

⤴ LIVE THE NEW FOREST FUTURE



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A woman wearing an orange hard hat, a plaid shirt, and a safety vest is standing in a forest with yellow and green foliage. She is looking upwards and to the right. The background is filled with trees and leaves, suggesting an autumn setting.

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Front Cover Photo: Aerial view of Tupper Lake by Carl Heilman, II.

Forester Sierra Giraud is one of six young people profiled in the North Country Calling video series. See more inside the back cover.

Photo: Ian MacLellan



VISION

We envision a thriving and welcoming Northern Forest region sustained by innovation and environmental stewardship.

MISSION

We create bold possibilities that give rise to vibrant Northern Forest communities.

WE BELIEVE IN

The New Forest Future.
Bold, adaptive leadership.
Widely shared opportunity.
Persistence.





Build the New Forest Future with Us

We are passionate about the Northern Forest and its potential.

While this region, like every corner of the globe, is challenged by the pandemic and its economic impact, we believe in the resilience of Northern Forest communities. We know they can thrive, be welcoming, and be sustained by innovation and environmental stewardship.

This is the New Forest Future we know is possible.

As an organization we listen first and work closely with partners, supporting their persistence, energy and hard work to create bold possibilities in places like Greenville Maine, Gorham New Hampshire, Island Pond Vermont and Elizabethtown New York. If you could experience what we do in these places, you too would see opportunity. And now, building on our work in 2020, we're committed more than ever to support these partnerships with energy and resolve.

With the launch and capitalization of our new Northern Forest Fund in 2021, we'll increase programming and investments in the region and help reverse the region's population decline of young workers and families. We'll build on and celebrate the work already underway in many communities and invite you to join us in being part of the action.

The Northern Forest region can and will be a place for growth and vibrancy for the next generation. You're helping to make it happen – we simply couldn't do our work without you. Thank you for your partnership and friendship.

Celina Adams, Chair

Rob Riley, President

PROGRAM IMPACT SINCE 2005

SUPPORTED

7,141
JOBS

IN WOOD PRODUCTS
TOURISM AND
WOOD HEAT



HELPED
CONSERVE

257,218
ACRES

FOR COMMUNITY
BENEFIT



SECURED &
LEVERAGED

220,000,000
DOLLARS

TO BENEFIT COMMUNITIES,
THE ECONOMY & FOREST
STEWARDSHIP

Regional Leadership

- Leveraged more than **\$12 million** from increased federal funding, tax credit financing, business investment and grants to support **economic opportunity and environmental resiliency** across ME, NH, VT and NY.
- **Helped communities and partners secure nearly \$600,000** from public and private sources to directly support projects that align with the Center's mission.

Community Development



- Raised **\$3.3 million** in **impact investments** for residential and commercial real estate redevelopment projects since 2018.
- Completed our **6th residential purchase & renovation** in Millinocket, Maine, providing much-needed **quality workforce housing**.



- Through the Center's **housing initiative**, contributed to the **80% increase in median sale prices of homes** in Millinocket between 2017 and 2020.



- **Invested nearly \$1 million** so far to redevelop a historic Lancaster building to **support economic expansion and community revitalization**.



Economic Development

- Supported **1,100** jobs through direct assistance to **153** wood products, tourism, and wood heat businesses.

WOOD PRODUCTS

The Center's ongoing work with 19 wood products companies helped these companies:

- Create **38** new jobs and increase average wages by **5.7%**.
- Support **760** existing jobs.
- Increase gross sales by **\$39** million.
- Increase demand for wood by **3** million board feet.
- Invest more than **\$300,000** in manufacturing, technology and other advances.

WOOD HEAT

By helping people convert from oil to wood pellets and chips:

- Generated **\$1.2** million in economic impact for the region this year; **\$5.7** million positive impact since 2011.
- Prevented **1,381** tons of greenhouse gas emissions this year – totaling **6,500** tons avoided since 2011 – equal to driving **16** million FEWER miles!



DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT

To support both community revitalization and economic development, the Center:

- Awarded **10** grants totaling **\$302,000** to improve outdoor recreation opportunities in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, in partnership with Northeastern Vermont Development Association and NEK Collaborative.
- Invested **\$15,000** in community-based recreation development through the Adirondack Community Recreation Alliance.
- Leveraged **\$85,500** in business investment in the Moosehead Lake region through our Tourism Investment Program.



The Center coordinates the Automated Wood Heat, Bike Borderlands and getNEKedVT programs.





Transforming Communities for the Next Generation

We believe Northern Forest communities are full of possibility.

We bring tested strategies, positive leadership and new investment to create widely shared opportunities.

With our partners, we foster initiatives that keep young people and attract new residents eager to invest in community and steward the forest for future generations. **Our work:**

Builds Active Communities

Outdoor recreation is often tailored to attract visitors rather than to serve local people. Our partnerships and investments are increasing high-quality recreation opportunities for residents – particularly kids – and ensuring they benefit local businesses and create good jobs.

Creates Community Assets

Northern Forest communities have been deeply affected by decisions made by out-of-region property owners and policy makers. We play a vital role in redeveloping properties, coaching communities to acquire and manage forestland, and supporting leaders to attract funding to regional projects.

Develops New Leadership

Small towns rely on volunteers and a small number of paid staff to do... everything! We bring new voices to the table, facilitate action and collaboration, manage project implementation, and attract resources to make projects happen. We help expand the ability of local partners to reach their goals.

2020 Highlights




Supported youth programs, trail expansion and the Ride with Gratitude stewardship campaign among the Bike Borderlands' 9 trail networks across VT, NH, ME and QC, increasing their contribution to the regional economy.



Began redeveloping the 11,000-square-foot Parker J. Noyes building into apartments and a local food marketplace in Lancaster, NH. This project is funded partly by impact investors who – through our investment funds – earn a financial return while generating community benefit.



Facilitated the Adirondack Common Ground Forum, guiding 200 participants to help their communities be more welcoming, particularly to people of color and people “from away.” The forum informed a Center-led strategy to retain young people and attract residents to the region.



Profile Trails is one of the nine trail networks working together in the Bike Borderlands initiative to serve residents and support local businesses.



Choosing the Northern Forest for Home and for Work

Fifteen years ago, Boston's high cost of living and a longing for a close-knit community drove newlyweds Tim and Amanda Clough to move to Franconia, near where they grew up. "I was lucky to be able to bring my job with me," said Tim, who is a partner in a telecom firm, "and Amanda started teaching school in Bethlehem. Now there are a lot of IT companies up here. The opportunities are far greater than they were."

“ We can go mountain biking right out the back door. Everything is right here, and in school there's a lot more emphasis on being outside. Our kids love it. ”

– Amanda Clough

Two years ago, the Cloughs and three high school friends opened Iron Furnace Brewing in Franconia. "We merged our dream of opening a brewery with our need for a place to have a beer after mountain biking at Profile Trails," said Tim, who serves on the board of Franconia Area NEMBA, a Bike Borderlands member.

"People have done an exceptional job building trails here," said Tim. "I'm more of an ambassador for the trail system." He hopes to collaborate more with trail systems in Littleton and Bethlehem to make the area even more of a mountain biking destination.

