### CHANGES IMPACTING MAINE'S FOREST INDUSTRY Results from Fall 2019 Survey

Compiled by: Alyssa Soucy, University of Maine

Forester

42%

TOP PRIMARY POSITIONS

Other

Biologist

Researcher

24%

10%

9%



We recently surveyed CFRU members as part of an effort to understand perceptions of weather variability and management strategies that promote healthy forest systems in Maine.

# Thank you to those who participated in the survey!

Land Manager

15%

**TOP SOURCES OF CLIMATE INFORMATION** 

48%

I and

Management

SUBSECTORS REPRESENTED

23%

19%

10%





Other

Government

Professional

Services





#### TOP 10 MOST FREQUENTLY EXPERIENCED CONDITIONS IN MAINE

**Poor Road Conditions** Winter Thaw Events **Extreme Precipitation Events Changes in Seasonal Precipitation** The majority of Changes in Seasonal Temperature participants viewed the **Intense Wind Events** condition as a ... **Invasive Plant Species** Negative **Changes in Wildlife Populations Both negative** and positive **Forest Health Issues** impact on the forest Lyme Disease industry 20 40 60 100 80 % of participants who observed condition within the last 5 years



#### **ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Believe that climate change will have a significant impact **64**% on the forest sector within the next 50 years



Believe that there are specific management practices available to help land managers adapt to climate change in Maine's forests

## **SUMMARY FINDINGS**

An overwhelming majority of participants experienced poor road conditions, winter thaw events, and extreme precipitation events within the last year - these were perceived by most as a negative impact on the forest industry. Both winter thaw events and extreme precipitation events were thought to be at least somewhat due to climate change, while there was less agreement for deteriorating road conditions. In agreement with experiences with climate conditions, the majority of participants were willing to improve road and culvert maintenance. Participants also were highly willing to implement management practices centered around promoting diversity and monitoring and removing undesired invasive species. While many participants (64%) believed that climate change was going to have a significant impact on Maine's forest sector, only 31% agree that there are specific management practices available to adapt to climate change and only 16% agree that current policies consider climate change impacts.

Thank you to all the participants who took part in this survey. If you have any questions about the study, please contact Alyssa Soucy at alyssa.r.soucy@maine.edu or Dr. Sandra De Urioste-Stone at sandra.de@maine.edu.

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