

**MFS STEWARDSHIP FORESTER INFORMATION & TRAINING MEETINGS**  
*and Tree Farm Inspector Training*

4/9/2015: Bangor Motor Inn, Bangor, ME

4/10/2015: Maine Forest Products Council, Augusta, ME

**AGENDA**

8:00: Coffee and registration

8:15-8:30: Welcome & Introductions

8:30: WoodsWISE Program Status Update-*Andy Shultz, MFS Landowner Outreach Forester*  
Review of application and claim-for-payment forms, process (vendor set-up) SSN/TIN policy  
Woodland Resource Action Plans (WRAPs)-*Andy Shultz*  
Review of forest management plan specifications, with cross reference to latest American Tree Farm Standards changes

---short breaks as needed---

9:30: Insect and Disease Conditions update-*Allison Kanoti, MFS Entomologist*

10:30: Short topics-updates

Statewide standards-*Keith Kanoti, MFS Water Resources Forester*  
Project Canopy-*Jan Santerre, MFS Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator*  
Maine Healthy Forest Program-updates—*Andy Shultz/Jan Santerre*  
Tree Growth Tax Law: results of 2014 report—*Don Mansius, Director, MFS Division of Forest Policy & Management*  
Forester licensing: brief recap of new rules status—*Don Mansius*

12:00: Lunch

12:30: Cooperative Tree Farm Inspector training-*Mike Dann, Maine Tree Farm Committee, Certified TF Inspector Trainer*

**All Tree Farm Inspectors are required to have training on the new 2015-20 Standards prior to conducting inspections.**

- Introduction to the American Tree Farm System
- 2015-20 AFF Standards of Sustainability
- Management Plan review
- The ATFS Inspector's Manual
- 004 Form & Tools
- Wrap-up & Questions

3:30 *Adjourn, and safe travels home!*

# WoodsWISE Incentives

## Landowner eligibility requirements:

- 10-1000 acre ownerships
  - 1001-5000 acre ownerships: waiver process
- Private individuals, persons, companies, or other entities that hold title to land, including joint owners or tenants in common, groups, associations, corporations, Indian tribes or other native groups, or other private legal entities. A husband and wife are considered one owner.
- **Corporations whose stocks are publicly traded, owners principally engaged in the processing of wood products from their ownership, and properties where the ownership of the timber is different from the fee ownership of the land are excluded.**
- **Quasi-municipal entities such as water, sewer and utility districts are not eligible for WoodsWISE assistance; rather, they are encouraged to apply for a Project Canopy Urban & Community Forestry grant.**
- Include all owned forestland, in contiguous acres or parcels, in a Forest Management Plan.
- 10 year minimum planning periods; can apply again in year 9

## SECTION II: Forest Management Planning Menu and Current Reimbursement Rates

Forest Management Plans: Cost-share funds for Forest Management Planning will be allocated for the state as a whole, and applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applications will be approved on a first-come, first served basis in the Augusta MFS office, based on availability of funds. **Currently only applications for Woodland Resource Action Plans and Amendments of existing FMPs will be accepted. No other WoodsWISE forest management planning incentives are available until further notice.**

*The maximum cost-share payment to any single landowner in a calendar year will be \$2500.*

### WoodsWISE Incentives\* Summary Table of Eligible Practices

#### Forest Management Planning

<i>Code</i>	<i>Component Description</i>	<i>Max %</i>	<i>Max. payment</i>
FMP-1a	Development of a New Forest Management Plan (10-50 wooded acres)	na	na
FMP-1b	Development of a New Forest Management Plan (51+ wooded acres)	na	na
FMP-2	Amendment of an existing Forest Management Plan (includes Silvicultural Operations Plans)	50	\$150
FMP-3	Expansion (in area) of an existing Forest Management Plan	na	na
FMP-4a	Periodic Update of a Forest Management Plan (10-50 wooded acres)	na	na
FMP-4b	Periodic Update of a Forest Management Plan (51+ wooded acres)	na	na
FMP-5a	Woodland Resource Action Plan (10-50 wooded acres)	50	\$250
FMP-5b	Woodland Resource Action Plan (51+ wooded acres)	50	\$5/wooded acre

\*Forest Management Planning is funded in part by the USDA Forest Service's Forest Stewardship Program.