"We've got three trail networks, three breweries and a great community for our kids," said Tim. "We live where people vacation."



Strengthening Forest-based Jobs

We are a regional innovation and investment partner creating rural vibrancy by connecting people to the forested landscape.

Our work is strategic, collaborative and hands-on to help communities and businesses achieve their economic potential. We provide technical and financial assistance, peer consultation, and strategic leadership to develop new markets. **Our work:**

Sustains Businesses

Rural businesses provide essential forest products and services, but face workforce, internet and capital challenges. We advance innovation by helping businesses tap expertise and capital to create and sustain good jobs in wood products manufacturing, wood heat, and recreation and tourism.

Expands Markets

Sustainable forest management relies on diverse, consistent and accessible markets for wood. Our programs sustain demand for finished products – furniture, flooring, construction materials – while developing new and stronger markets for wood heat, mass timber, and other emerging products.

Develops Destinations

Some places are being over-used while others have the potential to expand business opportunities, jobs, and community benefit. We help communities and businesses find the right balance by building on their unique appeal while sustaining the region's landscape and culture.

2020 Highlights



Invested in market development for new forest products to help expand the region's economy. The Center's Future Forest Economy Initiative granted nearly \$1 million to projects in wood heat marketing, master logger certification, and mass timber construction.



Assisted 18 wood product manufacturers and sawmills – which collectively employ hundreds and support thousands of related jobs – with business development, Covid-19 crisis management, market development and leadership coaching. Our assistance helped keep employers in operation and sustained demand for wood harvested from the region's forests.



Provided technical assistance to 130 tourism-related businesses in Maine and Vermont to improve their online presence and digital sales, build long-term resilience, and weather the pandemic through online sales and digital marketing.



The Northern Forest provides wood for fine furniture, traditional and mass timber construction, pellets and chips to replace fossil fuels, and a landscape that draws visitors from around the world.

Navigating Unknowns to Keep Jobs in Vermont

Even Covid-19 can't shake Brian Ball, president and CEO of Lyndon Furniture in Vermont, from his guiding principles to "Take care of our customers, grow our business with them, and bring on some new retail partners."

"My philosophy hasn't changed," he said, "but this is a complete unknown, no matter how long you've been in business."

To navigate the unknowns Brian turned to the Center's Northern Forest Board Forum, a facilitated peer group of wood products business executives. Members support each other on strategy, leadership, financial management, human resource issues and more.

"The Board Forum has made me a better owner, and a better leader," he said. "I get perspective from people



“You’re helping me do what I need to do to keep this company going and keep these jobs right here in Vermont where they belong.”

– Brian Ball
Lyndon Furniture

I have great respect for.” Brian brought all 85 employees back on salary as quickly as possible and paid them a hazard bonus when they were able to return to work.

“I can’t say enough about the good the work the Center does,” said Brian.



Defining New Leadership to Create Change

We believe in bold, adaptive leadership. We bring new ideas and resources to accelerate innovation across geographic, social and ideological boundaries. We share what we're learning in communities with policy makers and funders to better serve people in rural communities. [Our work:](#)

Leverages Resources

It is difficult for communities to find funding for essential services such as high-speed broadband or quality housing. We pride ourselves on directly raising and leveraging funding into the region for the benefit of communities, businesses and non-profit partners.

Advocates for the Region

Although we have seen unprecedented governmental relief for Covid-19, many people, businesses, organizations and communities are still being left behind. Building on decades of strong relationships, we advocate for policies that will bring transformational benefits to our communities.

Contributes to Climate Solutions

We are driven by a deep commitment to advance green business practices, lower carbon emissions, keep forests as forests, and advance innovations – like wood heat, mass timber construction and new building materials – that contribute to economic, social and ecological outcomes.

2020 Highlights

-  *Advanced broadband improvements: in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, by supporting creation of a Communications Union District to fund internet infrastructure; in Lancaster, NH, by exploring the extension of a high-speed internet line; and in western Maine, by helping leaders increase their knowledge, pursue grants and implement regional fiber build-out.*
-  *Co-led the Rural Development Innovation Group – a national partnership with The Aspen Institute and others – which sent policy recommendations to Congress to shape the economic recovery response to the pandemic. We also directed recommendations to Northern Forest state policy makers.*
-  *Coordinated two regional initiatives – to expand markets for the region's wood and to invest in community destination assets – while also coordinating a four-state proposal to support the tourism sector. These initiatives total nearly \$9 million and we add value by increasing coordination and learning across projects and by leveraging private investment.*



Making a Difference Now for the Future of Western Maine

“I realized if I could do one thing that would make a real difference in western Maine, it’s improving broadband,” said Mia Purcell, vice president of Economic Development and Impact at Community Concepts, a key partner in the Maine West collaborative.

“I focused on helping underserved areas and businesses that needed faster service, but that shifted when Covid hit,” she said. “Kids need internet access for school. We have a lot of home-based businesses and people moving here with remote jobs. It’s about keeping seniors connected and access to telehealth.”

Working across 34 communities, Mia is a key driver behind a state-sponsored planning process for broadband expansion in Western Maine and the Broadband Bootcamp, a partnership co-developed with the Center and others.



Mia Purcell, right, and the Center’s Mike Wilson discuss rural broadband needs with Anne Hazlett, then USDA Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development.

“ I’m a team of one, so my challenge is how to maximize what I can do. The Center is my most ready and willing partner. It’s been a great partnership. I couldn’t accomplish nearly as much as I have without the Center’s support. ”

