FOR/MAINE

Strong forest. Strong economy. Strong communities.

Maine is 89% covered by one of the most advanced, productive, and sustainable "resources" imaginable – the forest. More than half of Maine's forests are certified sustainable, meaning they are managed for the health of the forest, wildlife, water quality, and economic contributions to the surrounding communities. They reduce carbon emissions as they grow, provide habitat for a huge variety of wildlife, invite recreation, and foster quality of life for residents and tourists year round.

Maine forests are also a longtime, critical anchor for the state's overall economy. For generations they have provided economic opportunity for Maine families and communities. Forest outputs can be made into a staggering array of products, from packaging and advanced building materials, to eco-friendly chemicals and biodegradable plastics (replacing harmful petro-chemicals), textiles, and cutting edge medical and technical products made from nanocellulose.

Technology, globalization, and evolving social trends are bringing change and new opportunities to Maine's traditional forest economy. The industry is adapting and diversifying in response, developing new economic revenue streams to produce sustainable, bio-based products for both domestic and global markets – all while conserving natural lands for recreation, tourism, and wildlife. Maine's forest communities are creating the conditions to attract investment and high-quality jobs to rural areas, including efforts to redevelop mill sites and improve broadband access in rural areas.

MAINE FORESTS

Wood Production
13 M tons of wood processed (2016)

Economic Impact
$8.5 B industry
$1/20 Maine GDP

Job Creation
35,000 jobs sustained
1/24 jobs in Maine

STRONG FOREST
STRONG COMMUNITIES
STRONG ECONOMY

89% forested
17.6 M acres
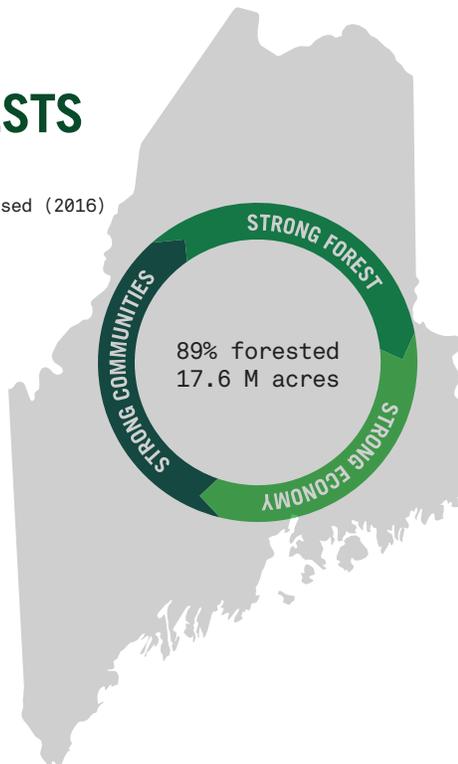
Recreation
Millions of acres of private working forests open for activities including fishing and hunting, hiking, rafting, canoeing and kayaking, skiing and snowmobiling, mountain biking

Wildlife
Home for wildlife, including moose, white-trailed deer and black bear, bobcats and the endangered Canada lynx, hawks, owls and bald eagles, wild turkeys, and the largest population of native brook trout in the lower 48 states

STATISTICS: MAINE FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL, MAINE FOREST SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

WHAT IS FOR/MAINE?

Forest Opportunity Roadmap / Maine (FOR/Maine) is a unique cross-sector collaboration between industry, communities, government, education, and non-profits, which have come together to realize the next generation of Maine's great forest economy.

The coalition was created with support from the U.S. Economic Development Agency and U.S. Dept. of Agriculture to assess Maine's current industry, assets and readiness, and determine a strategy to capitalize on new opportunities. We are combining collaborative actions, innovation, market and resource management expertise, and reliable data to guide smart investment and market expansion in the forest economy.

WHY MAINE FORESTS?

Maine forests have the attributes businesses and investors seek in renewable forest endeavors:

– Largest contiguous, privately owned working forest in the US: 16.3 million acres

– More than 50% certified sustainable

– Well-established forest industry infrastructure that can sustainably produce 13 million tons of wood per year

– Leading forestry school and forest products R&D facilities: University of Maine

– Proximity to the largest consumer market in the world: US eastern seaboard

– Deepwater ports offer direct shipping to Europe and around the world

WHAT IS FOR/MAINE DOING?

FOR/Maine's purpose is to ensure that Maine adapts to market changes quickly and strategically in order to maintain our leading role in the global forest economy.

Goal 1: Sustain and strengthen Maine's existing forest products businesses.

Goal 2: Attract capital investments and develop greater economic prosperity in the forest products sector, for both existing and new businesses across the state.

Goal 3: Support the revitalization of Maine's rural communities as places where people want to live, work and visit.
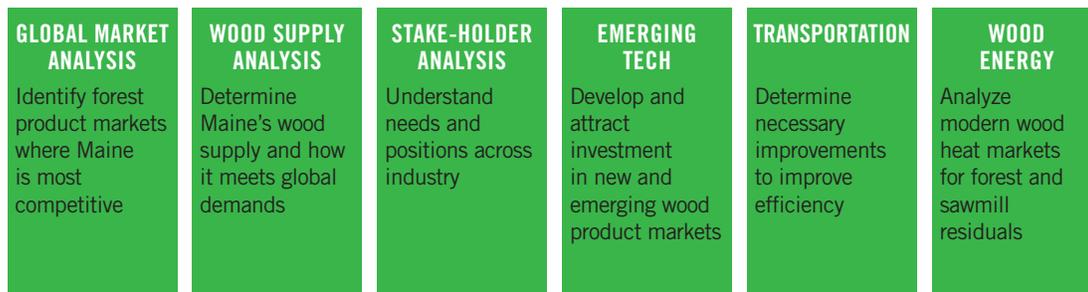
STEERING COMMITTEE

Patrick Strauch
Maine Forest Products Council

Yellow Light Breen
Maine Development Foundation

Donna Cassese
Sappi North America

Tom Doak
Maine Woodland Owners

Dana Doran
Professional Logging Contractors (PLC) of Maine

Steve Schley
Pingree Associates

Charlotte Mace
Biobased Maine

Stephen Shaler
University of Maine

Jake Ward
University of Maine

Peggy Daigle
Former Town Manager/Consultant

Andy Hamilton
Eaton Peabody

Charlie Spies
CEI Capital Management

DATA GATHERING

GLOBAL MARKET ANALYSIS
Identify forest product markets where Maine is most competitive

WOOD SUPPLY ANALYSIS
Determine Maine's wood supply and how it meets global demands

STAKE-HOLDER ANALYSIS
Understand needs and positions across industry

EMERGING TECH
Develop and attract investment in new and emerging wood product markets

TRANSPORTATION
Determine necessary improvements to improve efficiency

WOOD ENERGY
Analyze modern wood heat markets for forest and sawmill residuals

SYNTHESIS

GOALS & STRATEGIES
Synthesize findings into roadmap for realizing identified opportunities

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
Develop realistic and broadly supported implementation plan

MARKETING PLAN
Bolster public support and target desired investors and other critical stakeholders

COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP
Support redevelopment of idle mill sites and strengthen active mill communities

PARTNERS

MAINE

MAINE FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL

MAINE WOODLAND OWNERS

PROFESSIONAL LOGGING CONTRACTORS of Maine

BIOBASED MAINE
ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING

MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION