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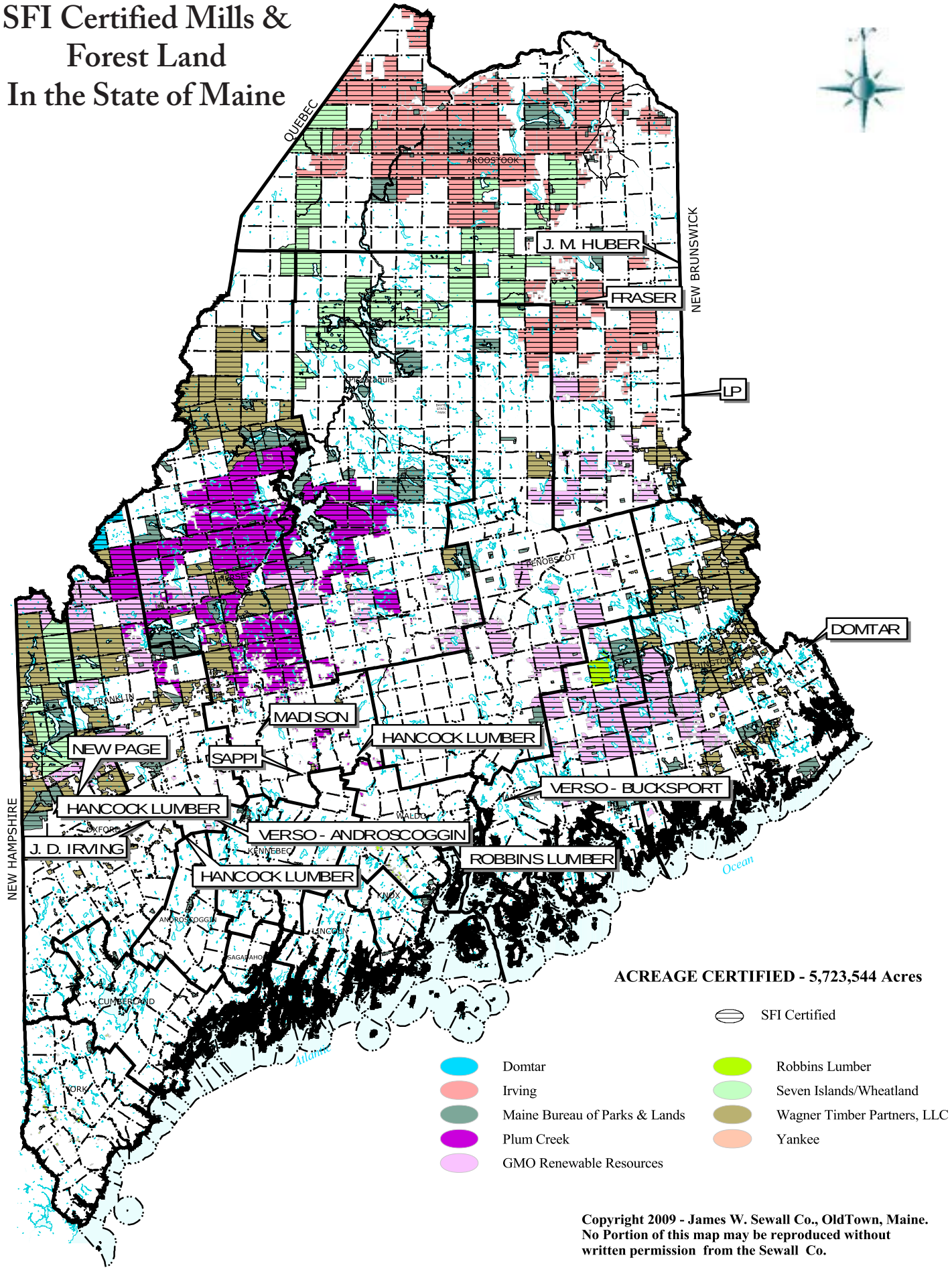
Maine SFI Implementation Committee
2008/2009 Progress Report

SFI Certified Mills & Forest Land In the State of Maine



ACREAGE CERTIFIED - 5,723,544 Acres

SFI Certified

- Domtar
- Irving
- Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands
- Plum Creek
- GMO Renewable Resources
- Robbins Lumber
- Seven Islands/Wheatland
- Wagner Timber Partners, LLC
- Yankee