– Mia Purcell
Community Concepts

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

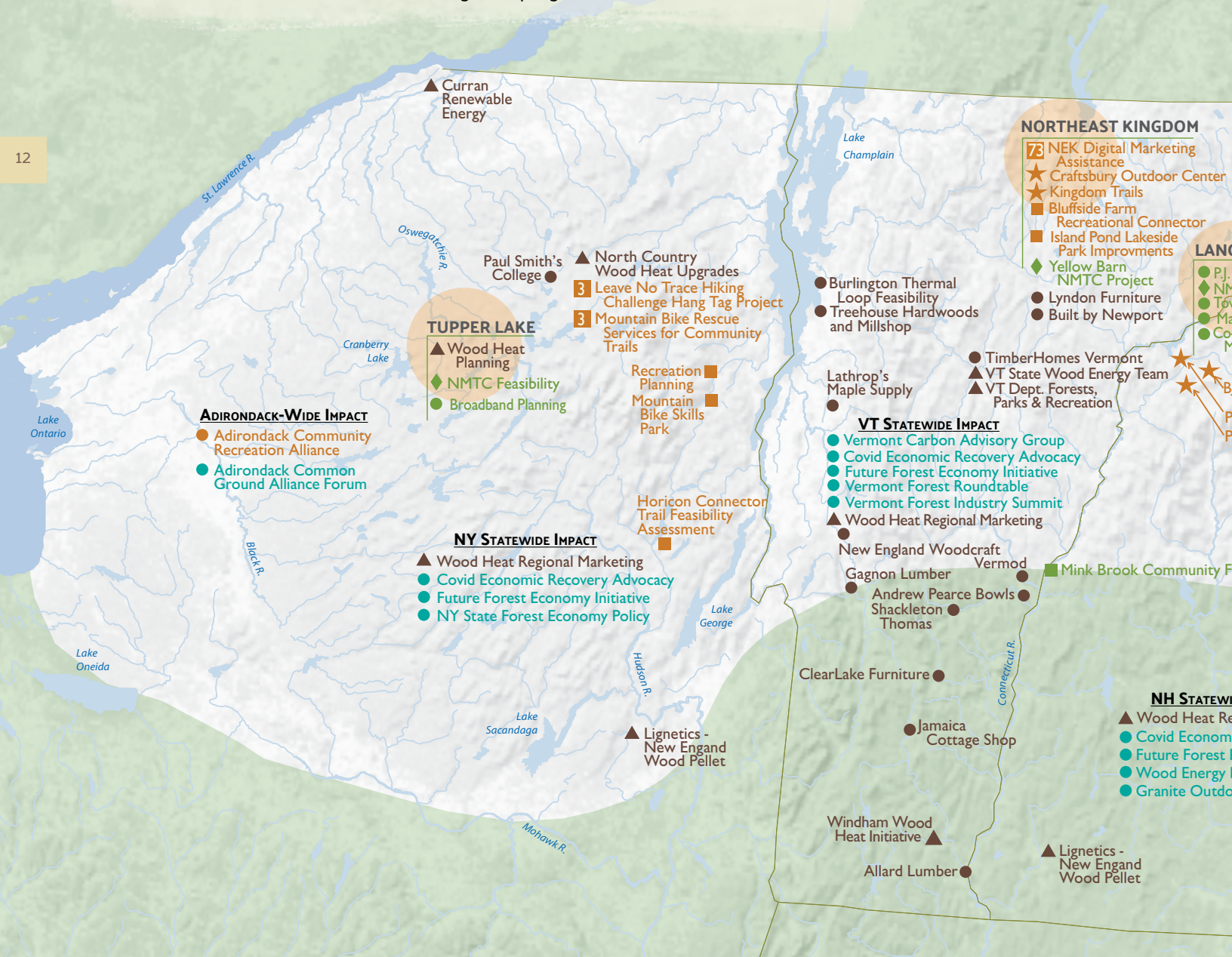
The Center fosters initiatives that keep young people and attract new residents eager to invest in community and steward the forest for future generations. Our programs help build active communities, create community assets and develop new leadership.

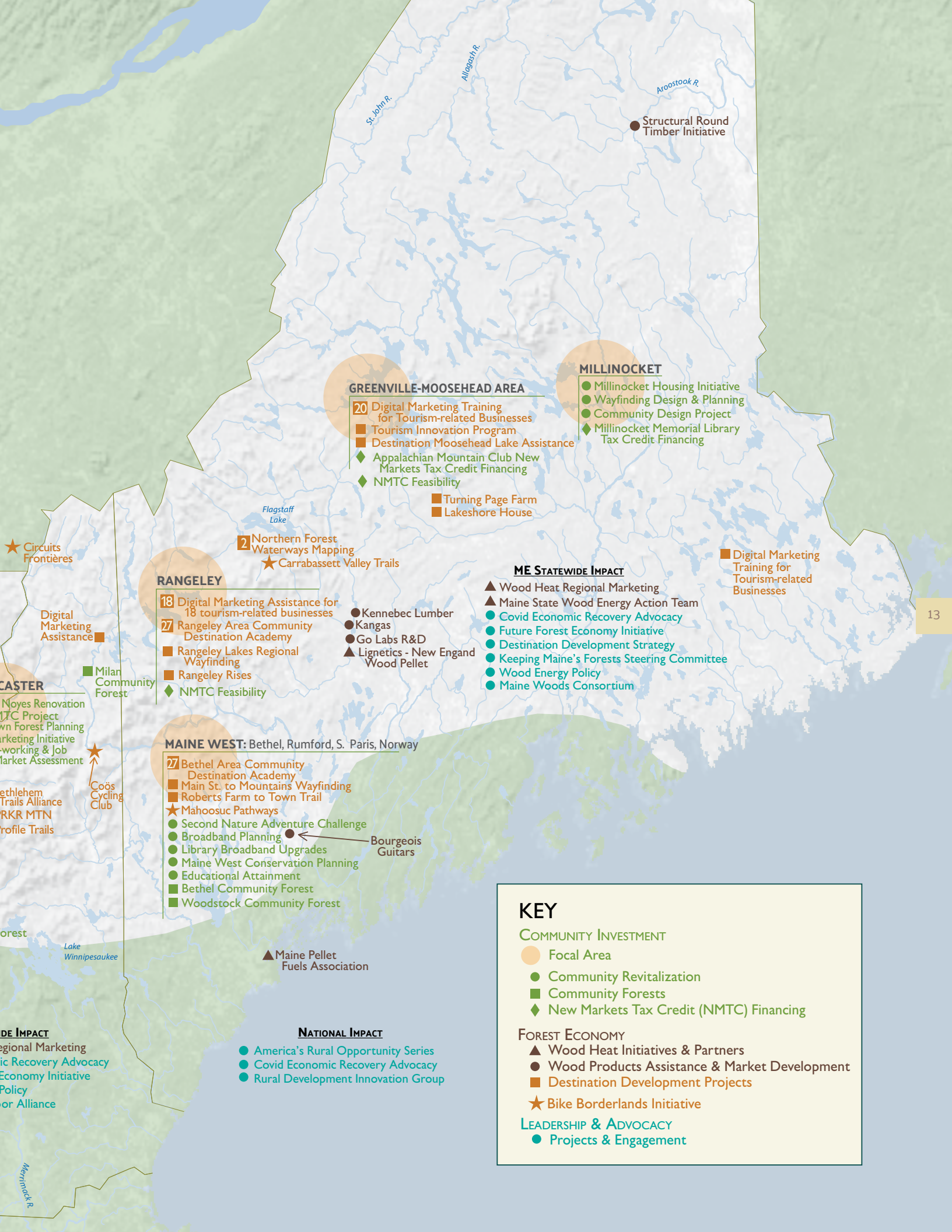
ADVANCING THE FOREST ECONOMY

The Center helps communities and businesses achieve their economic potential through technical and financial assistance, and peer consultation. We help develop new markets through investment and strategic leadership, and expand business opportunities, jobs and community benefit through destination development.

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP

The Center brings new ideas and resources to accelerate innovation across geographic, social and ideological boundaries. We leverage resources into the region to support projects, advocate for policies that benefit the region, and contribute to climate solutions through our programs.