## **FMP-2 Amendment of an existing Forest Management Plan**

This practice component is intended to allow amendments to any part of an existing Forest Management Plan or Woodland Resource Action Plan, which are necessitated by a change in landowner objectives, forest conditions, identified projects, or new information during the original 10-year planning horizon of the Plan. It may include some or all portions of the woodland originally covered by the plan, and revise information or recommendations in the original plan. The Amendment is not required to provide recommendations beyond the original 10-year planning horizon. Amendments, once approved, are considered part of the original plan. Only one Amendment per existing plan will be approved during a twelve-month period. The existing plan must still be active, i.e., the planning period has not expired. Documentation of the existing plan, including the date written and the planning period, must accompany the application.

Amendments must meet the minimum specifications for a Tree Growth Tax Law management plan, a Silvicultural Operations Plan, a Tree Farm Plan, an “In Stream Large Woody Debris Addition Treatment Plan”, an EQIP Addendum to a WoodsWISE Stewardship Plan, or other specifications to be approved by Maine Forest Service.

**FMP-5a Development of a Woodland Resource Action Plan (10-50 wooded acres)**

**FMP-5b Development of a Woodland Resource Action Plan (51+ wooded acres)**

This forest management planning option is for woodlands not previously planned under a cost-share program, in cases where a less detailed plan than the FMP-1 category is desired. Formal inventory of standing timber is not required, though not discouraged. The amount and intensity of field work is generally left to the Stewardship Forester and their client to determine. The specifications for Woodland Resource Action Plans are found in Section VII of this manual.



Forest Service

# WoodsWISE



## Incentives to Stewardship Enhancement Woodland Resource Action Plan Application

*Forest Management Planning is made possible in part by the USDA Forest Service's Stewardship Program*

**Return to: WoodsWISE, Maine Forest Service, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333 (Tel. 1-800-367-0223)**

### Landowner

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-owner or

legal representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security or

Federal ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(street address, city, state, zip)*

Telephone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address(optional): \_\_\_\_\_

### Property:

Town \_\_\_\_\_

Road \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated total acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated forested acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Total acres owned in Maine: \_\_\_\_\_

### Ownership type

\_\_\_ individual

\_\_\_ joint

\_\_\_ nonprofit

\_\_\_ company/business (without publicly traded stock)

\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Forest Management Planning: Check one. Call MFS or your consulting forester if you need assistance.**

FMP-5a Development of a **Woodland Resource Action Plan** (10-50 wooded acres)

FMP-5b Development of a **Woodland Resource Action Plan** (51+ wooded acres)

FMP-2 Development of Amendment of an existing Forest Management Plan

**Stewardship Forester who has agreed to prepare the plan:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ License #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Previous Forest Management Plans:** Has the current landowner (or spouse) previously had a Forest Management Plan cost-shared for this property through Maine Forest Service or Natural Resources Conservation Service programs?

\_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Yes (Year \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Forester \_\_\_\_\_)

I certify that the above information is consistent with property deeds and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any practice for which I receive cost-share funds must be maintained for a minimum of ten years. In placing my application for Maine's WoodsWISE/Stewardship program, I agree to meet program requirements. I pledge to conserve, nurture, enhance, and protect the forested resources of my land and I will strive to provide a high level of stewardship for all my natural resources.

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that: 1) The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number, and 2) I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the IRS that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and 3) I am a U. S. citizen or other U. S. person (defined by the IRS). Ref. [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

Landowner signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# WoodsWISE



Forest Service

*Incentives to Stewardship Enhancement*

## Woodland Resource Action Plan -- Landowner/Forester Affidavit *(in lieu of Proof of Payment)*

**Landowner:** I, \_\_\_\_\_, have received a completed Woodland Resource Action Plan/Amendment to an existing Plan as follows (*check one*):

- FMP-5a      Development of a Woodland Resource Action Plan (10-50 wooded acres)
- FMP-5b      Development of a Woodland Resource Action Plan (51+ wooded acres)
- FMP-2        Development of Amendment of an existing Forest Management Plan

The plan/amendment was prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ (*Stewardship Forester*)  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (*date*) for \_\_\_\_\_ wooded acres in the town of \_\_\_\_\_.

I have paid a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the development of my Woodland Resource Action Plan with the understanding that I will be eligible to receive cost-share reimbursement from the state once my claim for payment is approved and processed. **I will retain proof of payment in my records for the life of the Plan (minimum 10 years)** Check #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (*required*).