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SIC Chairman's Message

These are challenging economic times for everyone and the forest products industry in Maine is no exception. With that said, Maine's forest industry does have significant competitive advantages for some of society's values, and if leveraged adequately could prove beneficial on several levels including our economy. Maine has over 7.4 million acres of green certified forestlands, of which 5.5 million are certified to the SFI Standard. Coupled with certified lands, Maine has 13 manufacturing facilities (pulp, paper and lumber) SFI certified for their procurement of wood from harvests where careful consideration of water, wildlife and forests regeneration occurs. SFI certified mills also have a responsibility to supply information to loggers and landowners encouraging the best harvesting practices possible. Many of these facilities have an SFI Chain of Custody that tracks wood from the forest, through the manufacturing and shipping processes and onto the customer.

Maine is clearly a leader in the realm of green certified forest products, of which SFI is proud to be a significant contributor. Over the past 18 months there have been significant efforts to educate paper and solid wood customers of the benefits of sourcing forest products grown and manufactured in Maine. This report will show how the SFI program in Maine contributes to sustainability efforts associated with stewardship of Maine's forest and associated public resources of air, water, fish and wildlife.

Of all the forests on the planet, less than 10% have been certified by an independent third party such as occurs during an SFI audit. At the same time we have never seen a more universal social awareness of our impacts on the environment. Discussions on the need to mitigate climate change are ubiquitous. The focus on emissions and carbon sequestration are no longer exotic topics relegated socially responsible options. Society is poised to ask tough questions about where their paper and wood comes from and the practices associated with those origins. Maine's track record in this arena is significant. Maine is a leader in the green movement and there's no better time than now to tell the world of our achievements.

Jimmy Robbins Jr., of Robbins Lumber is Chairman of the Maine Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Robbins Lumber Inc., located in Searsmont, Maine, USA, is a vertically integrated forest products firm producing Eastern white pine lumber and byproducts in its mill, while at the same time caring for and growing forest products on its superbly managed woodlands

Unique partnerships positions Maine's SFI Committee as a North American leader in promoting affordable green construction.

Bank of America, Youth Build Alternatives and the Maine SFI Implementation Committee came together in a Portland Maine effort to build the first ever green certified Habitat for Humanity home to the National Association of Home Building standards.

On August 12th, Governor Baldacci joined partners in Portland in a wall raising event for a green certified home to be constructed for the Maytiabo family.

The Maytiabo Home is a model for new construction that addresses several contemporary issues for Maine home owners.

Expensive Utilities/Energy Issues — Addressed!

Because this home will be an NAHB green certified home, with a specific focus on energy efficiency, its total utilities costs will be less than $2000/year.

Climate/Carbon issues — Addressed!

This is an entirely wood framed and sheathed home which will act to store carbon for the duration of the homes existence.

Wood as a construction material has a significantly lower carbon footprint than steel or concrete when a life cycle analysis is conducted.

Sourcing all of the materials from Maine and the nearby regions reduces the transportation impact, adding to the reduction of emissions and ultimately the carbon footprint.

Environmentally Responsible Building Material – Addressed!

The construction materials come from sustainably managed forest and are certified to that fact by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program. As well as the perpetuation of forest resource, forest certification addresses several important sustainability issues such as wildlife habitat, water quality, endangered species and ecosystem management.

Support of Local Manufacturing and Rural Economies – Addressed!

Eighteen of Maine's largest forest products companies are certified "Green" by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program for their land management or procurement of raw materials. The recognition of the benefits of these locally produced green certified forest products as demonstrated by the Portland Habitat project, serves to support Maine forest product industry, rural economies and communities that depend on them.

Habitat project serves as classroom for teaching youngsters the link between sustainable forestry and green construction.

During the construction of the Portland West Habitat for Humanity project, junior high age students are invited to the job site to learn about the various aspects of green construction. In September, King Middle School students visited the Demerest

project and the SFI sponsored Habitat home under construction where they learned about sustainable forestry. John Starrett with Sappi Fine Papers, spent the afternoon explaining to students the process of growing, harvesting and manufacturing sustainable forest products like those being utilized in the Matiyabo home. In this picture John is demonstating the chain of custody process which is a documentation tracking system for forest products, from the forest to its end use.