GREENVILLE-MOOSEHEAD AREA

- 20 Digital Marketing Training for Tourism-related Businesses
- Tourism Innovation Program
- Destination Moosehead Lake Assistance
- ◆ Appalachian Mountain Club New Markets Tax Credit Financing
- ◆ NMTC Feasibility
- Turning Page Farm
- Lakeshore House

MILLINOCKET

- Millinocket Housing Initiative
- Wayfinding Design & Planning
- Community Design Project
- ◆ Millinocket Memorial Library Tax Credit Financing

RANGELEY

- 18 Digital Marketing Assistance for 18 tourism-related businesses
- 27 Rangeley Area Community Destination Academy
- Rangeley Lakes Regional Wayfinding
- Rangeley Rises
- ◆ NMTC Feasibility

- Kennebec Lumber
- Kangas
- Go Labs R&D
- ▲ Lignetics - New England Wood Pellet

ME STATEWIDE IMPACT

- ▲ Wood Heat Regional Marketing
- ▲ Maine State Wood Energy Action Team
- Covid Economic Recovery Advocacy
- Future Forest Economy Initiative
- Destination Development Strategy
- Keeping Maine's Forests Steering Committee
- Wood Energy Policy
- Maine Woods Consortium

MAINE WEST: Bethel, Rumford, S. Paris, Norway

- 27 Bethel Area Community Destination Academy
- Main St. to Mountains Wayfinding
- Roberts Farm to Town Trail
- ★ Mahoosuc Pathways
- Second Nature Adventure Challenge
- Broadband Planning
- Library Broadband Upgrades
- Maine West Conservation Planning
- Educational Attainment
- Bethel Community Forest
- Woodstock Community Forest

Bourgeois Guitars

▲ Maine Pellet Fuels Association

KEY

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

- Focal Area
- Community Revitalization
- Community Forests
- ◆ New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Financing

FOREST ECONOMY

- ▲ Wood Heat Initiatives & Partners
- Wood Products Assistance & Market Development
- Destination Development Projects
- ★ Bike Borderlands Initiative

LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY

- Projects & Engagement

NATIONAL IMPACT

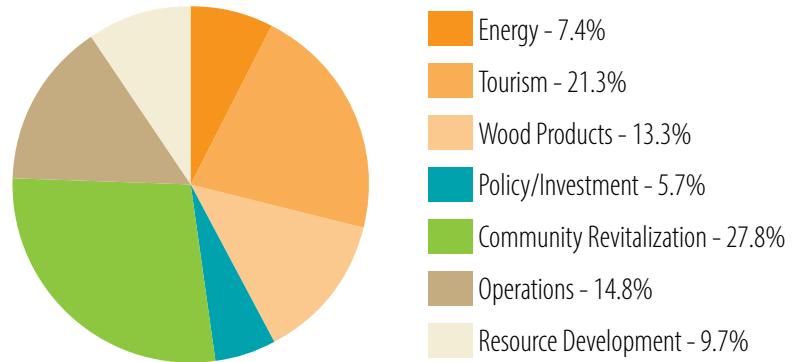
- America's Rural Opportunity Series
- Covid Economic Recovery Advocacy
- Rural Development Innovation Group

FISCAL YEAR 2020 FINANCIALS

The Northern Forest Center has a strong 20-year track record of diversifying income sources while providing consistent and ongoing program services to communities and partners. We create strong relationships and deliver on our promise.

	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>
INCOME		
Individuals	\$ 831,491	\$ 662,442
Corporations	217,879	97,977
Foundations	739,014	764,800
Public Funding	308,914	245,640
Program Income	183,588	188,971
Other	6,952	15,476
Total Income	\$ 2,287,838	\$ 1,975,306
EXPENSES		
Program	\$ 1,425,494	\$ 1,393,013
Operating	285,407	302,775
Fundraising	183,419	164,114
Total Expenses	\$ 1,894,320	\$ 1,859,902
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of Year	\$ 1,940,162	\$ 1,824,753
End of Year	2,333,680	1,940,162
Change in Net Assets	\$ 393,518	\$ 115,404

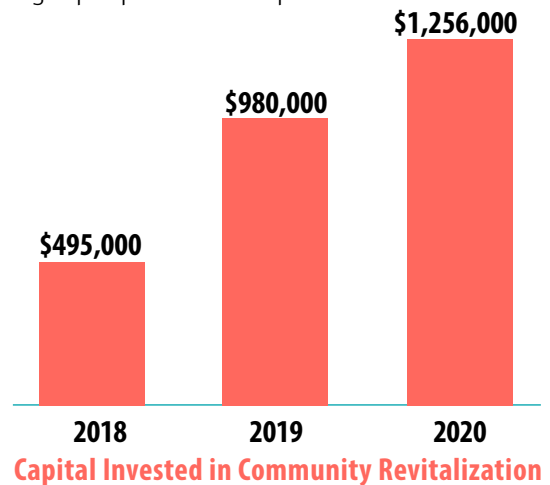
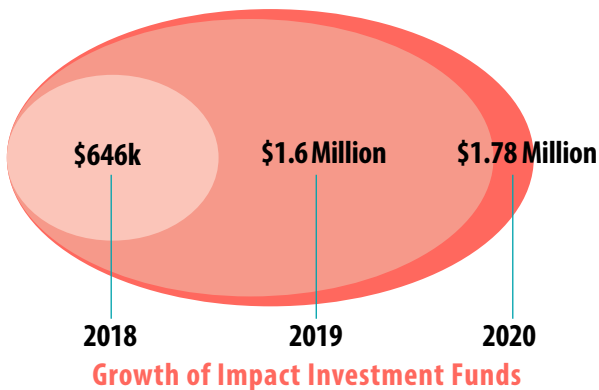
2020 EXPENSES BY AREA



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Community Impact Investment Funds

In addition to the Center’s funds above, the Center’s community impact funds are putting capital from individuals and foundations to work in targeted communities, producing a financial return while investing in residential and commercial property redevelopment. These funds enable the Center to implement strategies to invest in community infrastructure, diversify local economies, and retain and attract younger people and entrepreneurs.





THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

The Center is deeply grateful to the individuals, public agencies, foundations and businesses that invested in our work in Fiscal Year 2020, allowing us to provide direct support and expertise to people strengthening economic opportunity and environmental resiliency across Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York. This year we pay special tribute to donors who gave for the first time or increased their gift; each is noted by a green star.

INDIVIDUALS

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

President's Council members contributed \$1,000 or more to the Center last year.

\$25,000 and above

- Anonymous ★
- Geoffrey E. Clark & Martha Fuller Clark Fund - NHCF ★
- Judy Geer & Dick Dreissigacker ★
- Timothy & Joanie Ingraham
- Paul King ★
- Bill & Sheila McCarten ★
- Annette Merle-Smith
- Roger 🧡 & Margot Milliken
- Paine Family Fund - ACF ★
- You Have Our Trust Fund - NHCF ★

\$10,000 - \$24,999

- Anonymous (2) ★
- Colin & Paula Cabot
- George W. Merck Fund - NHCF
- Woolsey & Beatrice Conover ★
- Herr Family Fund - NHCF 🧡
- Harold 🧡 & Elizabeth Janeway
- James & Elizabeth Nichols ★
- Barbara Sweet

Key:

- 🧡 Staff 🧡 Board
- ★ New or Increased Gift

ACF – Adirondack Community Foundation
 MCF – Maine Community Foundation
 NHCF – New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
 VCF – Vermont Community Foundation

"In the last three decades, our work and lives have traversed the Northern Forest from Millinocket to Tupper Lake, and we've seen the region's economy in times of boom and bust.

