

⤴ LIVE THE NEW FOREST FUTURE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Northern
Forest
Center

BUILDING THE NEW FOREST FUTURE



Center staff take pride in adding capacity to help communities reach their goals. We ask questions, listen first, and act second, guided by the expertise of local voices. Read staff bios at www.nfcenter.org/staff.

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.

Cover photo: A fungus creates the unique character of spalted maple, which is often used to make beautiful table tops, bowls, and decorative items. Photo by Rapid Eye.

The Reward of Resilience

Resilience is the watchword of our time, and with good reason: communities across the Northern Forest are buffeted by numerous challenges today, even as they seek to build thriving communities for tomorrow. Long-term stability and sustainability come with resilience – having the strength and elasticity to continuously adapt and overcome new challenges. Resilience is no longer a luxury. It's a necessity for meeting the ever-increasing changes and challenges of the world today.



We understand the tension between meeting immediate needs and finding time to plan for the future. And we understand the complexity of working across economic, community, and conservation disciplines. We believe that it is here – where time frames and disciplines intersect – that communities have the greatest potential to reposition themselves for economic stability and ecological resilience.

We ask questions and listen deeply to community partners about their priorities and respond with the know-how to develop strategies, find funding, and get to work in pursuit of gains today and resilience tomorrow. The stories in this year's report are only a few examples of how we create bold possibilities that give rise to a vibrant Northern Forest. Read on to see how:

- **Partnering with a small town** helps it make important changes;
- Funding **Master Logger certification** supports both the forest economy and forest stewardship;
- Creating new **outdoor recreation opportunities** enhances community;
- Investing today helps **build resilience for tomorrow**.

We so appreciate the many ways you make this work possible! **Together, we are building the New Forest Future!** Thank you.


Tabitha Bowling, Chair


Rob Riley, President

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Added Capacity Gets Things Done

In many small towns, local government is fully tapped to manage basic services and respond to crises, leaving little time to plan for the future. The Center lends its expertise to help communities pursue funding to achieve their goals – expanding high-speed internet, addressing housing needs, and building local capacity to invest in long-term community revitalization and climate resilience.

Each engagement is tailored to community needs. Through the *Maine West* collaborative, we help communities address rural challenges and enhance community well-being. In the Adirondacks, we shepherd the *Attracting New Residents* strategy to advance community revitalization projects. In Elizabethtown, NY, we revived an effort to add sewer and water service to the village center to create new opportunities. And in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, we convene the *Get NEKed VT* marketing collaborative to improve visitor experiences.

Through these programs, the Center helps communities increase their appeal and build long-term resilience to care for residents and the landscape for generations to come.

Courage to Take Big Steps

“It had been my wish for years for the towns in our area to work more closely together,” said Vern Maxfield, who has served as town manager in Woodstock, Maine, for 35 years. “The Community Destination Academy brought our towns together in a new way, which began to change things.”

Like most small towns across the Northern Forest, Woodstock has historically faced challenges alone rather than collaborate with neighboring towns. The lack of high-speed internet, the need for more workforce housing, and the struggle to guide growth while maintaining rural character are top-line issues for many communities.

Lately, things have been looking up. Stemming from the Center's Community Destination Academy, the towns of Woodstock, Bethel, Greenwood, and Newry teamed up with other local partners to create the *Mahoosuc Way* to guide sustainable destination

management. The same four towns, plus Gilead, set a shared goal for internet access and worked together to seek funding for broadband expansion. “The Academy helped us all to realize that our area is changing, and I wanted to be part of guiding that change,” said Vern.

With added capacity from the Center and partners, this spirit of collaboration helped engage partners across the region in Woodstock's successful bid to conserve 646 acres as the Bucks Ledge Community Forest last year. “I'm so pleased about conserving Bucks Ledge,” said Vern. “That's a 17-year dream come to fruition.”

“We would not be at the advanced stage in all these efforts if not for the Center,” said Vern. “The Center has driven the bus and it's been great. We've had help with education, tools, and funding. It's just been a great partnership.”

The view from Buck's Ledge Community Forest.
Photo by Chris Woodward.

“

We would not be at the advanced stage in all these efforts if not for the Center... We've had help with education, tools, and funding. It's just been a great partnership.

”

Added capacity from Center staff has helped Vern Maxfield work with other towns to guide change.
Photo by Carol Savage.





A Badge of Honor

Everett Thurston is a rarity – a professional logger only eight years into his career. After Paul Smith’s College, Everett followed his grandfather’s path and went to work in the woods. Now he’s built on the tradition by completing Master Logger Certification.

“It’s a badge of honor,” said Everett. “I’m part of a group, a class of professionalism that the industry needs. Certification holds you accountable and proves that you’re meeting standards” for protecting water quality, maintaining soil productivity, sustaining the forest ecosystem, and more.

Everett earned his certification through the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands, which expanded its certification program to include loggers in New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York, thanks to a grant from the Center’s Future Forest Economy Initiative.

Based in Brandon, Vermont, Everett helps landowners manage and improve their property

and fulfills logging contracts for the US Forest Service and sawmills. The wood he cuts goes for firewood, dimensional lumber, and wood pellets, or to paper mills in Glens Falls and Ticonderoga, NY.

The Master Logger Certification provides Everett a stamp of approval, expanding markets for the wood he cuts because it can be used in products that carry certifications. Third-party certifiers, such as the Forest Stewardship Council, let consumers know that the end product came from sustainably and responsibly managed forests that provide environmental, social, and economic benefits.

Everett knows that some people are against cutting trees, but he wants them to think about the contrast between using wood and fossil fuels. “The carbon in trees has not been buried for millennia, and when the wood goes into long-term products like lumber, its carbon is stored for decades, maybe longer,” he said. “We’re not developing land; we’re helping to regenerate another forest.”

“

Certification holds you accountable.

We’re not developing land; we’re helping to generate another forest.”

”

Everett Thurston earned Master Logger Certification to demonstrate his commitment to standards that sustain the forest. Photos by Devon Johnson.

Initiative Expands Wood Markets

Forests contribute the most to climate mitigation when they can provide sustainably harvested wood that can be used – instead of fossil fuels – to make the products people need while storing carbon in the trees that continue to grow.

Over the last three years, the Center’s Future Forest Economy Initiative supported the development of new markets for wood from the Northern Forest. These markets focus on expanding the use of renewable wood heat and durable, green alternatives to steel and concrete that will support the region’s economy, help mitigate climate change, and keep forests intact.

The Initiative invested \$3 million in testing new products, developing new markets, conducting research, and funding the Master Logger program, leveraging a 1:1 match for a total of \$6 million invested in expanding opportunities to use wood from the Northern Forest. The initiative is a cooperative effort of the US Economic Development Administration, US Endowment for Forestry & Communities, and the Center.

The Initiative also helped deepen certified wood markets and strengthen the supply chain for wood in the region. A grant to the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands helped certify 55 new certified Master Logger companies and brought critical training to 720 logging operators, which will lead to more certified, sustainably harvested wood available to buyers.





Bike Borderlands Expands Local Recreation Opportunities

Bike Borderlands, a collaboration of eight trail networks in three states and Quebec, is part of the Center's effort to energize rural communities and provide access to top-quality recreation opportunities.

Thanks to our generous funders, the Center invested \$167,000 in 12 trail building projects and programs last year. And the support goes well beyond funding to include strategic planning for the organizations, technical training, and perhaps most importantly, the *Ride With Gratitude* campaign.

All Bike Borderlands groups – and many other riding destinations and bike shops – participate in the *Ride With Gratitude* campaign to help instill a stewardship ethic among mountain bikers. The goal is to encourage riders to respect the gift of riding on private property, minimize impacts on trails and nature, show consideration for other people, and set a good example in every way. Over 1,100 people had taken the pledge by October 2023.

Bike Borderlands is helping communities connect people with the forest and meet the increased demand for outdoor recreation opportunities while stewarding the landscape.

Mountain Biking Cultivates Community

Shanna Maziarz discovered her love of mountain biking only after she'd joined the PRKR MTN Trails board of directors, which manages Littleton, NH's multi-use trail network. In her late 20s at the time, Shanna didn't know many people in the area and wanted to find a sense of community.

"I joined the board to give back to the community and ideally to get kids involved," said Shanna. "My first rides were on borrowed bikes, and I fell a lot but had even more fun."

"PRKR MTN is a completely volunteer-based organization, so having the power of the Center's staff and expertise to move projects forward is a great help," said Shanna. "Bike Borderlands has helped us get funding and connected us with other

networks in the region to learn from each other. The partnership with Bike Borderlands has helped us grow and be a better community asset."

Support from the Center contributed to two major trail improvement projects and helped fund a new youth program, buying bikes for kids to borrow and getting the town's Parks & Rec director certified to coach and lead rides.

Shanna's goal is to get more people out on the trails, especially people who might not normally be active or who are new to biking. "Mountain biking is great for mental health," she said. "The thrill of biking is that there's always some new way to challenge yourself, to improve."

“

The partnership with Bike Borderlands has helped us grow and be a better community asset.

”

Shanna Maziarz connected to mountain biking and her community through PRKR MTN Trails. Photo by John Tully.





Northern Forest Fund Invests in Communities

The Center is pioneering the use of integrated capital – a combination of impact investments and philanthropic gifts – to address the most significant issue facing the region – the lack of young families and workers.

We use capital from the Northern Forest Fund – now totaling more than \$21 million – to tackle the underlying issues. We redevelop quality in-town housing and mixed-use properties, enhance community recreation, create Community Forests, build stronger businesses, and help communities address near- and long-term challenges.

More than 100 individuals, foundations, community organizations, agencies, and businesses are making this catalytic work possible through their impact investments and philanthropic gifts.

The Northern Forest Fund is a unique model, delivering patient capital to help revitalize rural places, benefit residents, and steward the natural landscape of the Northern Forest.

Capital and Gifts Work Best Together

After living abroad, across the US, and traveling extensively, Connie and Craig Weatherup chose the Adirondacks as their permanent home.

“We love the natural beauty here,” explained Connie. “You walk outside, and it makes you feel wonderful.” The land around their home in Paul Smiths, NY, and the forests, mountains, and rivers of the Adirondack Park, fulfill their recreational and spiritual needs.

As they got involved in the region, Connie and Craig saw the challenges imposed by a dwindling population. “The demographic trends here dwarf everything,” said Craig, whose style of inquiry and commitment to solution-oriented strategies mirrors the Center’s.

“The objective – full stop – is to reverse the decline in young families and the collapsing of school systems,” said Craig. “I hope that five years from now we’re gaining in population of young families. That would really help the towns and villages.”

The Center – already engaged in community revitalization through its work in Millinocket, Maine, Lancaster, NH, and other communities – teamed up with the Weatherups and others to develop and implement the *Attracting New Residents Strategy*.

To tackle this complex issue, the Weatherups committed to a philanthropic contribution and an impact investment for the Center’s Northern Forest Fund. “Supporting the Northern Forest Fund seemed the best opportunity to move the needle,” said Craig. “Outright gifts have leverage, but capital also has leverage. They work best together.”

“We’re moving a piece of our investment portfolio to the Northern Forest Fund and accepting a more modest financial return but gaining a huge return in terms of community benefit,” said Connie. “It’s an easy decision to move money from Goldman Sachs to the Northern Forest Fund.”

“

It’s an easy decision to move money from Goldman Sachs to the Northern Forest Fund.

”

– Connie Weatherup

The Weatherups invest in the future of rural communities through their support of the Northern Forest Fund. Erika Bailey photo, courtesy of Adirondack Foundation.



Evolving to Meet the Region's Needs



“Millions of acres of forestland were conserved in the years after the Northern Forest Lands Council study,” said Steve Blackmer, the Center’s founding president (above, left), “but very little was being done to revamp the economy nor to address the needs of the region’s communities.”

The Center launched in 1997 to fill that void, working with a commitment to forest stewardship and regional leadership from the beginning.

“Our programs continue to evolve and serve the people and communities of the region,” said Rob Riley, the Center’s president since 2008. “We’re building toward achieving our vision of a thriving and welcoming region sustained by innovation and environmental stewardship.”

Three Eras of Achievement Stand Out in Center’s first 25 years

The Center’s ability to serve the region is based on the relationships and partnerships we’ve nurtured since 1997. Each era of our work has built on the one before, collectively enabling us to help position the region for economic prosperity and ecological resilience.

“By the 1990s, there was tension and anger about the use of the region’s forest and the future of the economy. The Center’s early work helped build relationships and cool this friction, making it possible for the groundbreaking work that followed, such as the Sustainable Economy Initiative, which created an economic strategy with strong support from all four states.”

Ross Whaley,
Tupper Lake, NY

“The Center put the spotlight on the connection between rural economic development and healthy forest ecosystems. They also emphasized the need for regional strategies and collaboration to move things forward. Beyond strategy, the Center has secured millions of dollars to provide incentives related to sustainable use of our forests, sharpening the focus on sustainability and preserving critically important jobs.”