Landowner signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Forester:** I, \_\_\_\_\_, (Licensed Forester # \_\_\_\_\_) certify that I have been paid in full for services rendered in the development and completion of the landowner's Woodland Resource Action Plan/Amendment (as noted above) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Stewardship Forester signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Proof of payment for cost share reimbursement for all types of Forest Management Plans under Maine Forest Service programs consists of:

- a copy of the **cancelled** check (both sides), OR
- a similar written record generated by the bank that clearly shows that funds in a given amount have been transferred from the landowner to the forester.

**This Affidavit may be submitted in lieu of the above documents if they are not readily obtainable.** Check number(s) are required information. If this Affidavit is submitted in lieu of proof of payment, landowner must be able to show actual proof of payment upon request from the Maine Forest Service.

If payment is made in a form other than a check, a **notarized statement** signed by the forester asserting that payment has been received, and identifying the type and dollar value of payment, may substitute as proof of payment.

In all cases, MFS reserves the right to request additional documentation.



# Woods WISE



Forest Service

## Incentives to Stewardship Enhancement

### Woodland Resource Action Plan/Amendment to existing Plan – Claim for Payment

*Forest Management Planning is made possible in part by The USDA Forest Service's Stewardship Program.*

**Landowner:**

**PAYEE Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**If the Payee name or address is different from the name or address on the Application Form, please contact the Maine Forest Service.**

I am hereby making claim for cost-share payment under the Woods WISE program for (*check one*):

- FMP-5 a** Development of a **Woodland Resource Action Plan (10-50 wooded acres)**
- FMP-5 b** Development of a **Woodland Resource Action Plan (51+ wooded acres)**
- FMP-2** Development of **Amendment of an existing Forest Management Plan**

The plan/amendment was prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ (*Stewardship Forester*)

on \_\_\_\_\_ (*date*) for \_\_\_\_\_ wooded acres in the town of \_\_\_\_\_.

Landowner signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Objectives: (1<sup>st</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_ (2<sup>nd</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_

(3<sup>rd</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_ (4<sup>th</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_

Plan/amendment start date: \_\_\_\_\_

District Forester:

Plan meets MFS standards: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Documentation complete/acceptable: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

GIS information verified: \_\_\_\_\_

Total property acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Total forested acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Total plan cost: \_\_\_\_\_

District Forester signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<p>Cost-share payment authorized:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Signature of Division Director:</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date _____</p>
--



What's  
missing

?

**INVOICE**

**Consulting Forester, LLC**

Joe Forester

DATE:  
INVOICE # 111111111  
FOR: WRAP  
BILL TO: Jean Landowner

		AMOUNT
		SUBTOTAL
		OTHER
		TOTAL

PAID

And the Stewardship Pledge!

## Section VII: Woodland Resource Action Plan

### Plan Specifications and Appendix

*Woodland Resource Action Plans (WRAPs) are intended to provide a good description of the current and potential values of woodland, and a blueprint of activities to reach woodland owner's objectives to maintain and improve their woods. **Bolded items below are minimum requirements for approval for cost-share reimbursement. Other items may be suitable to include based on landowner needs and wishes. The checklist on page 6 of this document contains only the minimum required items.***

#### General information:

Include, possibly as a cover page, the **Landowner name, mailing address, telephone number(s), and e-mail address** if applicable. Show the **Plan preparer's name, mailing address, telephone number(s), and e-mail** (optional), along with the **Plan preparation date, and the location of parcel** ( at a minimum show the town, county, tax map and lot #'s) **A statement of the owner's management goals and objectives must be included.** The **Planning period** (minimum of 10 years) and the **renew-by date** to stay current should be stated. The **plan preparer's signature** must be included. The landowner's signature is optional on the Plan itself, but is required on an attached **Stewardship Pledge**.

A **Schedule of activities to be implemented during the planning period** will summarize recommended activities by parcel, stand or other geographic location, as applicable. This can be a stand-alone page, or included with other pages. It is highly advised to prominently display this section near the beginning of the Plan. **The column headings in the following template are required.** Exact format may vary, but plan readers should be able to easily find this information.

