, Charlie Thompson, Jeff Poirier, Jim Kelly, Bill Hull, Cinda Jones, Doug Cook, Jamie Dammnon, Kris Armstrong and Kent Lage. The Executive Director is Jeff Hutchins, formerly of Baystate Forestry. Jeff’s office will be located at the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation building. The mission of the organization is: The Massachusetts Forest Alliance represents forest landowners, forest industry professionals, and other citizens who are committed to policies that support a strong, sustainable forest economy, promote responsible forest management practices, and ensure the continuation of working forests on public and private lands. In addition, the MFA will promote public outreach and educational programs under its tax exempt organization. The first MFA Annual Meeting is being planned for shortly after the New Year.

Green Mountain -
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<td>Geology, Soil and Plants – 11/28/12, Framingham, MA</td>
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<td>Northern Vermont Fall Field Tour – 11/1/12, East Charleston, VT</td>
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<td>GrowSmart Maine Summit – 10/23/12, Augusta, ME</td>
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<td>Portable Sawmill Workshop – 10/19/12, Glocester, RI</td>
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<td>Forest Guild New Bedford / Providence Watershed Management Field Tour and Workshop – 10/12/12, New Bedford, MA</td>
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<td>Forestry Innovations - Thinking Outside the Box, but Inside the Woods – 10/9/12, Orono, ME</td>
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<td>Beech Management – 9/29/12, Andover, NH</td>
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<td>IUFRO 2012 Small-scale Forestry Conference – 9/27/12, Amherst, MA</td>
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<td>Maine GIS User's Group Fall 2012 Conference – 9/21/12, Millinocket, ME</td>
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<td>Summer Field Meeting GMD SAF – 9/21/12, Montgomery, VT</td>
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<td>Native New England Shrubs – 9/19/12, Framingham, MA</td>
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<td>Small Woodlot Silviculture: What Would You Do? – 9/12/12, Brownsville, ME</td>
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<td>Developing an Invasive Plant Management Program – 9/12/12, Milford, MA</td>
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<td>Native New England Shrubs – 9/5/12, Framingham, MA</td>
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<td>Rehabilitation Silviculture 2012 – 8/31/12, East Orland, ME</td>
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<td>Stewardship Forester Training Information meeting – 8/29/12, Scarborough, ME</td>
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<td>Silvopasture Day Course – 8/25/12, Harrisville, NH</td>
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<td>Rehabilitation Silviculture 2012 – 8/24/12, East Orland, ME</td>
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<td>Grassy Weed ID – 8/23/12, Amherst, MA</td>
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<td>Young Logger / Young Forester Summer Gathering – 8/20/12, Concord, NH</td>
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<td>Stewardship Forester Training Information meeting – 8/15/12, Bangor, ME</td>
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<td>NRCS: Everything you need to know – 8/15/12, Rutland, VT</td>
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<td>The Invasive Plant Issue &amp; Invasive Plant Identification – 8/14/12, Milford, MA</td>
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<td>Stewardship Forester Training Information meeting – 8/14/12, Augusta, ME</td>
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<td>Vermont Tree Farm Inspector Field Day – 8/8/12, East Rupert, VT</td>
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<td>Biomass Harvesting - What is Left Behind? – 7/26/12, Bridgewater, NH</td>
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<td>Piscataquis County Field Tour 2012 – 7/18/12, Dover-Foxcraft, ME</td>
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<td>Living with the NH Coyote – 7/14/12, Concord, NH</td>
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<td>Fishing for Answers: Downeast Solutions for Fish Passage – 6/29/12, Twp 27, ME</td>
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<td>Broadleaf Weed ID – 6/29/12, Amherst, MA</td>
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<td>A Look at Forest Structure and Complexity – 6/29/12, Newfields, NH</td>
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<td>Buffers, Biomass and BMPs: Management Considerations in Maine's Crooked River Watershed – 6/28/12, Norway, ME</td>
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<td>CAFS 2012 Field Tour – 6/28/12, Orono, ME</td>
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<td>The American Chestnut Tree – 6/27/12, Framingham, MA</td>
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<td>Big BAF Cruising and DS Cruiser: Forest Inventory and Processing Workshop – 6/22/12, Thornton, NH</td>
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<td>46th Annual Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors Meeting – 6/19-21/12, Mystic, CT</td>
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<td>NED: The Northeast Decision Model – 6/20/12, Lancaster, NH</td>
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<td>Brook Habitat and Improvement Seminar – 6/19/12, Alfred, ME</td>
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<td>Invasive Plant Control and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Workshop – 6/15/12, Warren, NH</td>
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<td>Beech and Spruce Plantation Management Solutions Tour – 6/15/12, Jack Mtn Road to Munsungun Lake, ME</td>
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<td>Connecticut Chapter of SAF Annual Summer Meeting – 6/13/12,</td>
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NE SAF AFFAIRS