Gaye Symington,
Jericho, Vermont

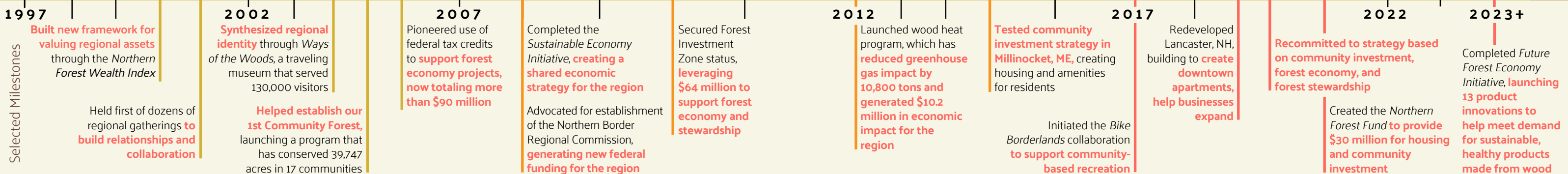
“The Center’s work provides elements that Northern Forest communities require for their long-term health and vitality. These investments in housing, broadband, recreational opportunities, and infrastructure benefit communities now and also provide a foundation for renewed confidence, thoughtful growth and stability for the future.”

Margot & Roger Milliken,
Portland, Maine

3 Investing Integrated Capital in Communities
Today the Center combines investment capital and philanthropic support to revitalize Northern Forest communities. Since 2017, we have infused more than \$12 million into property redevelopment and programs that help communities build for the future.

2 Catalyzing Innovation in Forest-Based Business and Outdoor Recreation
The next era of Center programs sparked innovation in and sustainability of the region’s forest-based economy by funding improvements and expansion in industry, tourism, and recreation.

1 Building Regional Identity & Strategy
Early Center programs focused people on common goals and shared values rather than divisions.



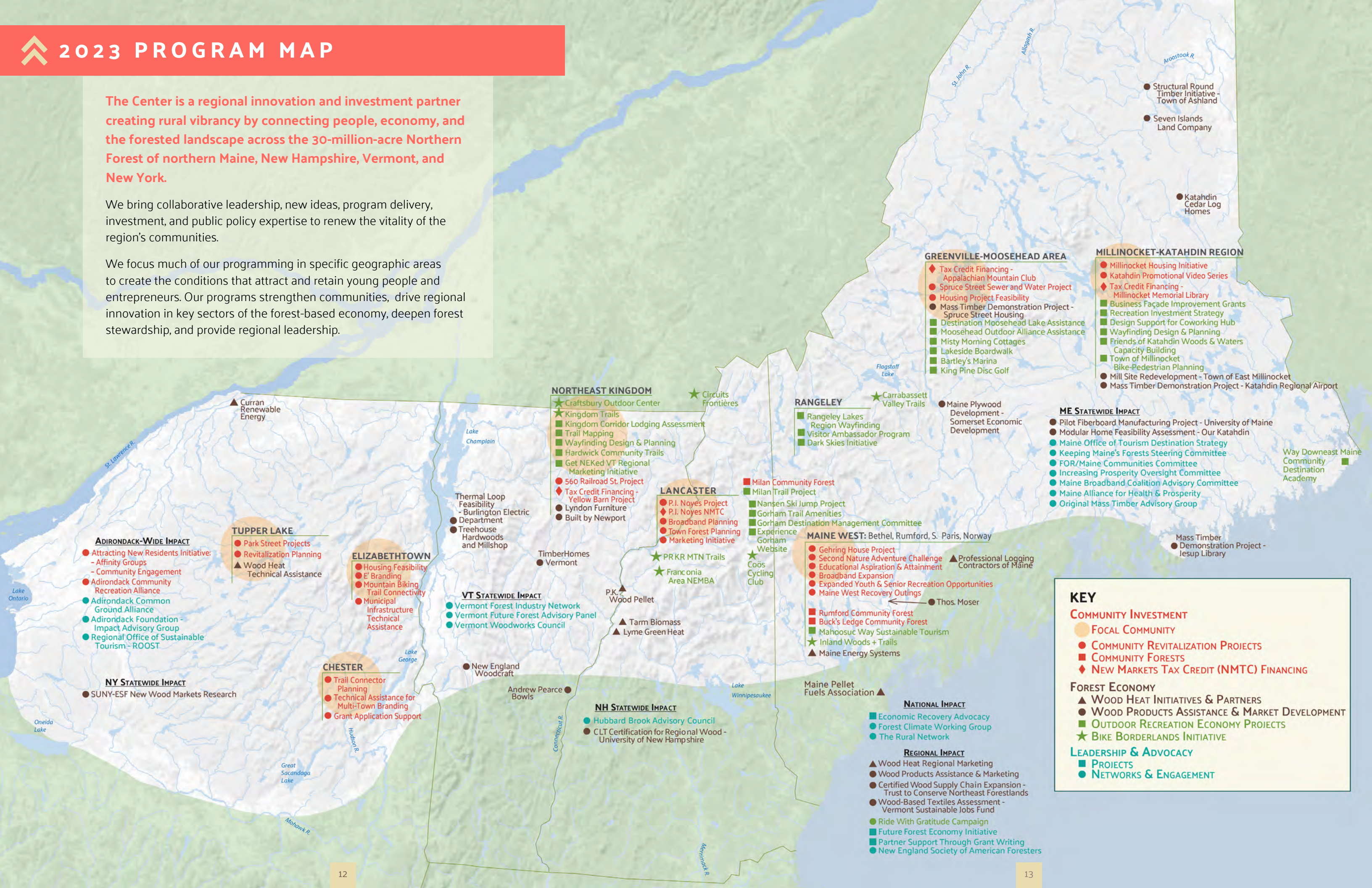
Building Partnerships, Capacity & Impact

2023 PROGRAM MAP

The Center is a regional innovation and investment partner creating rural vibrancy by connecting people, economy, and the forested landscape across the 30-million-acre Northern Forest of northern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.

We bring collaborative leadership, new ideas, program delivery, investment, and public policy expertise to renew the vitality of the region's communities.

We focus much of our programming in specific geographic areas to create the conditions that attract and retain young people and entrepreneurs. Our programs strengthen communities, drive regional innovation in key sectors of the forest-based economy, deepen forest stewardship, and provide regional leadership.



- GREENVILLE-MOOSEHEAD AREA**
- ◆ Tax Credit Financing - Appalachian Mountain Club
 - Spruce Street Sewer and Water Project
 - Housing Project Feasibility
 - Mass Timber Demonstration Project - Spruce Street Housing
 - Destination Moosehead Lake Assistance
 - Moosehead Outdoor Alliance Assistance
 - Misty Morning Cottages
 - Lakeside Boardwalk
 - Bartley's Marina
 - King Pine Disc Golf

- MILLINOCKET-KATAHDIN REGION**
- Millinocket Housing Initiative
 - Katahdin Promotional Video Series
 - ◆ Tax Credit Financing - Millinocket Memorial Library
 - Business Façade Improvement Grants
 - Recreation Investment Strategy
 - Design Support for Coworking Hub
 - Wayfinding Design & Planning
 - Friends of Katahdin Woods & Waters Capacity Building
 - Town of Millinocket Bike-Pedestrian Planning
 - Mill Site Redevelopment - Town of East Millinocket
 - Mass Timber Demonstration Project - Katahdin Regional Airport