In the picture below the Portland Youth Build Alternatives, high school age workers are unloading 48 foot long SFI Certified engineered beams produced and

donated by Louisiana Pacific in Houlton. The beams, SFI certified Advantech sheathing from Huber Engineered Wood Products, and certified structural Lumber from Fraser Papers, sufficient to construct the entire home were transported at no cost from the respective contributing facilities by H.O. Bouchard, during the height of diesel fuel prices last summer.

SFI/Habitat Contributors include:

Huber Engineered Woods LLC
Louisiana Pacific Corp.
Plum Creek Timber Co. Inc.
Wagner Forest Management Ltd
Fraser Timber Limited
Seven Islands Land Company
Sappi Fine Papers North America
H.O. Bouchard
Madison Paper
Hammond Lumber
SFI Inc.
Pierce Atwood

In Maine's Woods work some of the best trained forest professionals in the world

Two logger training programs have received endorsement from the Maine SFI Committee: Maine's Certified Logging Professional Program, established in 1990 and the Qualified Logging Professional program, located at the Southern Aroostook Vocational Technical School.

It has been fourteen years since SFI's arrival in Maine. Over the years, much has been accomplished through research and education to improve forestry activities as they relate both to natural resources and to the various categories of standards that are identified in SFI forest management and procurement certifications.

Timber harvesting has been no exception, with particular credit going to the outstanding logger training programs we've been privileged to work with since SFI's inception in 1995. In fact, the Certified Logging Professional Program (CLP) preceded SFI by six years. In the early SFI years, there were 27 State Implementation Committees. Their first order of business as to establish logger-training programs. In Maine, the CLP program, conceived and managed by Loggers, was already in place and aligned with the basic tenets of SFI. This allowed SFI to work on developing other aspects of the SFI program, which resulted in certifying as much as 6.5 million acres to the SFI Standard. This, coupled with the certification of procurement systems for multiple paper mills, major saw mills and OSB producers, helped distinguish Maine as a North American leader in forest certification.

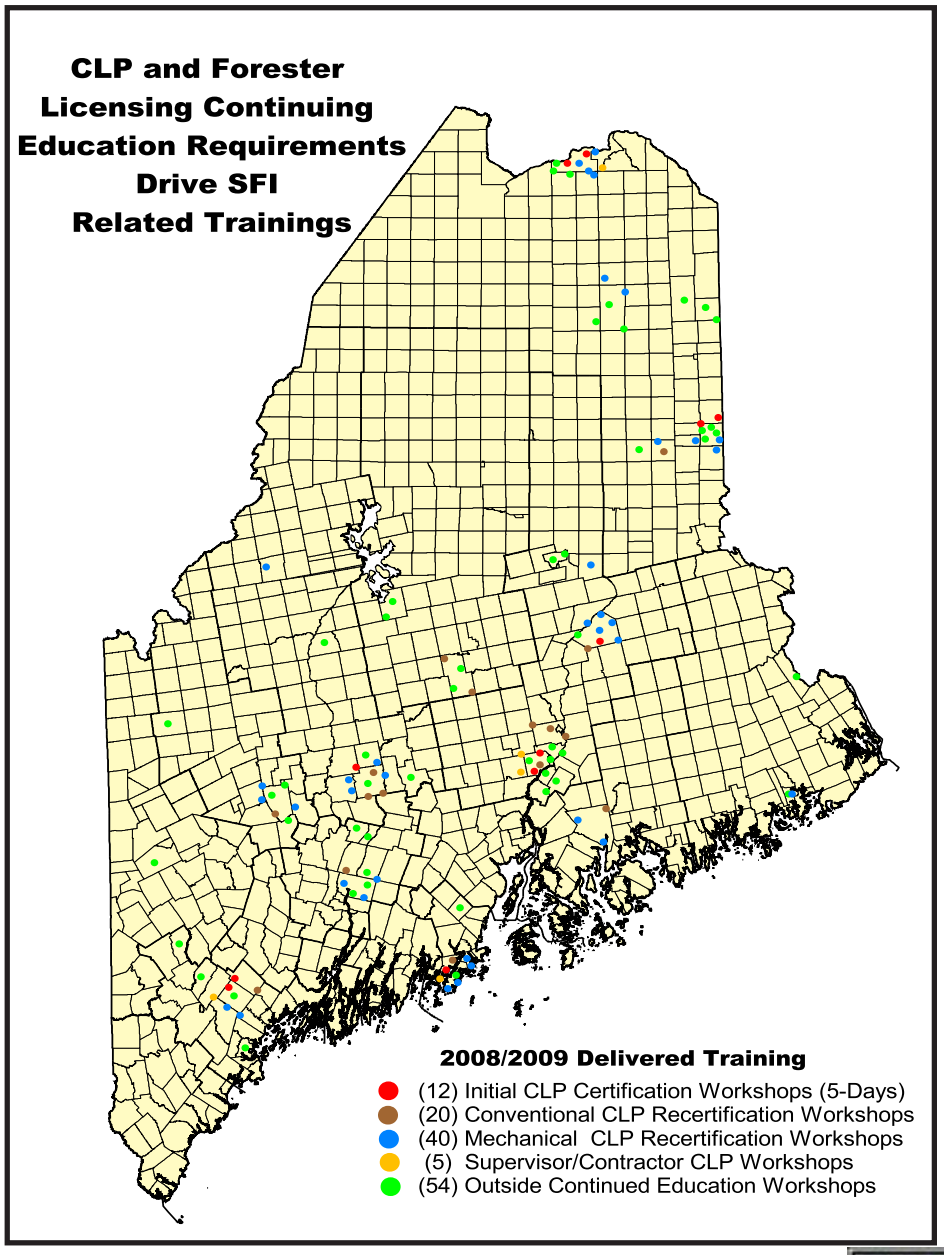
Today, Maine has two very successful and self-supporting logger training programs: the previously mentioned CLP and the Qualified Logger Professional Program (QLP), located in Houlton. QLP, endorsed by the Maine SFI Implementation Committee in 2001, serves loggers in Southern Aroostook County. QLP is delivered in a traditional adult education format, which has proven very effective for the loggers in that service area.