"We feel it's imperative that the forest economy remain strong to provide for the region's people, communities, and businesses. We are happy to support the Center's work because its vision and programming makes a significant contribution toward reaching this goal."

– Lisa Reece & Steve Williams
Investors in the Center's Community Impact Funds



\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Prince/Bergh Family Fund - NHCF 🧡
- Joan Burchenal ★
- Elizabeth Ehrenfeld
- Sydney Lea & Robin Barone ★
- Richard Nichols
- Brian & Virginia Ruder ★
- Rebecca Saunders
- Elizabeth Steele
- Cashdan/Stein Great Grandmother Fund - VCF ★

\$2,500 - \$4,999

- Anonymous ★
- Tabitha Bowling 🧡 & Alyssa May ★
- Thomas & Dorcas Deans
- Frederick & Patrice Ficken ★
- Claudia & Peter Kinder Charitable Fund - VCF
- Pat & Chuck McLure ★
- Wilhelm Merck & Nonie Brady
- Charles & Lora Arter Fund, a fund of Stephen & Ann Smith - NHCF
- Lucas 🧡 & Yemaya St. Clair ★

\$1,000 - \$2,499

- Anonymous (2) ★
- Celina Adams 🧡 & Cameron Wake
- Evergreen Fund - ACF
- Buck Family Fund - MCF

- Jan Eastman & John Marshall
- Katharine Eneguess & Steven Given
- Jameson & Priscilla French
- Bradford 🧡 & Eugenie Gentry
- Pam Hall
- Rosa Hallowell & Mark Stein ★
- Brian 🧡 & Katherine Houseal
- Barbara Jordan
- Ken & Amy Kinder ★
- McIntyre Fund - U.S. Charitable Trust, in memory of Tom, Harry & Cid Southworth ★
- David & Wanda McLure
- Peter & Carolyn Mertz
- William & Mary Sue Morrill
- John & Susan Openowski ★
- Governor Wesley Powell Fund - NHCF ★
- Rob Riley 🧡 & Tabitha Deans Riley
- Keith Ross 🧡 ★
- Sean 🧡 & Laurel Ross ★
- Peter Schwab
- Evan Schwartz
- Kelly Short 🧡 & Steve Blackmer ★
- Neil Wallace
- Hartley & Benson Webster
- Stephen 🧡 & Margaret Wight
- Steve Williams & Lisa Reece ★
- Aaron Woolf & Carolyn Sicher ★
- Mark & Susan Zankel

COMMUNITY DONORS

\$500 - \$999

Batesole/Nordstrom Giving Fund - NHCF
Nancy & Reinier Beeuwkes ★
Taylor Caswell ★
Ellen Collins
Daniel & Jean Corcoran
Daniel R. Davis
David Foster & Marianne Jorgensen ★
Whitney & Elizabeth Hatch
Deanna Howard ★
Daniel Hudnut & Lynn Sheldon ★
Ginger Lawrence ★
Carola Lea
Dave Redmond
Julie Renaud Evans 🌸 & Kevin Evans ★
John Rogers
Katherine & William Schubart ★
Stuart & Jean Smith
Charles Spies
Bruce & Betsy Stefany ★
Pauliina Swartz ★
Jim 🌊 & Brenda Tibbetts
Peter & Lee Vandermark ★
Tim 🌊 & Mary Volk
Binney & Bob Wells
Ross Whaley 🌊
James & Catherine Wheeler ★
Ethan & Anne Winter
Carol & Joe Wishcamper
Wyman Family Fund - NHCF

\$100 - \$499

Maura 🌸 & Brian Adams ★
Rocky Bog Fund - ACF
Allenby Charitable Fund
(6) Anonymous ★
(3) Anonymous
Susan Bacon Clark & Patrick Clark ★
Dale & Maria Bardo
Richard Barringer & Martha Freeman
Brendon Bass ★
Sylvia Bates & Thomas Masland
Derek & Marique Beard in memory
of Put Blodgett ★
Charlotte Belser ★
Bill and Irene Berry ★
Suzanne & Bill Birchard ★
Donald Blackmer
Beth & Chris Blair ★
Putnam Blodgett ★
Marianne Borowski ★
Thomas & Alana Both

Darby & Liisa Bradley
Allan Braun ★
Craig & Kathy Byrum
Nathan & Judith Cantwell ★
Paul & Sandal Cate
Mark Chapdelaine ★
Richard & Paula Cipperly ★
William & Marta Clough ★
Tim Clough ★
Charles Clusen & Gail Curran ★
Gregory & Margaret Connors ★
Sarah & Peter Crow
Jerry & Gretchen Davis ★
Colleen Delaney & Gerard Guinta ★
Jane A. Difley ★
D. David & Barbara Douglass
Deborah Dubois ★
Derek Eastman ★
Midge & Tim Eliassen
Stephen Ellis
Sam Evans-Brown ★
Paul Fafard ★
Andrew Falender & Jackie Lenth ★
Peter & Deborah Fauver
Lewis Feldstein
Carolyn Fine-Friedman & Jerry Friedman
Carrie French 🌸 ★
Bridget Freudenberger ★
Charles & Hilary Garland ★
Marsha Gingue ★
Emery Goff
Wayne & Deborah Granquist Fund - VCF
Michael Griffin ★
Jason Guild ★
Kathryn Henry & Robert Center
Bob & Patty Burke Hickey ★
Alix Hopkins ★
Mark & Jennifer Hopkins ★
Kara 🌊 & Jason Hunter ★
Laura Isham ★
Thomas Kelsey
Chip Kimball & Susan Bryant Kimball ★
Robert W. Kruszyna ★
Ben & Jane Lannon ★
Ronald Lawler & Margaret Merritt
Tom & Laurie Leahy ★
Douglas & Sarah Luke ★
Zachary Manganello & Willow Stein ★
Scott Martel ★
John & Janine McClain
Matthew McKenna ★
Jennifer Melville & Alexander Abbott
Roman & Taunyia Miner ★
Howard Moffett & Lois Scribner ★

Susan Morris ★
John Mudge
Chip Newell ★
Ben & Anne Niles
Rob & Julia Nordgren
Doug & Ellen O'Brien
Alexa Pinard & Scott Kirschner
Granthia Preston ★
Augusta Prince ★
Warren Prince ★
Mia Purcell
Brad Ray & Rebecca Oreskes
Martha Reynolds & Sam Dashevsky ★
Elisabeth Robinson ★
David Rockwood ★
Nancy Roosa & Alex Moot
Clement Roy ★
Tom Rumpf & Annee Tara ★
Ann Ruzow Holland 🌊 & David Holland
David & Ellie Sanderson
Harriet Savage
Gordy Scannell 🌊 & Kimberly Moody
Steve Schley
Jim & Anne Schoff
Rhonda & Matthew Shippee ★
Ashley Short in honor of Joe Short
Joe 🌸 & Liz Short ★
Patricia & Alexander Short
Donald & Nancy Smith ★
Sally Horner Smyser ★
Racheal Stuart & Kate Hartnett
Garrett Stuck & Pamela Coravos
Schuyler W. Sweet ★
Chris & Wendy Thayer ★
Katharine Thompson
Lila 🌸 & Matthew Thorne
David & Barbara Thun
Janet Topolsky
Jamie & Laura Trowbridge ★
Amelia & Tom Wagner
William & Bonnie Webb ★
Norman Webber ★
Frederick Weyerhaeuser
Nancy & Bill White ★
Jim & April Whithed ★
Henry & Darcy Whittemore
Laurel 🌸 & Daniel Will ★
CherylAnne Williams
Katherine & Robert Williams
Mike Wilson & Carolyn Graney
Ross Wilson & Lauren Gale ★
Charlie & Merrie Woodworth ★
Charles Wooster & Susan Kirinchik
Robin & Douglas Zinchuk ★