- NORTHEAST KINGDOM**
- ★ Craftsbury Outdoor Center
 - ★ Kingdom Trails
 - Kingdom Corridor Lodging Assessment
 - Trail Mapping
 - Wayfinding Design & Planning
 - Hardwick Community Trails
 - Get NEKed VT Regional Marketing Initiative
 - 560 Railroad St. Project
 - ◆ Tax Credit Financing - Yellow Barn Project
 - Lyndon Furniture
 - Built by Newport

- LANCASTER**
- P.J. Noyes Project
 - ◆ P.J. Noyes NMTC
 - Broadband Planning
 - Town Forest Planning
 - Marketing Initiative

- RANGELEY**
- Rangeley Lakes Region Wayfinding
 - Visitor Ambassador Program
 - Dark Skies Initiative

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

- Gehring House Project
- Second Nature Adventure Challenge
- Educational Aspiration & Attainment
- Broadband Expansion
- Expanded Youth & Senior Recreation Opportunities
- Maine West Recovery Outings
- Rumford Community Forest
- Buck's Ledge Community Forest
- Mahoosuc Way Sustainable Tourism
- ★ Inland Woods + Trails
- ▲ Maine Energy Systems

- NATIONAL IMPACT**
- Economic Recovery Advocacy
 - Forest Climate Working Group
 - The Rural Network

- REGIONAL IMPACT**
- ▲ Wood Heat Regional Marketing
 - Wood Products Assistance & Marketing
 - Certified Wood Supply Chain Expansion - Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands
 - Wood-Based Textiles Assessment - Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
 - Ride With Gratitude Campaign
 - Future Forest Economy Initiative
 - Partner Support Through Grant Writing
 - New England Society of American Foresters

KEY

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

- FOCAL COMMUNITY
- COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROJECTS
- COMMUNITY FORESTS
- ◆ NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT (NMTC) FINANCING

FOREST ECONOMY

- ▲ WOOD HEAT INITIATIVES & PARTNERS
- WOOD PRODUCTS ASSISTANCE & MARKET DEVELOPMENT
- OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY PROJECTS
- ★ BIKE BORDERLANDS INITIATIVE

LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY

- PROJECTS
- NETWORKS & ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

Developed Options for Housing

Invested \$3.1 million to buy or renovate 6 properties for quality year-round rentals.



Helped Communities Attract Residents

Worked with 230 Adirondackers to assess community strengths and improve assets.



Served 135 Communities

Through programs, investment, fundraising assistance, and project implementation.



Maine West

Engaged 2,800 western Maine residents in outdoor activities with a focus on health, wellness, and raising aspirations.



Invested in Community Recreation

Awarded \$167,000 to help Bike Borderlands members create 7 trails, improve a well-loved pump track, and support youth programs.



LEADERSHIP

Impact since 2005



Supported 7,900 jobs.

Helped conserve 258,773 acres.

Secured & leveraged \$243 million to benefit communities, the economy, and forest stewardship.

STEWARDSHIP

Deepened Forest Stewardship

Engaged more than 1,200 people through webinars on forest stewardship to broaden understanding of the roles and benefits of forests.



FOREST ECONOMY

Strengthened Markets for Wood

Leveraged \$14 million in private investment to develop new forest products with potential to create market demand for 6 million tons of Northern Forest wood.



Set the Example

Engaged more than 1,100 mountain bikers to take the *Ride With Gratitude* pledge, committing to be grateful for the gift of trail riding, respect others, and protect nature.



Built Local Forest Ownership

Helped create a 646-acre Community Forest in Woodstock and began working with partners in Rumford on a similar project to help these Maine towns benefit from owning local forests.



Wayfinding

Led cooperative 5-town initiative to create a wayfinding system for the Katahdin region.



Increased Use of Wood Heat

Wood Heat program has reduced greenhouse gas impact by 10,800 tons and generated \$10.2 million in positive economic impact for the region since its inception.



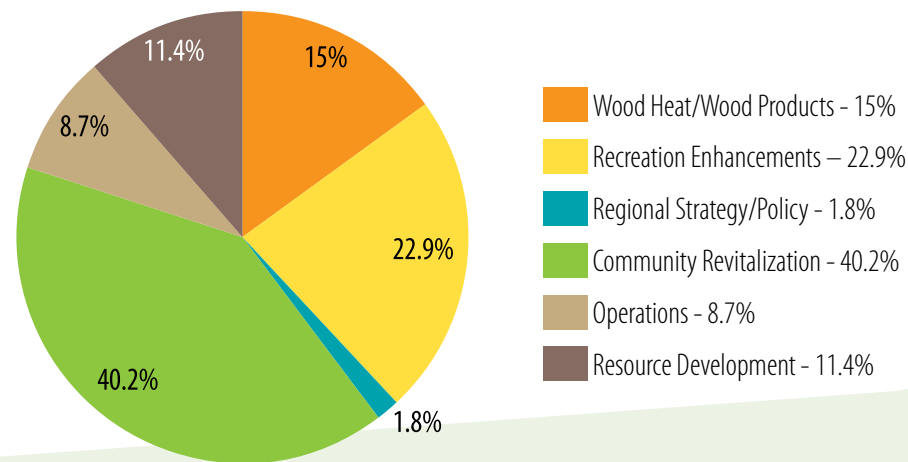
FISCAL YEAR 2023 FINANCIALS

The Center is grateful to the many supporters who have enabled our increased program delivery to people and communities across the Northern Forest. In FY23, donations to the Annual Fund totaled \$3.6 million to cover current expenses, and donations to the Northern Forest Fund totaled \$1.6 million. The Northern Forest Fund is an integrated capital investment vehicle we created in FY21 that will support community revitalization programs for the next decade.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (AS OF APRIL 30, 2023)

	FY 2023	FY 2022
INCOME		
Individuals	\$ 2,434,564	\$ 2,931,082
Corporations	104,907	26,475
Foundations	1,000,274	2,294,656
Public Funding	1,185,481	1,318,750
Other Earned Income	435,371	214,220
Total Income	\$ 5,160,597	\$ 6,785,183
EXPENSES		
Program	\$ 3,113,772	\$ 2,245,785
Operating	377,371	367,571
Fundraising	449,805	339,900
Total Expenses	\$ 3,940,948	\$ 2,953,256
Net Income	\$ 1,219,649	\$ 3,831,927