CLP and QLP have significantly improved safety performance in the logging industry. As a result, CLP companies have benefited from lower workers compensation rates, and trained loggers who do not carry comp are more likely to return home safely to their families every night. This is an invaluable service to our industry.

Additional Continuing Ed training to meet emerging needs.

The Maine SFI Education Committee, made up of several forestry education partners, help develop, facilitate and deliver continuing education programs for loggers, foresters and landowners. In 2008, the MFS published its findings from its best management practices (BMP) monitoring program and noted potential areas of improvement in how BMPs are applied. In response, the Maine SFI Education committee working with the MFS is conducting a series of wooden bridge mat construction and stream crossing workshops. Due to a generous grant from the US Forest Service, the Maine Forest Service and SFI will conduct in excess of a dozen of these workshops in various locations around the state. Once

the bridge mats are constructed they will be made available at no cost for loggers needing a temporary stream crossing device. This effort will compliment the steel bridge loaner program previously initiated by the Maine Forest Service and Maine's SFI Implementation Committee.



In addition to water quality BMPs the SFI Education Committee has committed to develop a timber harvesting utilization and marketing workshop in an effort to incorporate new opportunities posed by the emerging bioenergy markets.

Increased utilization opportunities could increase pressure on important biological factors in the forest. The SFI Education Committee is updating its Biodiversity/ Wildlife Habitat program to discuss practices that address the balance between adequate biomass retention and desired levels of extraction.

As the world of certification matures, there is no shortage of acronyms representing various processes involving forest management, logger certification, mill certifications, chain of custody procurement systems, and international certification endorsement programs like the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Programs (PEFC). How does this all relate to customer driven systems like printers and publishers initiated environmental assessment tools and green construction standards? Recognizing the need for forestry professionals to understand their role and relevance, Maine's Education Committee and the CLP program teamed up to develop and deliver a workshop specifically intended to demystify the world of certification. In 08-09, five "Certification Explained" workshops were delivered to loggers, foresters, and state policy leaders.

Maine's Green Forest Summit

Governor John Baldacci was instrumental in initiating the April, '08 Green Forest Summit in Portland. Speakers from Maine and around the country representing energy, construction and paper interests provided insights on the current and future demand for forest products independently certified green. Maine is one of North America's leaders with 7.4 million acres of independently certified land. Maine is the undisputed leader with 6.9 million acres of privately owned certified lands. The goal of the program was to bring together all of the various forest products value chains to identify opportunities and challenges to fully integrating certification from Maine's certified forest to the green consumer.

Over two hundred fifty people attended the program including landowners, loggers, foresters, architects, building contractors, pulp, paper and lumber mills, retailers, secondary manufacturers, energy producers and large paper customers.