#### Template for Schedule of Activities:

<b><u>Activity name</u></b> (should be same as used in Prescription section)	<b><u>Extent</u></b> of the activity (acres, feet, miles, etc.)	<b><u>Recommended time frame</u></b> (month, year, or range as applicable)	<b><u>Stand Location:</u></b> name or number (should be same as used in Description section and stand type map); or other location as applicable	<b><u>Cost/income</u></b> :: + (expected to yield income above cost) -- (expected to be a net expense) = (break-even) ? (unable to determine at this time) [At a minimum, use the symbols; may use text if preferred.]	(Optional) Priority: High, Medium, or Low

## Maps:

At a minimum, **one Forest type and stand map** shall be prepared for the parcel, including **property boundaries, location of water bodies and wetlands, significant wildlife habitat, broad cover types, including forest stands** typed by (at a minimum) SW/MW/HW; **non-forest land** ( may be broken out to internal parcel lines, ledges and barrens, building areas, gravel or other mining areas, utility rights of way, roads, agriculture, and other, as applicable); **areas where forest management is affected by shoreland zoning or other area-based rules or regulations.** Additional maps showing soils information, general location in the landscape, community or watershed, or proposed activity locations are optional. These maps may be in electronic OR paper formats, or both. However, all maps must have north arrow, preparation date, legend, preparer's signature, and scale. Map preparers who are not licensed surveyors are strongly advised to include a disclaimer such as "Not a legal survey" somewhere on the map.

**In addition, federal reporting requires that the woodlands covered by Woodland Resource Action Plans be mapped in a Geographic Information System (GIS).** This information will be considered confidential, the same as any and all personally identifiable information (PII) in the WRAP. The polygons are being collected for federal reporting purposes only, in an aggregate form only.

There are several options for plan writers to meet this requirement:

- a) A list of the latitude and longitude coordinates of the corners of the woodlands covered by the WRAP. The coordinates must be listed in a consecutive order around the perimeter of each parcel. The datum (NAD 83 or WGS 84) must be stated.
- b) Provide a polygon shapefile of the woodlands covered by the WRAP, with the following coordinate system: Datum NAD83, Projection UTM Zone 19N. The shapefiles must be attributed with sufficient information to uniquely identify the landowner with the woodlands in the plan.
- c) Provide a Google Earth .kml or .kmz file of the woodlands covered by the WRAP. Make sure to use an appropriate scale that clearly depicts the woodland on current aerial photography. Mark enough vertices in the polygon so the woodland is depicted accurately. Include sufficient information in the label so the land owner is uniquely identified with the woodland.

*Other methods of meeting the GIS requirement may be considered on a case by case basis. Please contact Greg Miller at (207) 287-8121, or [greg.t.miller@maine.gov](mailto:greg.t.miller@maine.gov), with any questions regarding these requirements.*

## General conditions of woodlot:

An **acreage listing including total acres, forest, water bodies identified by Department of inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and all other non-forest** (may be further broken out as other water bodies, wetlands, ledges and barrens, building areas, gravel or other mining areas, utility right-of-ways, roads, agriculture, and other, as applicable). Figures should be calculated at least to the nearest acre, but may be shown as square footage if appropriate (roads, building areas, for example).

A statement concerning the current **condition of boundary lines** is required. Details may include an indication of need to establish and/or maintain some or all lines. Recommendations for boundary lines may be included here or in the Description/Prescription section, But should be identified in the Schedule of Activities.

**Soils info**, at a minimum a listing of the soils series found on the parcel. A separate map may be used to show the location of these soils. Other information may include suitability for growing trees and optimum seasons/conditions of operability.

**General property description and history**, which should include terrain, topography, aspect, slopes, past land use, harvests and/or disturbances, insect and disease conditions observed.

**Access** related items such as condition of roads and trails, seasonal or other limitations, nearest public road, deeded or other rights of way, etc.

**Legal considerations** affecting forestry activities on the parcel, including deed restrictions, easements, shoreland or other zoning, Forest Practices Act and Natural Resource Protection Act considerations, etc. Any permits/notifications needed to implement recommended activities should be identified.

## Stand Descriptions and Prescriptions:

Include a brief statement describing actual **field methods** used develop the Plan. Any terms or labels used for stand identification and/or typing nomenclature should be clearly defined either in the Plan itself or in a separate Glossary or Key.