2023 EXPENSES BY AREA



ASSETS

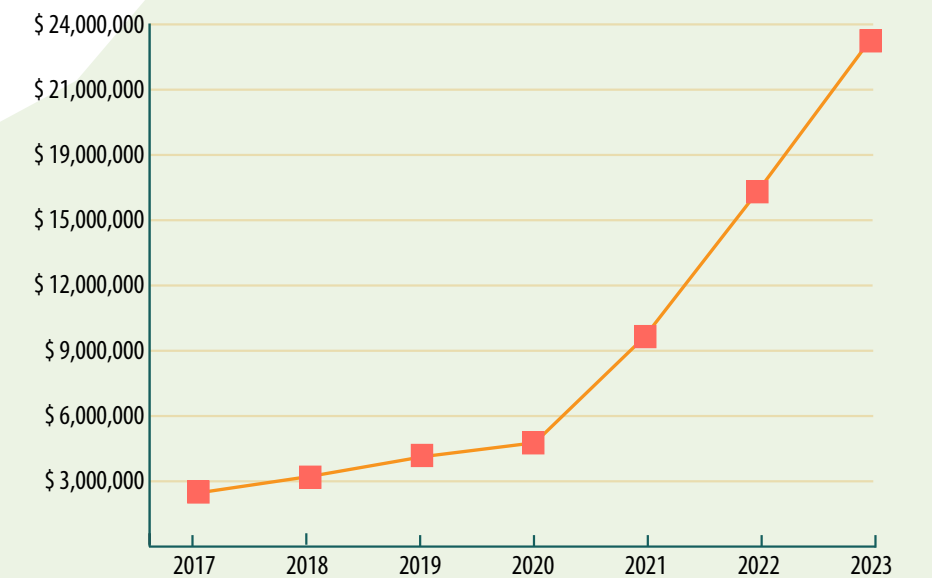
The Center's assets have grown more than tenfold since 2017 when we created our first impact investment fund to raise capital for property redevelopment. The Northern Forest Fund, an integrated capital vehicle that supports redevelopment projects and other community revitalization work, is the primary driver of the Center's asset growth.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (AS OF APRIL 30, 2023)

	FY 2023	FY 2022
Cash and short-term receivables	\$ 13,021,758	\$ 7,950,057
Fixed assets and construction account	7,533,728	4,809,672
Long-term receivables	3,088,891	3,579,069
Other Assets	55,941	153,430
Total Assets	\$ 23,700,318	\$ 16,492,228
Current liabilities	\$ 671,930	\$ 1,226,673
Notes payable: Impact Investments	14,936,236	8,393,052
Net assets	8,092,152	6,872,503
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 23,700,318	\$ 16,492,228

TOTAL ASSET GROWTH, 2017 – 2023

Impact investments and real estate purchases have increased Center assets significantly since 2017.



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 2023, enabling us to provide direct support and expertise to people strengthening economic opportunity and environmental resiliency across Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.

INDIVIDUALS & FOUNDATIONS

UP TO \$99

Richard Alger and Sharon Alger Little
 Tim Allison
 Anonymous
 Anonymous (5) ★
 Ryan Kelley ★
 Derek Avery ★
 Keith Wight and Cindi Baker Wight
 Woodie Bartley ★
 James Bateman ★
 Jacob Begnoche ★
 Frank Billings ★
 Jennifer Brockway
 Kevin Brooks and Jo Roy Brooks
 Rebecca Brynga ★
 Peter and Debbie Carter - FC
 Rich Carter ★
 Andrea Cass ★
 William and Marta Clough
 Liz Coffey ★
 Wayne Cronin
 Courtney Delaney
 Chastelyn Denishenko ★
 Joseph and Katherine Donnery

Key:
 ★ New Supporter
 🗳 Board 🌸 Staff

Donor advised gifts:

AF - Adirondack Foundation
 BCCF - Berks County Community Foundation
 CJP - Combined Jewish Philanthropies
 FC - Fidelity Charitable
 GSPF - Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund
 IA - Impact Assets
 MCF - Maine Community Foundation
 NHCF - New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
 RCF - Renaissance Charitable Foundation
 SC - Schwab Charitable
 TCI&I - Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing
 VC - Vanguard Charitable
 VCF - Vermont Community Foundation

Travis Dustin ★
 Ed Easter and Elizabeth Meadows
 Nils Eddy ★
 Amelia Favila ★
 William Ferdinand
 Anthony and Carolyn Filairo
 Michaela Fissel ★
 Sarah Garlick ★
 Kara Gingras ★
 Bruce Gokey
 Cheri Goodspeed
 David Gotjen and Linda Gray
 Michael Greenblatt ★
 Rebecca Greenfield ★
 Rachael Guay ★
 R John Hansman ★
 Robert Highland ★
 Mark Hilton ★
 Andrew and Sarah Hoffman
 Philip and Audrey Huffman
 Dave Hughes ★
 Chris Jandreau ★
 William and Meredith Johnston
 Mitchell Kalble ★
 Daniel Kilborn
 Jae Kim ★
 Anne M Krieg ★
 Barbara Lamont ★
 Terrance and Christine Large
 David Larkin
 David Lauzon
 Anthea Lavallee
 Cinny Lawrence ★
 Paul Lepesqueur and Mary Kerwin
 Paul Levang ★
 William Linney
 Justin Lipana and Hadley Gunnell ★
 Leslie Lorentzen ★
 Jen Markworth ★
 Art Marshall ★
 Sandra Martin
 Bridget Masur ★
 Meghan McCarthy ★
 Stephanie Mccoy ★

Jennifer McGarvin ★
 Justin McGiver ★
 Timothy and Betsy McKay
 Matthew and Nancy McKenna
 PJ Mears ★
 Chelsea Miller ★
 Carol and Robert Mills ★
 Wendy Moore ★
 Larry Morris in memory of Tom Howe
 William Morrocco ★
 Samuel Morton ★
 Ryan Muller ★
 Benny and Tammy Nadeau
 Gary Newfield
 Rebecca Oreskes
 Mark Ouellette ★
 Christian Parke ★
 Andrew Perchlik
 Anthony and Kirsten Phillips
 Laurence Pittis
 Samuel and Eli Powell
 Ayla Queiroga ★
 Sherri Randall ★
 Julia Randall ★
 Matt Reimert ★
 Celeste Renee ★
 Mary Resch
 Susan Ronson in honor of Isabella Ronson
 Charlie Roy ★
 Joseph Scaglione ★
 Anna Schaal ★
 Joseph and Liz Short 🌸
 Smith Ackerly Charitable Fund - FC
 John St. Onge ★
 Sam Stilwell ★
 Philip Taylor ★
 Emily Thibodeau ★
 Charles and Delia Thompson
 Karolyn Towle ★
 David and June Vail
 Kenneth Varnum ★
 Marian Violaris ★
 Millie Wignall ★
 Holly Zeller ★