Council Representative District VI
As they say at this time of year “Please Vote!” You can’t complain about leadership unless you vote. This year SAF is electing not only a Vice-President but also your Council representative from District VI. There are three candidates running for the seat on Council and their bio’s and views are on-line, as well as in the last Forestry Source. Learn about them and cast your ballot. You should be getting an email soon with instructions for National voting and if your Division was quick enough you will also be voting for local candidates. Council has been quiet over the summer as preparations are well underway for National Convention. This keeps staff very busy as it remains the most significant group activity for SAF on a national scale. Reservations are running ahead of the last several years and it is hoped that the over-run continues making Spokane a destination for a very large number of foresters this October. If you have a chance to go; take it! Congratulations to Dan Cyr, of Bay State Forestry and Granite State Division SAF member for being selected as this year’s recipient of the District VI Presidential Field Forester Award. Dan is traveling to Spokane to accept his award from President Bill Rockwell and EVP Michael Goergen.

I have heard that the planning for the joint New England and New York (or should we say District VI) winter meeting is also well underway. I am hopeful that the meeting will be as informative as the last one, just not as exciting. I’m not sure I needed a midnight evacuation then and I certainly don’t need one this time. Thanks to all who have worked very hard to keep this co-operative meeting moving forward; in particular, I’d like to mention Mariann Johnston who has been, and continues to be, the driving force. While it is early in the season for the New Englanders to be out and about, it is shaping up to be a very good meeting and will be sure to lift you out of the deep winter doldrums. By now you should be aware that the Purchase and Sales agreement was signed on the Bethesda property. It is a complicated process and there will be another several years before it is completed. The setting and building that are recognized as the SAF Headquarters will remain intact and some of the proceeds are earmarked for building maintenance and improvements. Good news for staff and visitors.

The SAF is involved in several high profile issues including filing an amicus brief for presentation at the Supreme Court. There will also be action soon on the policy front regarding Biogenic Carbon Emissions and the EPA so keep reading the Source and the E-forester newsletter.

Council next meets before the National Convention in Spokane so if you have issues or concerns that you feel should be addressed let me know. In the meantime, keep up the good work I know you are all doing.

NESAF Chair Report - October 2012
By: Ed O’Leary

First of all, I would like to reflect a minute on the recent and sudden passing away of Bill Samal, the Green Mountain Division’s Representative to the NESAF Executive Committee. It’s hard to comprehend the loss of an individual with whom one worked so closely. I have been a member of the NESAF Executive Committee going on eight years, with two more years to come as Immediate Past Chair. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on this committee and have come to like everyone with whom I have served on it. It will be much different without Bill as one of us. Bill has been a long time SAF member and I really got to know him well as a fellow Green Mountain Division member with whom I worked closely. I will really miss Bill.