**Stand descriptions** should include an identifying **cover type** (minimum of SW, MW and HW); the **acreage** of the stand; the **dominant tree species and size classes**; **relative stocking**; and a **description of stand quality** related to current and potential forest products. An estimate of standing volume, with an indication of range of accuracy of the estimate, may be included. Other stand-specific information such as age, health, growth rates and relative volume and value of standing forest products (veneer or other saw logs, pulpwood, biomass, etc) may also be included.

**Silvicultural Prescription(s) for the planning period (minimum of ten years) recommended to meet landowner's objectives.** If **timber or commercial forest products**

are a primary objective, **activities to regenerate, improve and harvest timber**. These can be written for each stand, a multi-stand compartment or the parcel as a whole, as appropriate to the situation and activity. **The activities must be identified with the appropriate stand(s) or compartment(s) and be easily identified on the stand map.** Appropriate **Best Management Practices** must be described.

Other recommended activities, such as boundary line maintenance, wildlife habitat practices, or access improvements may also be included here and on the Schedule of Activities. Alternative recommendations and/or constraints to implementation may also be included. If a harvest or other silvicultural activity is recommended for the planning period, providing an approximate quantitative indication of results (such as target basal area or crop trees per acre, percentage of overstory removed, or spacing of residual trees) and a statement of potential costs and/or income is strongly advised.

A brief statement of **desired future stand conditions**, which may include some or all of the following: forest type, size or age, structure, forest products and grades, species composition, as well as desired recreational, wildlife habitat, aesthetic or other landowner-desired outcomes. This can be contrasted with the likely future condition if no action is taken; these can be the same, if appropriate.

#### Long term resource considerations:

Any **Threatened and Endangered species** known to occur on the property, and any **Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife- identified habitats**, must be identified. If there are none known, then a statement to that effect must be included in the Plan. The standard checklist of items from the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) will cover this requirement. In addition, the following items must be addressed, as required by the national Forest stewardship program standards. The appendix for Section VII includes a series of suggested statements which may be used to meet the minimum standards for these items of the Plan. Plan writers can also add to or replace the statements with their own version, as long as all the items are addressed. ***This item "shall" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Wetlands-** ***This item "should" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Forest health** ***This item "shall" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Historical, cultural & archaeological sites, other special sites:** This item may be addressed by describing any locations in the woodlot with special significance to the landowner or the community, such as scenic views, special trees or stands, or cemeteries, headstones, etc. ***This item "shall" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Protection from fire** ***This item "should" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Soil & water quality protection-** ***This item "shall" be included in Tree Farm Plans.***

**Biodiversity**

**Fish & wildlife issues:** This item may be addressed by describing any landowner-identified interests, such as deer habitat or stocking fish in ponds. *If any desired species, this item “should” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

**Monitoring** *Tree Farm Standard 8 requires monitoring of harvests and other activities to ensure they conform to management plan objectives.*

**Protection from pests-**includes invasive plants and insects *This item “shall” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

**Recreational opportunities:** This item may be addressed by describing landowner’s stated recreational goals and/or activities, if any. *This item “should” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

**Aesthetic quality** *This item “should” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

**Carbon sequestration** *This item “should” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

*Tree Farm items not specifically included in WRAP specs:*

*FOREST OF RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE (FORI); formerly known as “high conservation value forests.” Where present and relevant to the property, this item “shall” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

*BIOMASS: Where present, relevant to the property, and consistent with landowner’s objectives, this item “should” be included in Tree Farm Plans.*

## APPENDIX for SECTION VII

### Check-list of required elements:

#### General Information:

- Landowner name, mailing address, telephone number
  - Plan preparer's name, mailing address, telephone number
  - Plan preparation date
  - Location of parcel
  - Statement of the owner's management goals and objectives
  - Planning period; renew-by date
  - Plan preparer's signature
- Schedule of Activities to be implemented during the planning period**
- Includes:
- Activity name,
  - extent,
  - stand ID,
  - recommended time frame
  - cost/income indicator.
- Forest type and stand map**
- Location of water bodies
  - Significant wildlife habitat
  - Forest land: cover types/ stands
  - Non-forest land
  - Areas affected by shoreland zoning
  - North arrow, preparation date, legend, preparer's signature, and scale
- Spatial information: List of coordinates of vertices of woodlands OR GIS shapefiles OR Google Earth .kmz or .kml files OR other format cleared with Landowner Outreach Forester**