\$100-\$499

Maura and Brian Adams 🌸
 Bob Allen
 Allenby Charitable Fund - SC
 Anonymous 🌸 ★
 Anonymous (2) ★
 Anonymous (3)
 Susan Bacon Clark and Patrick Clark
 Lee Bailey and Linda Rosenstock ★
 Dale and Maria Bardo
 Brendon Bass
 David Baum
 Eleanor Bemis
 Jerilyn Bergdahl ★
 Stuart and Barbara Bernstein
 Marc and Francine Bigney
 William and Suzanne Birchard
 Beth Blair
 Jon Blatchford ★
 Nancy Borden
 Marianne Borowski
 Thomas and Alana Both
 Allan Braun
 Deborah Brighton
 Joy Bueschen ★
 Thomas and Emilie Burack
 Maryellen Burke
 Craig and Kathy Byrum
 Ross Caron ★
 Katie Casey
 Paul and Sandal Cate
 Robert and Janice Chapman
 Philip R Chase, Jr.
 Alan Chesney and Elizabeth Nichols
 Thomas Christopher
 The Ken & Jacquie Colburn Fund - TCI&I
 Ellen Collins
 Margaret and Gregory Connors
 Warren and Brammie Cook - MCF
 David and Andrea Craxton
 Gretchen and Jerry Davis
 Colleen Delaney and Gerard Guinta
 Tory Dietel Hopps and Jonathan Hopps
 Barbara Douglass Family Fund - FC
 Thomas and Ruth Earle
 Tim and Midge Eliassen
 Stephen Ellis
 Sam Evans-Brown

Andrew J. Falender and Jaquelyn A. Lenth Charitable Trust
 Peter and Deborah Fauver
 Steve and Marty Feltus ★
 Holly Fowler ★
 Charles and Hilary Garland
 Elizabeth Gilmore
 Tony and Emily Goodwin ★
 David Grobe
 Thomas and Maria Gross
 Kathryn Henry and Robert Center
 Rebecca and Matt Hession 🌸
 Doug Hill and Alexandra Breed
 Ann Ruzow Holland and David Holland
 Deanna Howard
 Mary and Charles Howe Family Fund - NHCF
 Laura Isham
 Christopher Janeway
 Leslie Karasin and Steve Langdon 🌸 ★
 Thomas & Elizabeth Kelsey Fund - FC
 Chip Kimball and Susan Bryant Kimball
 Robert Kruszyna
 Bobbie and Brad Landers in honor of Joan Riley Burchenal
 Ben and Jane Lannon
 Ronald Lawler and Margaret Merritt
 Thomas and Laurie Leahy
 Zachary Manganello and Willow Stein
 Marshall Family Fund - NHCF
 Scott Martel
 Thomas Martin and Linda Weaver
 Dave and Jeanne Mason
 Vincent McClelland
 Garth McKinney ★
 Sheila McNeil
 Meadowhill Fund, Inc
 Randy Meyer ★
 Keith Milne
 Roman and Taunyia Miner
 Howard Moffett and Lois Scribner
 Moot Roosa Charitable Fund - FC
 John Mudge
 Charles Niebling
 Ben and Anne Niles
 Jessica O'Hare
 Megan Phillips ★
 Jay and Kelli Poulin

Fredric & Granthia Preston Fund - FC
 Mia Purcell
 Riva and Travis Reynolds
 Laura and Gilbert Richardson
 Sarah Riley
 Elisabeth Robinson
 Rose Family Charitable Account - SC
 Thomas Rumpf and Annee Tara
 Elizabeth Ruscitto
 Glenn and Sonnhilde Saunders
 John Schiffman in memory of Harold Janeway
 Schley Family Fund - FC
 Tim Scott and Sheila Kackley
 Amy and Ryder Scott 🌸
 Gillian and Geoff Sewake
 William and Jessica Sherman
 Ashley Short in honor of Joe Short
 Donald and Nancy Smith
 Constance Smith
 Sally Smyser in honor of Peter Schwab
 Bruce and Betsy Stefany
 Jan Stowell
 Nancy Stowell White and Bill White
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 Hartley and Benson Webster
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 Suzanne Williams
 Wood Family Fund - NHCF ★
 Robin and Douglas Zinchuk

\$500 - \$999

Celina Adams and Cameron Wake 🗳
 Anonymous - In honor of Janet Prince & Peter Bergh
 Ash Tree Fund - NHCF ★
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 Lilla Family Fund - NHCF
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 Pat and Chuck McLure
 Richard Moseley
 Chip Newell
 Walter Norman
 Norton Family Fund - FC
 Piney Fund - FC
 Ellen Pope and Patrick Welch
 Martha Reynolds and Sam Dashevsky
 Keith Ross 🗳
 Tom Shafer ★
 Patricia and Alexander Short
 Stuart and Jean Smith
 Amber Lessard & Will Tickle - FC
 Laurel and Daniel Will 🌸
 Ethan and Anne Winter
 Richie & Viki Woodworth, Woodworth Giving Fund - FC
 Charles Wooster and Susan Kirincich

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

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

\$1,000 - \$2,499

- Justin and Rachael Alfond ★
- Anonymous
- Richard Barringer and Martha Freeman
- Robert Bast and Laura Carlsmith
- Reinier and Nancy Beeuwkes
- Michael and Ellen Bettmann - FC
- Boomerang Fund - BCCF
- Buck Family Fund - MCF
- The Chiappinelli Giving Fund - FC★
- Daniel and Mary Jo Davis
- Jane Difley
- Jan Eastman and John Marshall
- Chris Hallowell and Cindall Morrison
- Sally Hart
- Alex Ingraham
- Kane Wallace Foundation
- Brigitte and Hal Kingsbury
- The Helen and John Kubach Trust - RCF 🌿
- Landgarten Family Fund - MCF
- Virginia Lawrence
- Carola Lea Fund - NHCF
- Bruce McLanahan ★

- Wilhelm Merck & Nonie Brady - SC
- Peter and Carolyn Mertz
- CAPP Family Fund, Peter & Ashley Milliken - NHCF ★
- Gail and Gerry Milliken
- William and Mary Sue Morrill
- Batesole/Nordstrom Giving Fund - NHCF
- Governor Wesley Powell Fund - NHCF
- Rob Riley and Tabitha Deans Riley 🌿
- Rocky Bog Fund - AF
- Gordon Scannell and Kim Moody 🌿
- Tugley Wood Foundation - William and Katherine Schubart
- Steve Blackmer and Kelly Short 🌿
- Kathie and Nat Sims
- Katherine Sims and Jeff Fellingner ★
- Pauliina & Peter Swartz Giving Account
- John and Anna Marie Thron ★
- Neil W. Wallace Charitable Giving Account - FC
- Robert and Binney Wells
- Sidus Fund - NHCF★
- Peter & Lee Vandermark Fund - NHCF
- Ross Whaley 🌿
- James and Catherine Wheeler
- Stan and Jenny Williams Family Fund - NHCF★
- Joe & Carol Wishcamper Fund - MCF
- Aaron Woolf and Carolyn Sicher 🌿
- Mark and Susan Zankel