Up to \$100

Anonymous (4) ★
Richard Alger
Bob Allen ★
Timothy Allison ★
Eleanor Bemis
Kristen Bergstrom ★
Jennifer Betournay ★
Teri Bordenave ★
Jennifer Brockway ★
Kevin Brooks & Jo Roy Brooks ★
Peter Carter & Deborah McLane Carter
Katie Casey ★
Thomas Christopher
Jennifer Clark ★
Ray & Christina Clark
Kenneth & Jacque Colburn
Wayne Cronin ★
Andrew Cushing ★
Rebecca Dahl ★
Emilie Tisch & Matt DeLaney
Courtney Delaney ★
Dr. Joseph & Katherine Donnery
Paul Doscher
Carl Eppich ★
Georgene Fabian ★
Jamie Feldman ★
Anthony Filauro
Katherine Fish
Lee Foster ★
Amy Godine ★
Bruce Gokey ★
Aaron Gorban ★
Thomas & Joan Graney
Allison Grappone
Alison Grass ★
Kate Griffin ★
Amanda Guididas ★
Kevin Hans ★
Robin Peters Henne ★
Doug Hill & Alexandra Breed ★
Megan & Helon Hoffer ★
Andrew & Sarah Hoffman ★
Graham Holmes ★
Patrick Hubein ★
Philip & Audrey Huffman
William & Meredith Johnston
Amy Kuzma & Brian Chamberlain ★
Marc Lachance ★
Anthea Lavallee
Gregory Leblanc ★
Lianna Lee ★
Paul Lepesqueur & Mary Kerwin
William Linney



FAREWELL TO NORTHERN FOREST GIANTS

Paul O. Bofinger and Harold Janeway were outstanding leaders in the non-profit world of New Hampshire and beyond. Both passed away in 2020, and we will miss their guidance, friendship and support.

Paul served on the Center's board from 2006 – 2014, and as chair for 2 years, guiding the Center through the 2008 recession and the transition from

its founding president. We miss the wisdom that

came from Paul's deep connection to the forests of the region – as forester, advocate and fisherman – and his good Yankee humor.

Harold's tenure on the board from 2012 – 2020 included 5 years as secretary and 8 years on the finance committee. His personal connection to each of the Northern Forest states enriched his perspective, and we counted on his quiet, clear thinking to guide us into new endeavors such as setting up impact investment funds.

We miss them both deeply and are grateful for all they gave us.



Andrew Lundquist ★
Dave & Jeanne Mason
Timothy Mather ★
Jim & Kelly McCann ★
Seamus McKillop ★
Lelia Mellen & William Shepard
Lawrence B. Morris
Marion Mundy ★
Benny & Tammy Nadeau ★
Gary Newfield ★
Charles Niebling
Jess O'Hare ★
Henry & Pauline Parker
Ben & Barbara Phinney
Kris Pieper ★
Dr. Louise Pietsch
Potente Huddleston Family Fund ★
Robert & Janet Quinn
Dr. Joseph & Ellen Ray ★
Kristine & Bruce Reid
George Robertson ★
Erin Robichaud ★
Molly Rogers ★
Glenn & Sonnhilde Saunders ★
Michael Schowalter ★
Joseph Schwarz ★
Tim Scott ★

Barbara Slaiby ★
Sarah Street
Matt Strickland ★
Elizabeth Swain & Chris Ayers
Eben Syptkowski ★
Neil Tenenbaum ★
Charles & Delia Thompson
Brian Thornton ★
Edith Tucker ★
Zack Urgese ★
Kim Votta ★
Frances Weeks ★
Keith Wight & Cindi Baker Wight ★
Suzanne Williams ★
Janet Wittenauer ★
Viki & Richie Woodworth ★
Kristina Zontini ★

In Memoriam

Don Blackmer	Dale Mayer
Put Blodgett	Elizabeth Nichols
Paul Bofinger	Linda Rockwood
Harold Janeway	Butch Wallace
Liz Kelsey	Carl Wallman
George Lovejoy	

BUSINESS PARTNERS

Backyard Concepts LLC ★
Blair Hill Inn ★
Britton Lumber ★
Brookfield Renewable Power ★
Butternut Mountain Farm
Cabot Hill Naturals, Inc.
Century 21 Moose Country Realtors ★
Community National Bank
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Crowne Plaza Resort Lake Placid ★
E.D. Bessey & Son ★
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New England
Entreworks Consulting
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Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, LLC ★
Iron Furnace Brewing ★
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Katahdin Federal Credit Union ★
Kel Log Inc. ★
Kingdom Trail Association ★
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Lyme Timber Company ★
Mascoma Bank
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Meadowsend Timberlands, Ltd ★
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Peters Construction Consultants, Inc. ★
PowerHouse Systems, Inc. ★
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Rick & Debbie LeVasseur ★
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Town of Saranac ★
Trivantus, Inc.
Union Bank
Vermont Renewable Fuels ★
Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund ★
Vigilant Woodworks, Inc.
White Mountain Cafe & Bookstore ★
Whiteout Solutions ★

FOUNDATIONS

Anonymous (1) ★
Boquet Foundation ★
Davis Conservation Foundation ★
Elliotsville Foundation, Inc ★
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Emily Landecker Foundation
French Foundation ★
High Meadows Fund ★
Highstead ★
Incourage Community Foundation ★
Jane's Trust ★
Cloudsplitter Foundation
Libra Foundation
Lintilhac Foundation ★
Maine Community Foundation ★
Maine Timberlands Charitable Trust ★
Mascoma Bank
National Life Group Foundation ★
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation ★
Overhills Foundation
Stifler Family Foundation
Stony Point Foundation
The Betterment Fund
The Cabin Foundation
The Gilbert Verney Foundation
Vermont Community Foundation
Weatherup Family Foundation ★

GIFTS IN KIND

Josh Linscott
Downs Rachlin Martin, PLLC
Horizon Engineering
Monadnock Paper Mills Charitable
Foundation
Wipfli

COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND INVESTORS

Anonymous (3)
Colin & Paula Cabot
Greg & Rita Cloutier
David & Andrea Craxton
Elliotsville Foundation, Inc.
Emily Landecker Foundation
Maine Community Foundation
Roger & Margot Milliken
Susan Morris
Chip Newell
Bo Norris & Cathy Houlihan
Pat Rettaliata
John Rogers
Peter Schwab
Tall Timbers Trust
Town of Lancaster
Steve Williams & Lisa Reece

PUBLIC SOURCES & NON-PROFITS

Adirondack North Country Association
Baxter State Park Authority ★
Casella Resource Solutions ★
Coös Economic Development Corporation
Empire State Forest Products Association
Empire State Forestry Foundation
Moosehead Marine Museum
New Hampshire Preservation Alliance ★
Northeastern States Research Cooperative
Northern Border Regional Commission ★
Ski Maine Association ★
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural
Development ★
U.S. Economic Development Administration
Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Board

This report is printed on Astrolite Silk, with special thanks to Monadnock Paper Mills.