#### General conditions of woodlot:

- Acreage listing including total acres, forest, and all non-forest cover types
  - Condition of boundary lines
  - Soils information
  - General property description and history
  - Access
  - Legal considerations
- Stand descriptions:
- Cover type, acreage
  - Dominant tree species
  - Size classes
  - Relative stocking



- Description of stand quality**
- Field methods statement**

Stand prescriptions:

- Silvicultural Prescription(s) for the planning period recommended to meet landowner's objectives.**
- Activities to regenerate, improve and harvest timber, tied to stand ID**
- Best Management Practices**
- Desired future stand conditions**

Long term resource considerations:

- Threatened and Endangered species\***
- Inland Fisheries and Wildlife- identified habitats\***
- Wetlands**
- Forest health**
- Historical, cultural & archaeological sites**
- Protection from fire**
- Soil & water quality protection**
- Biodiversity**
- Fish & wildlife**
- Monitoring**
- Protection from pests**
- Recreation**
- Aesthetic quality**
- Carbon sequestration**

**Stewardship Pledge**

*\*These items may be covered by a MNAP review of the woodlands*

**Sample Schedule of Activities:**

<b><u>Activity name</u></b> (should be same as used in Prescription section)	<b><u>Extent</u></b> of the activity (acres, feet, miles, etc.)	Recommended <b><u>time frame</u></b> (month, year, or range as applicable)	<b><u>Stand Location:</u></b> name or number (should be same as used in Description section and stand type map); or other location as applicable	<b><u>Cost/income</u></b> :: + (expected to yield income above cost) -- (expected to be a net expense) = (break-even) ? (unable to determine at this time) [At a minimum, use the symbols; may use text if preferred.]	(Optional) Priority: High, Medium, or Low
Boundary lines brushed, blazed and painted	1500 feet	2012	South half of east line	--	H
Commercial harvest: crop tree spacing and thin from below	15 acres	2015-2020	M3	+	M
Construction and seeding of "wildlife food plot"	15000 sq. ft.	2015-2020 (following commercial harvest)	Primary log landing and main skid trail, as shown on stand type map	= (Post-harvest stabilization of primary landing and main skid trail. Costs expected to be covered by stumpage income.)	L
Post harvest stand check-up and report	15 acres	2016-2021 (within one year of completion of harvest)	M3	= (Forester's time and expense will be covered by logging contractor.)	M
Replace old culvert on Babble Brook road crossing	One 20' span bridge or arch culvert	2011-2015 (complete before commercial harvest)	Woods road stream crossing, as shown on stand type map	? (Need more information regarding labor, equipment and material costs and whether logging contractor can install and cover expense as part of commercial harvest.)	H

**Long-term resource considerations**, sample statements (*in italics*):

**Wetlands:** *“Both forested wetlands and other kinds such as open marshes, bogs or beaver ponds provide habitat, flood control and scenic beauty. For more information, see the book Natural Landscapes of Maine, available from the Maine Natural Areas Program, 207-287-8044 or <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/index.html> ; or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Forest health:** *“Balanced amounts of dead, down and dying wood are actually a beneficial part of a healthy functioning forest. However, severe weather, insects and diseases or other disturbances sometimes create an imbalance and become a barrier to realizing your goals and objectives. For more information, contact the MFS Division of Forest Health and Monitoring at (207) 287-2431 or visit [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/index.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/index.htm) ; or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Historical, cultural & archaeological sites, other special sites:** This item may be addressed by describing any locations in the woodlot with special significance to the landowner or the community, such as scenic views, special trees or stands, or cemeteries, headstones, etc. The following statement can be used in addition or instead of the above to address this item:

*“Stone walls and old cellar holes or foundations are often found in woodlands, as remnants of previous settlement and agriculture. High and dry areas near water bodies may have been pre-historic or Native American dwelling sites. Most properly conducted forest management activities will not harm these resources. Construction of roads, trails or landings, however, could potentially disturb significant sites. If you are interested in finding out more about your woodland, contact the Maine Historic Preservation Commission at (207) 287-2132 or visit [http://www.maine.gov/mhpc/about\\_us/index.html](http://www.maine.gov/mhpc/about_us/index.html) .”*

**Protection from fire:** *“Wildfire is rare in Maine, but can be quite devastating when it occurs. There is a lot you can do to reduce the risk of a wildfire on your woodlot and near your home. For more information on how you can make your home “Firewise,” please visit [www.maineforestservice.gov](http://www.maineforestservice.gov) or call the Division of Forest Protection at 207-287-4990. Please be careful with all outdoor fires and observe all the open burning laws. If you see a wildfire or smell smoke during a high fire danger day, please call 911 or the Maine Forest Service at 1-800-750-9777.”*