Rosaire Pelletier, Senior Forest Products Advisor to the Governor, and Pat Sirois, ME's SFI Program Director co-chaired the Green Summit Steering Committee, comprised of partners from the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine, Maine Pulp and Paper Association, Association of General Contractors of ME, Maine Forest Service and the Maine Forest Products Council.

Green Paper presenters addressed how society's increasing environmental consciousness is influencing the paper value chain:

In 2010, what will paper customers be looking for in their supply and will it mean for Maine?

Speakers: David Refkin: Time Inc.
David Schirmer: Hearst Enterprises

Green Building — From the perspective of architects, builders and material suppliers, what is the demand for green construction and what are the opportunities for Maine-produced, green building materials.

Speakers: Steve Rich: WBRC Architects
John Benjamin: Robbins Lumber Company
Kevin Hancock: Hancock Lumber Company
John Ryan: Wright-Ryan Construction, Inc.
Paul Sampson: A.E. Sampson

Green Energy presenters discussed the opportunities for the forest products industry as the search for alternative energy intensifies and potential impacts on silvicultural practices and other forest markets.

Speakers: Les Otten: Chair- Governor's Task Force on Wood to Energy
Hemant Pendse: Chair University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation
Nathan Hebel: Boralex, Inc.

Sponsors included:

NewPage Corporation
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Maine Forest Service
Time Inc.
TRC Solutions,
Hearst Enterprises
Plum Creek Timber Co.
SFI Inc.
PLC of Maine
E.D. Bessey and Sons

An Invitation to ask tough Questions

In 1997, Maine was the first state in the nation to offer a toll-free telephone number, 1-888-SFI-GOAL, for the public to call with questions or concerns about forest practices. The following year, the program expanded to include New Hampshire. Currently the SFI GOAL program is being expanded once again to include Vermont.

In an effort to widely publicize the number, a brochure describing the program is repeatedly distributed on a biannual basis to town managers and code enforcement officers in all 502 Maine communities; the SFIGOAL number was posted at all gates operated by North Maine Woods (a landowner cooperative that manages access to 4 million acres of timberland); and the number was included in the latest edition of the Small Woodland Owner's Handbook. Maine State Legislators are also provided information on the SFI Goal Program so that they can have another resource to refer constituents too when site specific questions regarding forest management and harvesting practices arise.
Calls to SFI-GOAL are answered personally by Pat Sirois, the Maine SFI program director. Calls are treated as strictly confidential; unless a caller specifically asks for contact, his or her identity is not revealed to the company, logger, forester or landowner.

Public concerns have centered on three areas: Water quality, aesthetics and harvest practices. Almost all of the calls – more than 95 percent – related to lands not owned by SFI participants.

The hotline provides a barometer of public thinking about the forest, and highlights the types of activities that are of greatest concern to Maine residents. Although the vast majority of calls to SFI-Goal do not relate to lands that are owned or managed by SFI-certified companies, the program has developed and delivered training for forest practitioners in all three of the areas of greatest concern.

Concerned about a timber harvesting operation in your community?

Call 1-888-734-4625

If you have questions or concerns about any forest practices in New Hampshire , Maine, and Vermont or if you want information about forest tours, please call!

SFI using Vehicle as Travelling Billboard for Public Outreach

Landowner Outreach

There are more than 200,000 owners of small forested parcels in Maine. It is critically important that the landowners have access to good information abut the forest in order to make sound management decisions. Many of them, however, are not affiliated with any landowner organization or program. The SFI Implementation Committee is committed to developing effective ways to reach out to those landowners. Maine's SFI program has worked with the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine to use the latest edition of the association's Small Woodland Owner's Handbook as an outreach tool. With funding from SFI, SWOAM is conducting outreach to 400 new landowners building on the success of a previous pilot program that successfully reached 1000 of Maine's small non-industrial landowners.

Maine's Forests are Growing

Despite increased demands for raw materials from our various sawmills, pulp mills, pellet mills, biomass processors, and other wood-using industries, Maine's forests are growing more than is being harvested, and today Maine has 93% more standing timber than it did in the 1950's. Moreover, although a working forest landscape, Maine's forests continue to serve as a successful backdrop for our tourism and recreation industries. Along with their direct economic contributions, Maine's forests continue to provide watershed, environmental, wildlife, and amenity benefits.