Bill’s passing leaves a vacancy on the NESAF Executive Committee, and I am looking to the Green Mountain Division for a recommendation for us to appoint as its new representative. This also brings up the fact that we did not have a candidate for the position of NESAF Chair Elect on the ballot you will all soon receive. We really need a NESAF member or members to step up to the plate and volunteer to serve in this position. The NESAF Executive Committee has the authority to appoint an individual to this position, and it sure would be wonderful if we had a name or two to consider at the next NESAF Executive Committee to take place on December 12. Should anyone have any questions about what this position entails, please feel free to contact either myself, or any recent NESAF Chair, such as Ron Lemin, George Frame or Ken Laustsen. One of the responsibilities of the NESAF Chair Elect as well as the NESAF Chair, which I considered an incredible opportunity, is to represent NESAF at the SAF annual National Convention, at NESAF’s expense.

Finally, I just wanted to put in a plug for the upcoming joint NESAF/NYSAF winter meeting to be held in Saratoga Springs, NY from January 30 through February 1, as well as the NESAF spring meeting to take place May 15-17 at Sunday River in Maine. I want to particularly extend my thanks and sincere gratitude to Mariann Johnston of New York SAF, for all of her incredible effort in spearheading the development of an outstanding program for this meeting and for conducting some serious negotiations with the Saratoga Springs Hilton which will be the meeting’s venue. Please make every effort to attend both of these upcoming meetings.

As always, your NESAF Executive Committee is there to serve you. So, if you have any issues or concerns that you wish the Executive Committee to consider, please feel free to reach out to one of us. Our contact information is always found on the inside cover of each issue of the NESAF News Quarterly.
2013 NYSAF-NESAF Joint Annual Meeting
Registration Form
(Please submit one form per registrant)

Dates: January 29-February 1, 2013
Location: Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY, Reservations: 888-866-3596

Name: ____________________________________ Badge/Nickname ________________________________
SAF ID Number: ______________________ Division (Circle One): NYSAF NESAF
Organization/School: ____________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________________ State: _______________ Zip: _______________
Email: ________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Registration Type (Choose One)
Registration includes all meeting materials, lunches and refreshment breaks on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and hors d'oeuvres during the Poster Session.

NYSAF or NESAF Member
- Full Meeting □ $130 □ $150
- One Day Only (circle one): Wed Thurs Fri □ $100 □ $120

Non-NYSAF, Non-NESAF member
- Full Meeting □ $180 □ $200
- One Day Only (circle one): Wed Thurs Fri □ $140 □ $160

Student
- Full Meeting □ $60 □ $60
- One Day Only (circle one): Wed Thurs Fri □ $45 □ $45

EXTRAS
Pre-Meeting Session A: Leveraging Technology to Improve
Accuracy and Efficiency in Forest Inventory
- □ $20 □ $30

Pre-Meeting Session B: Expand Your Base!: Turn the New
Generation of Forest Owners into Your Clientele (limited to 30 participants, first come-first served)
- No Fee (funded through the
American Tree Farm System)

Thursday Awards Banquet Additional Guest □ $35 □ $40

Total Due: ____________________________

Payment Information (no refunds)
- Pay by credit card: Register online and pay by credit card. Meeting website link may be found at
  www.nesaf.org or www.safnet.org/ny
- Pay by check: Make check payable to “NYSAF Annual Meeting” and mail to:
  Fred Munk, NYSDEC, 7327 State Route 812, Lowville, NY 13367

Book your room before Jan 9! Room Rate: $104 (single/double), $128 (triple), $132 (quad) per
night, plus applicable taxes and fees; upgraded rooms cost more. Call 888-866-3596 for reservations
using Group Code: NY & NE Society of American Foresters. Room block is limited! These rates are
available until January 9, 2013 or until all rooms in the block are sold, whichever comes first.

Questions? Contact Mariann Johnston at mjohnston@esf.edu or 315-848-2566 ext. 111.
Exhibitors should contact Don Schaufler at 607-589-6076 or dps4@cornell.edu for an Exhibitor Registration Form.
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