**Soil & water quality protection:** *“Activities in the woods that involve roads, log landings, and yarding or recreational trails, can sometimes contribute to rutting, soil movement and pollution of the watershed. Improperly conducted logging operations can also cause damage. Use of appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) greatly reduces this risk. For more information, see the booklet entitled “Best Management Practices for Water Quality,” available from the MFS by calling 1-800-367-0223 or visiting [maineforestservice.gov](http://maineforestservice.gov); or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Biodiversity:** *“Forested landscapes are homes for more than just trees. No one parcel can provide habitat for all species. However, maintaining or improving existing woodland communities is a desirable goal. For more information, contact the Maine Natural Areas Program at 207-287-8044 or visit <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/index.html> ; or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Fish & wildlife issues:** This item may be addressed by describing any landowner-identified interests, such as deer habitat or stocking fish in ponds. The following statement can be used in addition or instead of the above to address this item:

*“There are no (other) specific landowner goals or concerns regarding fish or wildlife. As part of managing according to Stewardship Principles, maintaining a healthy functioning forest will contribute to maintaining healthy fisheries and wildlife habitat. For more information, contact the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at (207) 287-8000 or visit [www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw); or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Monitoring:** *“Landowners, their families and/or designated representatives are encouraged to stay engaged with their woodlands. This can take the form of regularly scheduled boundary line maintenance, recreational activities such as hunting or hiking, or following up after completing silvicultural activities to check results. Keeping in touch with your land can help prevent theft or trespass. It can also be rewarding on many levels. For more information, contact your local MFS District Forester”.*

*Tree Farm Standard 8 requires monitoring of harvests and other activities to ensure they conform to management plan objectives.*

**Protection from pests:** *“There are many species of invasive plants and insects, both native and exotic, which can affect your woodland and possibly get in the way of meeting your goals and objectives. Monitoring for early detection can reduce negative impacts and reduce the costs of control. For more information, contact the MFS Division of Forest Health and Monitoring at (207) 287-2431 or visit [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/index.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/index.htm) ; or contact your local MFS District Forester.”*

**Recreational opportunities:** This item may be addressed by describing landowner’s stated recreational goals and/or activities, if any. The following statement can be used in addition or instead of the above to address this item:

*“It is always a good idea to get landowner permission before engaging in recreational activities such as hunting, hiking or ATV or snowmobile use on someone else’s land. Maine’s Landowner Liability Law gives landowners a high degree of protection when other people use their land. For more information contact the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at (207) 287-8000 or visit <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/> .”*

**Aesthetic quality:** *“The visual impact of forestry activities can communicate a lot about stewardship. Efforts to maintain a harmonious woodland appearance usually pay off in a*

*greater acceptance of silvicultural practices. For more information on logging aesthetics contact the Sustainable Forestry Initiative at (207) 622-9288 or visit [www.sfimaine.org](http://www.sfimaine.org).*

**Carbon sequestration:** *“Among the many benefits provided by forests, removing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it in trees may have increasing significance in the years to come. For more information, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/carbon.shtml>.”*



## FORESTERS INSTITUTES - 2015

### **“Foresters for Maine Birds”:**

June 23; Maine Forest & Logging Museum, Bradley

### **“Field forester practices for managing in a changing climate: What you can do tomorrow”**

July 16, Southern ME

August 6 Bangor area

### **“Invasive species, forest management & iMap”**

August 13, Bangor

### **“Beavers & forest management”**

Summer, Bangor or Lincoln area

### **“Timber cruising”**

October 2015 New Limerick

### **“Emerald ash borer-status & management”**

summer/fall 2015, (2) southern and central areas

### **“Northern hardwood silviculture and wildlife habitat, with Leak & Yamasaki”**

summer 2015, (2) southern & central/northern areas.

**Future Forester's Institute topics:**

Log bucking & merchandizing, with Ron Fickett

Tree Growth Tax Law

Landowner Liability

Contractual and legal risk issues regarding timber harvesting

Forest inventory analysis

Small woodlot harvesting & equipment

New technologies for foresters and loggers—smart phones, tablets, apps—oh my!