\$2,500 - \$4,999

- Anonymous fund - NHCF
- Anonymous fund - VCF, recommended by Gaye Symington
- Benjamin Couch Charitable Trust
- Peter Bergh and Janet Prince
- Tabitha Bowling and Alyssa May 🌿
- Elizabeth Ehrenfeld
- Frederick and Patrice Ficken
- Nichols Family Gift Fund
- Sean and Laurel Ross 🌿
- Sharpe Family Foundation
- Peter Stein and Lisa Cashdan
- Larry Stifler and Mary McFadden
- David and Barbara Thun
- Tim and Mary Volk 🌿

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Anonymous (2)
- Charles & Lora Arter Fund, Stephen and Ann Smith - NHCF
- Gary and Sandy Bahre ★
- Thomas and Dorcas Deans
- Ernst Family Fund - AF
- Evergreen Foundation
- French Foundation
- Jameson and Priscilla French
- Brad and Eugenie Gentry 🌿
- Horizon Foundation, Inc.
- Lancaster Rotary Club
- Sydney Lea and Robin Barone
- Libra Foundation
- McCarten Family Fund - FC
- Nutshells Support Fund - VC
- Orchard Foundation
- Prompt Fund - FC
- The Wapack Foundation
- Madelaine G. von Weber Trust
- Wyman Family Fund - NHCF

\$10,000 - \$24,999

- Adirondack Foundation - Generous Acts Fund
- Anonymous
- Colin and Paula Cabot
- George W. Merck Fund - Patience and Tom Chamberlin - NHCF
- Woolsey and Beatrice Conover
- Davis Conservation Foundation
- Gerald Delaney 🌿
- Griffiths Wennrich Family Fund - NHCF
- Eric and Rebecca Herr 🌿
- Hoehl Family Foundation
- Elizabeth Janeway
- Lintilhac Foundation
- Lovett - Woodsum Family Foundation
- Maine Community Foundation
- New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- Overhills Foundation
- Paine Family Fund - AF
- Meredith M. Prime Fund 2 - AF
- Rebecca Saunders
- Peter and Daphne Schwab
- The Lucas R. St. Clair Gift Fund - GSPF 🌿
- Elizabeth Steele Fund - FC
- Barbara Sweet

\$25,000 - \$99,999

- Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments
- Anonymous 🌿
- Anonymous
- The Cabin Foundation
- Canaday Family Charitable Trust
- Geoffrey E. Clark & Martha Fuller Clark Fund - NHCF
- The Daybreak Fund
- Elliotsville Foundation, Inc
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- Emily Landecker Foundation
- IM Hopwood Trust

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- Roger and Margot Milliken 🌿
- Susan V. Morris
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- Steve Williams and Lisa Reece

- Peter J. and Jane K. McLaughlin Family Fund - IA ★
- Frederick and Susan Onion
- Peter Swift & Diana McCargo - SC★
- Weatherup Family Foundation
- You Have Our Trust

\$100,000 - \$249,999

- Anonymous
- The Betterment Fund
- The Freeman Foundation

\$250,000 AND ABOVE

- Kenneth and Vickie French ★
- Thomas W. Haas Foundation
- Paul King
- Annette Merle-Smith
- Onion Family Foundation

INNOVATORS' CIRCLE

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.

Planned gifts make an incredible and lasting difference to the Northern Forest Center's mission and the communities we serve.

To find out more about ways to donate a planned gift, please visit www.nfcenter.org/Innovators or contact Sarah Schmidt at 603-229-0679 or email sschmidt@northernforest.org.

- Anonymous
- Celina Adams and Cameron Wake
- Woolsey and Bea Conover
- Tabitha Bowling and Alyssa May
- Thomas Ciardelli and Andrea Reimann-Ciardelli
- Jan Eastman and John Marshall
- Kathy Eneguess and Steve Given
- Jennifer Huntington
- Carola Lea
- Susan V. Morris
- Patricia Rettaliata
- Rob Riley and Tabitha Deans Riley
- Jackie Tuxill
- Steve Williams and Lisa Reece



“We’ve made a bequest to the Center because we believe it is among the best in the non-profit sector. The organization’s leadership is visionary and responsive to opportunities and challenges in the communities of the bioregion. We cannot predict exactly what the Center will be focused on in 10 or 20 years, but we know its programs will reflect the authentic needs of the communities, in a part of the vast landscape we love.”

– Celina Adams and Cameron Wake



FISCAL YEAR 2023 DONORS

BUSINESSES & NONPROFITS

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 Britton Lumber Company, LLC
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 Burke Basecamp ★
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Coös Economic Development Corporation
 Maine Connectivity Authority
 Northern Border Regional Commission
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 Town of Dannemora
 US Department of Agriculture Forest Service
 US Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service
 US Department of Agriculture Rural Development
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GIFTS IN KIND

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 Tall Timber Trust
 The Betterment Fund
 Town of Lancaster
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 Vermont Community Foundation
 William and Jane Vinton
 Weatherup Family Foundation
 Weeks Medical Center
 Westmeadow Fund
 White Mountain Insurance
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 Bill Webb
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 Peggy Wight
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 Beverly Whaley
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BOARD, STAFF & COMMITTEES

OUR PEOPLE

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Dave Marvin, Morrisville, VT – Emeritus
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Lucas St. Clair, Falmouth, ME
Tim Volk, Charlotte, VT – Secretary
Ann Fowler Wallace, Boston, MA
Ross Whaley, Tupper Lake, NY
Aaron Woolf, Elizabethtown, NY

Special thanks to our retiring board members:

Chrissie Heinrich, East Burke, VT
Eric Herr, Hill, NH
Jerry Delaney, Sr., Saranac, NY
Steve Wight, Newry, ME

Welcome to new directors for Fiscal Year 2024:

Joy Bueschen, Monson, ME
Jess Griffiths, Bethlehem, NH
Charlie Niebling, Boscawen, NH
Megan Phillips, Keene, NY

CENTER STAFF

Maura Adams, Director of Community Investment
Adam Bailey, Adirondack Program Manager
Joe Fox, Outdoor Recreation Manager
Kendall Gray, Program Assistant
Rebecca Hession, Development Officer
Leslie Karasin, Adirondack Program Director
Suzanne Martin, Bookkeeper
Hannah McCarthy, Fundraising Coordinator
Evan Oleson, Railroad Street Redevelopment Manager
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Amy Robinson, Business Innovation Advisor
Isabella Ronson, Program Coordinator
Sarah Schmidt, Grants and Development Coordinator
Amy Scott, Program Manager
Kelsey Seeker, Marketing Director
Joe Short, Vice President
Kelly Short, Communications Director
Lila Thorne, Director of Development
Tori Valentine, Operations Manager
Laurel Will, Director of Finance
Mike Wilson, Senior Program Director

Farewell and thank you to:

Denise DeVoe-Hazelett, Katahdin Program Manager

BOARD COMMITTEES

In addition to directors from the Center's board (not listed), volunteers serve on several organizational committees:

Finance Committee Volunteers

Terry Large, Grantham, NH
Jim Tibbetts, Manchester, NH

Governance Committee Volunteers

Brian Houseal, Brunswick, ME
David Marvin, Hyde Park, VT

Investment Review Committee

The following volunteers serve along with members of the Finance Committee:

