

**NER.COFE 2022 AGENDA**  
**April 11-12, 2022**  
**Jeff's Catering, Brewer, ME**

**Day 1: Monday, April 11**

**Topic: Workforce Capacity Issues/Solutions in the Forest Products Industry**

11:30 – 12:45    **Registration/Check in**

1:00 - 1:30pm    **Mechanized Operators Course-Professional Logging Contractors of Maine**

Dana Doran, Executive Director

A description of the course outline, progress to date, future plans moving forward.

1:30 - 2:00pm    **Workforce Shortages, Issues/Solutions-State Agency Perspective**

Robby Gross, Chief Forest Ranger, MFS; Bill Patterson, BPL

Discussion of how the MFS and BPL have, and continue, to work through the challenges of hiring and retaining employees.

2:00 - 2:30pm    **Workforce Issues-Programs Utilized to Increase Efficiencies**

Nathan Kay, Seven Islands Land Company

A discussion of some of the programs used by industry professionals to help solve the workforce issues for forest products companies today.

2:30 - 3:00pm    Break

**Topic: Forest Management & Markets Since COVID**

3:00 - 3:30pm    **Forest Lands and Pressure from Additional Demands**

Rick LaFlamme, ME IF&W

A discussion of how the ME IF&W has maintained management of its forest lands as pressures and demands have changed as a result of the pandemic.

3:30 - 4:00pm    **Forest Markets Update**

Eric Kingsley, INRS

An update of current forest product markets in the region.

4:00 - 4:30pm    **New Markets for Low-Grade Forest Products**

Shane O'Neill, Forest Industry Business Development Manager, UMaine

A discussion of some potential/ new markets for low-grade forest products based on research and testing ongoing at the UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Lab.

5:00 – 7:00pm **Social/Banquet**

4/11/2022 **“Workforce Capacity Issues/Solutions in the Forest Products Industry / Forest Management & Markets Since COVID”** has been assigned:  
**3.0 Category 1 Maine & SAF CFE credits**  
**½ day CLP recertification credit**

**Day 2: Tuesday, April 12**

**Topic: Forest Management for Wildlife**

7:00 – 7:50am **Registration/Check in** (for those not attending on Monday)

8:00 - 8:30am **Deer Wintering Areas**  
Dan Hill, Deer Habitat Biologist ME IF&W  
**Managing forest lands with consideration for our wintering deer herd.**

8:30 - 9:00am **Latest Bird Survey Update**  
Joseph Roy, Private Lands Wildlife Biologist, MEIF&W  
**Discussion of some of the latest survey data and forest management recommendations around some of our threatened bird species.**

9:00 - 9:30am **Moose/Winter Ticks**  
Lee Kantar, State Moose Biologist, MEIF&W  
**The status and management of our Moose herd as a result of winter tick infestations, and associated forest management guidelines/recommendations associated with enhancing Moose habitat..**

9:30 - 10:00am **Break**

**Topic: Zoning, Lidar, Pests in Forestry**

10:00 - 10:30am **Shoreland Zoning – Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Procedures**  
Terri Coolong, Maine Forest Service  
**A review and discussion of current shoreland zone rules and guidelines.**

10:30 - 11:00am **State OGIS/Lidar – The Use of Lidar for Enhanced Forest Inventory**  
Dan Hayes, Dave Sandilands, UMaine  
**A presentation about what data sets are available to our forestry professionals from the region’s state facilities.**

11:00 - 11:30am **Forest Pests & Diseases Update**

Michael Parsio, Maine Forest Service

An update on what forest pests and diseases are still a threat to the health and vigor of our forests, and ideas on how to manage for them.

12:15 **Lunch**

A brief business meeting will follow lunch. Anyone interested in joining next year's planning meeting is invited and welcome to attend.

4/12/2022 **"Forest Management for Wildlife / Zoning, Lidar, Pests in Forestry"** has been assigned:

**3.0 Category 1 Maine & SAF CFE credits**

**½ day CLP recertification credit**