Consider a planned gift to the Center

Planned gifts make a lasting difference to the Northern Forest Center's mission and the communities we serve. The Innovators' Circle is made up of Center supporters who – through estate planning, deferred giving, and other forms of planned gifts – ensure that the Center will have resources far into the future.

Join us in building a thriving and welcoming Northern Forest region sustained by innovation and environmental stewardship.

To find out more, visit our website (<https://nfccenter.org/legacy>) or **contact Lila Thorne, Director of Development at lthorne@northernforest.org or (603) 933-2159.** We'd be happy to work with you and your financial advisor to find the best planned giving option for you.

“We cannot thank the Northern Forest Center enough for their help and support at this critical time in our new business scale-up.”

**– Joy Bueschen
Turning Page Farm
Monson, Maine**



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The Center has helped entrepreneurs Joy and Tim Bueschen strengthen their business with grants from the Tourism Innovation Program.

The new greenhouse tasting room provides a warm, sunny space for customers in winter, and a new solar installation will help contain Turning Page Farm's energy costs—more crucial than ever with the economic challenges imposed by Covid.

OUR PEOPLE

Adirondack Community Recreation Alliance

- Rocci Aguirre, *Adirondack Council*
- Jeff Allott, *Solace Cycles*
- Kelly Brunette, *Franklin County Industrial Development Agency*
- Jeremy Evans, *Franklin County IDA*
- Sarah Keyes, *Endurance athlete, LaSportiva*
- Julia Goren, *Adirondack Council*
- Brian McDonnell, *MAC'S Canoe Livery & Adirondack Watershed Alliance*
- Matt Strickland, *Vert Outdoors*
- Josh Wilson, *Barkeater Trails Alliance*
- Aaron Woolf, *Elizabethtown Mountain Bike Ranch and Climber's Ranch and Deer's Head Inn*

Bike Borderlands Team

- Ollie Burruss, *Craftsbury Outdoor Center*
- Tim Clough, *Franconia Area NEMBA*
- Warren Gerow, *Carrabassett Region NEMBA*
- Aaron Gorban, *Coös Cycling Club*
- Shanna Hale, *PRKR MTN*
- Dave Harkless, *PRKR MTN*
- Jason Hunter, *Coös Cycling Club*
- Lilias Ide, *Kingdom Trail Association*
- David Lauzon, *Circuits Frontieres*
- Jim McCann, *Bethlehem Trails Association*
- Kelly McCann, *Bethlehem Trails Association*
- Chris Nicodemus, *Franconia Area NEMBA*
- Gabe Perkins, *Mahoosuc Pathways*
- Joshua Tauses, *Carrabassett Region NEMBA*
- Sara Thomson, *Franconia Area NEMBA*
- Sarah Weafer, *Mahoosuc Pathways*

Community Forest Network

- Neal Bungard, *U.S. Forest Service*
- Betsy Cook, *Trust for Public Land*
- Katherine Forrer, *University of Vermont Extension*
- Robert Heiser, *Vermont Land Trust*
- Marcy Lyman, *Consultant*
- Jenny Melville, *Open Space Institute*
- Gabe Perkins, *Mahoosuc Pathways*
- Steve Roberge, *UNH Cooperative Extension*
- Jan Santerre, *Maine Forest Service*
- Shelby Semmes, *Trust for Public Land*
- Keith Thompson, *VT Dept. of Forests, Parks & Rec*
- Tracy Zschau, *Vermont Land Trust*

Future Forest Economy Initiative

- U.S. Economic Development Administration
- U.S. Endowment for Forestry & Communities

Lancaster Community Development Advisory Committee

- Julie Aldrich, *Passumpsic Bank*
- Kendra Bell, *Cohos Advisors*
- Greg Cloutier, *Lancaster Cloutier Development*
- Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, *Town of Lancaster*
- Lise Howson, *Coös Economic Development Council*
- Maggie Jones, *Peter W. Powell Real Estate*
- Mike Kopp, *North Country Motor Sales*
- Ashleigh McEuen
- Andy Nadeau, *Horizons Engineering*
- Anne Paquin, *Trividia*
- Peter Powell, *Peter W. Powell Real Estate*
- Tammy Sanborn, *Smokin T's BBQ*
- Rob Scott, *White Mountains Regional School District*
- Dana Southworth, *Garland Timber Mill*

Mahoosuc Sustainable Tourism Committee

- Barbra Barrett, *Maine Mineral and Gem Museum*
- Amy Bernard, *Town of Newry*
- Karolyn Castaldo, *Sunday River Resort*
- Amy Halstead, *Table Rock Arts Center*
- Brad Jerome, *Bethel Inn and Resort*
- Vern Maxfield, *Town of Woodstock*
- Donna Moreland, *Maine Office of Tourism*
- Carolann Ouellette, *Maine Office of Outdoor Recreation*
- Jessie Perkins, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce*
- Loretta Powers, *Town of Bethel*
- Mia Purcell, *Community Concept Finance Corp*
- Kim Sparks, *Town of Greenwood*
- Robin Zinchuck, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce*

Maine West

- Allie Burke, *River Valley Healthy Communities*
- Betsy Cook, *Trust for Public Land*
- Lee Dassler, *Western Foothills Land Trust*
- Paige Gregory, *Appalachian Trail Conservancy*
- Ferg Lea, *Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments Androscoggin River Watershed Council*
- Stephanie LeBlanc, *Oxford County Mental Health Services*
- Gabe Perkins, *Mahoosuc Pathways*
- Jessie Perkins, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce*
- Mia Purcell, *Community Concepts Finance Corporation*
- Brendan Schaffler, *Healthy Oxford Hills*
- Ryder Scott, *University of Maine 4-H Camp & Learning Center at Bryant Pond*
- Amy Scott, *CORE*
- Kirk Siegel, *Mahoosuc Land Trust*
- Steve Wight, *Wight Enterprises, LLC*

Maine Woods Consortium

- Robert Clark**, Northern Maine Development Commission
- Dina Jackson**, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments
- Jen Peters**, Sunrise County Economic Council
- Donna Moreland**, Maine Office of Tourism
- Nancy Smith**, GrowSmart Maine
- Fred Michaud**, Maine Department of Transportation
- Morgan Spencer**, Greater Franklin Development Corporation
- Georgia Underwood**, Piscataquis County Economic Development Council
- Carolann Ouellette**, Maine Office of Outdoor Recreation
- Sandra De Urioste-Stone**, University of Maine
- Robin Zinchuk**, Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce

Millinocket Downtown Revitalization Team

- Jane Danforth**, Millinocket Regional Hospital
- Matt DeLaney**, Millinocket Memorial Library
- Sean Dewitt**, Our Katahdin World Resources Institute
- John Hafford**, Designlab
- Jessica Masse**, Designlab
- Cody McEwen**, Town of Millinocket
- Matt Polstein**, New England Outdoor Center and Katahdin Area Trails
- Steve Sanders**, Our Katahdin
- Mike Smith**, Outdoor Sport Institute
- Lucy Van Hook**, Our Katahdin

Northeast Kingdom Marketing Partnership

- Gene Devlin**, Quimby Country
- Jody Fried**, Catamount Arts
- Tara Holt**, St. Johnsbury Chamber of Commerce
- Lilias Ide**, Kingdom Trail Association
- Bruce James**, Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce
- John Kascenska**, Burke Area Chamber of Commerce
- Sarah Lafferty**, Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce
- Darcie McCann**, Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce
- Karen O'Donnell**, Top of VT/Jay Peak Area Chamber of Commerce
- Katelyn Robinson**, Northern Community Investment Corp.
- Anna Rubin**, Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium
- Katherine Sims**, Northeast Kingdom Collaborative
- Dave Snedeker**, Northeastern Vermont Development Association
- Mike Strait**, Island Pond Chamber of Commerce

Northern Forest Board Forum

- Brian Ball**, Lyndon Furniture
- Timo Bradley**, TimberHomes Vermont
- James Buchanan**, J. Buchanan and Associates
- Lucas Jenson**, TreeHouse Hardwoods & Millshop
- Julie Laforce**, Built by Newport
- Gary Marini**, New England Woodcraft
- Jim McHugh**, McHugh and Company
- Andrew Pearce**, Andrew Pearce Bowls
- Fred Prescott**, Thos. Moser

Wood Heat Marketing Executive Committee

- Mort Bailey**, Lyme Green Heat
- Dana Doran**, Professional Logging Contractors of ME
- Emma Hanson**, VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation
- Scott Nichols**, Tarm Biomass
- Charlie Niebling**, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions
- Les Otten**, Maine Energy Systems LLC
- Kelli Ramsey**, Curran Renewable Energy

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

Center staff contribute regional perspective and leadership to the following collaborations and initiatives.

- Communities Committee and Increasing Prosperity Initiative, FOR/Maine
- Connecting Health & Prosperity in Maine
- Granite Outdoor Alliance
- Hubbard Brook Advisory Council
- Human Powered Recreation Value Chain (NH)
- Keeping Maine's Forests Steering Committee
- Maine Broadband Coalition Advisory Committee
- Maine Mass Timber Working Group External Advisory Committee, Northeastern States Research Cooperative
- Rural Development Innovation Group
- Vermont Forest Industry Network
- Vermont Woodworks Council

 OUR PEOPLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Celina Adams, Kittery, ME – *Chair*
- Peter Bergh, Portsmouth, NH
- Paul O. Bofinger, Concord, NH – *Emeritus (deceased in 2020)*
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- Brad Gentry, Cheshire, CT
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- Kara Hunter, Gorham, NH
- Harold Janeway, Webster, NH – *Secretary (deceased in 2020)*
- Dave Marvin, Hyde Park, VT – *Emeritus*
- Roger Milliken, Portland, ME
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- Sean Ross, *Secretary*, Lyme, NH
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- Lucas St Clair, Falmouth, ME
- Jim Tibbetts, Columbia, NH – *Treasurer*
- Tim Volk, Charlotte, VT
- Ann Fowler Wallace, Boston, MA
- Ross Whaley, Tupper Lake, NY
- Steve Wight, Newry, ME

Welcome to new directors for Fiscal Year 2020

Christine Heinrich, East Burke, VT

CENTER STAFF

- Maura Adams, *Program Director*
 - Jackie Bowen, *Regional Programs Coordinator*
 - Mitch Breton, *Marketing Manager*
 - Carrie French, *Director of Operations*
 - Brittany Grutter, *Katahdin Project Manager*
 - Leslie Karasin, *Adirondack Project Manager*
 - Dave Redmond, *Director of Wood Product Initiatives*
 - Julie Renaud Evans, *Program Director*
 - Rob Riley, *President*
 - Sarah Schmidt, *Grants and Development Coordinator*
 - Joe Short, *Vice President*
 - Kelly Short, *Communications Director*
 - Lila Trowbridge Thorne, *Director of Development*
 - Laurel Will, *Director of Finance*
 - Mike Wilson, *Senior Program Director*
- Farewell and thank you to staff who have moved on to new adventures:**
- Ellie Brown, *Operations Program Assistant*
 - Courtney Delaney, *Grants and Development Coordinator*
 - Ailish Keating, *Katahdin Project Manager*
 - Lianna Lee, *Communications Specialist*

PROGRAM COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

- Bob Allen, *Eversource*, New Ipswich, NH
- Keith Bisson, *Coastal Enterprises, Inc.*, Brunswick, ME
- Cecilia Danks, *University of Vermont*, Burlington, VT
- Dan Corcoran, *North Woods Real Estate*, Millinocket, ME
- Roger Dziengeleski, Gansevoort, NY
- Kathy Eneguess, *Magalloway Consultants*, Jaffrey, NH
- Judy Geer, *Craftsbury Outdoor Center*, Craftsbury Common, VT
- Dave Harkless, *Littleton Bike & Fitness*, Littleton, NH
- Alex Ingraham, *Pingree Associates*, Bangor, ME
- Kenda James, *General Composites, Inc.*, Willsboro, NY
- Julie Laforce, *Built by Newport*, Newport, VT
- Terry Large, Grantham, NH
- Garrett Martin, *Maine Center for Public Policy Studies*, Bangor, ME
- Jessica Masse, *Designlab*, Medway, ME
- Mary McBryde, *Fidelity Foundation*, Boston, MA
- Kevin McDevitt, *McDevitt Trucking*, Manchester, NH
- Richard Nichols, *Nichols & Pratt, LLP*, Boston, MA
- Scott Nichols, *Tarm Biomass*, Orford, NH
- Janice St. Onge, *Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund*, Montpelier, VT
- Chris Thayer, *Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust*, Sugar Hill, NH
- Kate Williams, *1% for the Planet*, Waitsfield, VT
- Aaron Woolf, Elizabethtown, NY
- Robin Zinchuk, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce*, Bethel, ME



NORTH
COUNTRY
CALLING

North Country Calling

The Center and *Northern Woodlands* magazine produced a video series to share the stories of six young people who have chosen the Northern Forest as their home. Tune in to find out why they love it here: <https://bit.ly/2MbsCVA>

Photo: Ian MacLellan



Northern
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⤴ LIVING THE NEW FOREST FUTURE



The Center co-created the *Ride With Gratitude* campaign with our Bike Borderlands partners this year to encourage responsible mountain biking.

Ride With Gratitude acknowledges that using trails is a privilege. It asks riders to be respectful in how they treat landowners, other trail users, and the land itself.

We look forward to spreading this grateful attitude!

Photo: Joe Klementovich