Peter Bergh, Partner, Prince Communications
Ela Chapin, Candidate for the VT House of Representatives
Mary McBryde, Climate Resilience for All
Robert McConnaughey, Corbin Advisors
Pauliina Swartz, Banking on Green

Northern Forest Fund Steering Committee

Peter Bergh, Portsmouth, NH
Katharine Eneguess, Errol, NH
Rosa Hallowell, Concord, MA
Sally Hart, Saratoga, NY
Tory Dietel Hopps, Cumberland, ME
Liz & Steve Jackson, NH
Susan Morris, Portland, ME
Fritz Onion, Wayne, ME
Megan Phillips, Keene, NY
Peter Schwab, New Castle, NH
Geoff Sewake, Peacham, VT
Katherine Sims, Craftsbury, VT
Lucas St. Clair, Portland, ME
Peter Stein, Norwich, VT



OUR PEOPLE

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Tim Volk, *Charlotte, VT*
Craig Weatherup, *Paul Smiths, NY*
Ross Whaley, *Tupper Lake, NY*
Robin Zinchuk, *Bethel, ME*

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Keith Bisson, *Coastal Enterprises, Inc., Brunswick, ME*
Mac Cloyes, *Blue Forest Conservation*
Dan Corcoran, *North Woods Real Estate, Millinocket, ME*
Cecilia Danks, *University of Vermont, Burlington, VT*
Jerry Delaney, Sr., *Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, Saranac, NY*
Gene Devlin, *Quimby Country Lodge and Cottages, Norton, VT*
Roger A. Dziengeleski, *retired, Gansevoort, NY*
Katharine Eneguess, *Magalloway Consultants, Errol, NH*
Jay Espy, *Retired Executive Director of the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, Freeport, ME*
Judy Geer, *Concept2, Craftsbury Outdoor Center, Morrisville, VT*
Charlie Hancock, *Consulting Forester, Montgomery, VT*
Dave Harkless, *Littleton Bike & Fitness, Littleton, NH*
Alexander R. Ingraham, *Pingree Associates Inc., Bangor, ME*
Kenda James, *General Composites, Willsboro, NY*
Julie LaForce, *Built by Newport, Newport, VT*
David Marvin, *Butternut Mountain Farm, Morrisville, VT*
Jessica Masse, *Designlab, Millinocket, ME*

Kevin McDevitt, *McDevitt Trucks, Inc., Dunbarton, NH*
Christine McGowan, *Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund*
John Moses, *Britton Lumber, Woodsville, NH*
Scott Nichols, *Tarm Biomass, Orford, NH*
Chris Thayer, *Appalachian Mountain Club, Sugar Hill, NH*
Steve Wight, *Newry, ME*
Robin Zinchuk, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce, Bethel, ME*

Adirondack Community Recreation Alliance

Jeff Allott, *Solace Cycles*
Kelly Brunette, *Franklin County Economic Development Corporation*
Jeremy Evans, *Franklin County Economic Development Corporation*
Julia Goren, *Adirondack Mountain Club*
Sarah Keyes, *Professional Runner*
Brian McDonnell, *MAC'S Canoe Livery & Adirondack Watershed Alliance*
Matt Strickland, *Vert Outdoors*
Josh Wilson, *Barkeater Trails Alliance*
Aaron Woolf, *Deer's Head Inn*

Bike Borderlands Team

Ollie Burruss, *Craftsbury Outdoor Center*
Tim Clough, *Franconia Area NEMBA*
Ugo Desgreniers, *Circuits Frontieres*
Aaron Gorban, *Coös Cycling Club*
Dave Harkless, *PRKR MTN Trails*
Jason Hunter, *Coös Cycling Club*
Lilias Ide, *Kingdom Trail Association*
Shanna Maziarz, *PRKR MTN Trails*
Gabe Perkins, *Inland Woods + Trails*
Joshua Tauses, *Carrabassett Region NEMBA*

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Allie Burke, *River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition*
Beth Clarke, *Maine West Education Director*
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Ferg Lea, *Androscoggin River Watershed Council*
Stephanie LeBlanc, *Oxford County Mental Health Services*
Gabe Perkins, *Inland Woods + Trails*
Jessie Perkins, *Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce*
Mia Purcell, *Community Concepts Finance Corporation*
Seal Rossignol, *Center for an Ecology-Based Economy*
Brendan Schaffler, *Oxford County Wellness Collaborative*
Ryder Scott, *University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Centers*
Kirk Siegel, *Mahoosuc Land Trust*
Korah Soll, *Rural Aspirations*
Steve Wight, *Newry, ME*

Northern Forest Board Forum

Brian Ball, *Lyndon Furniture*
Gabe Gordon and David Gordon, *Katahdin Cedar Log Homes*
Dave and Julie Laforce, *Built by Newport*
Gary Marini, *New England Woodcraft*
Jim McHugh, *McHugh and Company, facilitator*
Dan LaMontagne, *Seven Islands*
Andrew Pearce, *Andrew Pearce Bowls*
Fred Prescott, *Thos. Moser*

Wood Heat Executive Marketing Committee

Morton Bailey, *Lyme Green Heat*
Dana Doran, *Professional Logging Contractors of Maine*
Scott Nichols, *Tarm Biomass*
Les Otten, *Maine Energy Systems, LLC*
Kelli Ramsey, *Curran Renewable Energy Systems, LLC*

Ad Hoc Committees

The following ad hoc committees also contribute to the development and implementation of Center programs.

2024 Northern Forest Outdoor Recreation Symposium Steering Committee
Chester Advisory Committee
Elizabethtown Advisory Committee

Future Forest Economy Initiative
Gorham Destination Management Committee
Kingdom Corridor Rural Tourism Academy
Lancaster Broadband Committee
Lancaster Community Development Advisory Committee
Lancaster Marketing Committee
Lancaster Trails Group
Mahoosuc Way Steering Committee
Millinocket Downtown Advisory Group
Newport Rural Tourism Academy
Northeast Kingdom Regional Marketing Partnership
St. Johnsbury Advisory Committee
Woodstock Community Forest Committee

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

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

Adirondack Common Ground Alliance
Adirondack Foundation Impact Advisory Group
FOR/Maine Communities Committee
Forest Climate Working Group
Hubbard Brook Advisory Council
Increasing Prosperity Oversight Committee - Maine Development Foundation
Katahdin Collaborative
Keeping Maine's Forests Steering Committee
The Maine Alliance for Health & Prosperity
Maine Broadband Coalition Advisory Committee
Northeast Kingdom Collaborative
Original Mass Timber Advisory Group (ME)
ROOST - Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (NY)
The Rural Network (national)
Vermont Future Forest Advisory Panel
Vermont Forest Industry Network
Vermont Woodworks Council





Northern
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Center

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