



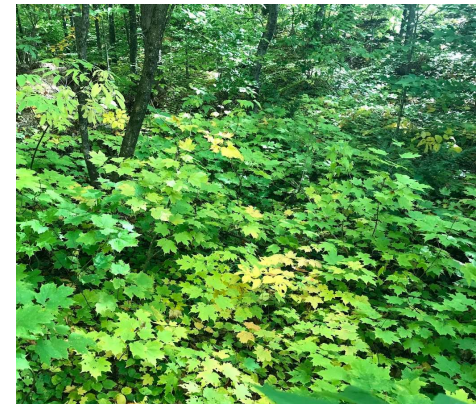
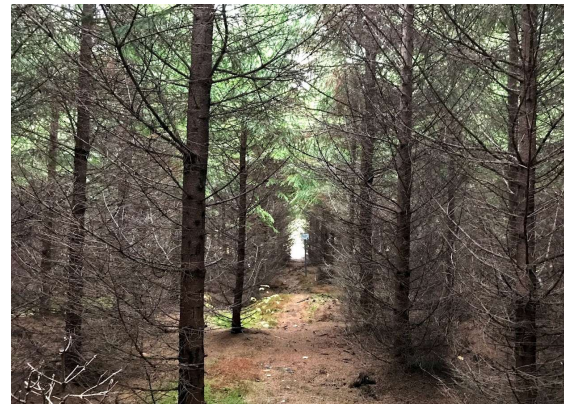
WoodsWISE Resilience Program

Nicole Rogers
Landowner Outreach Forester

MCC Natural Working Lands
Work Group

Program Overview

- \$9 million from USFS *Supporting Landowner Cost-Share Payment Program*
 - *Climate Mitigation & Forest Resilience* - \$4 million
 - *Carbon Stewardship* - \$5 million
 - Payments directly to landowners





Emphasis on Forest Resilience

Forest resilience measures how well forests adapt and respond to changing conditions. A resilient forest can resist disturbances, such as intense windstorms, or recover after insect outbreaks. While some trees or species may be lost, the forest ecosystem endures.



Eligible Practices

Early Stand
Tending



Regen Support



Forest Health



Emphasis on practices that are cost prohibitive & meet multiple goals

Early Stand Tending Practices

Early intervention in the forest to reduce density and/or shift species composition



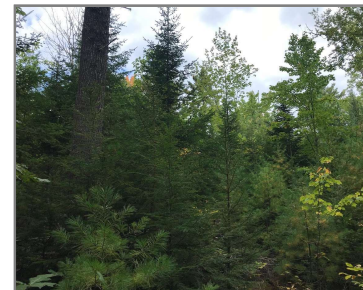
- Pre-commercial thinning
- Early commercial thinning
- Crop tree release



Regeneration Support

Actions that support establishment and growth of natural or planted regeneration

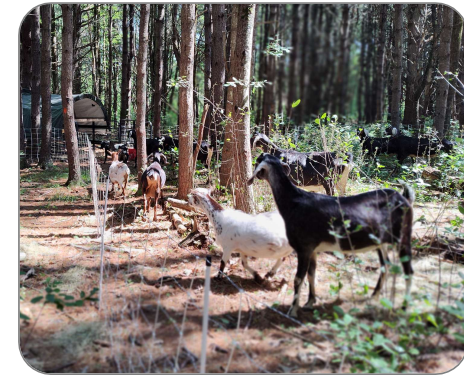
- Planting
 - Assisted migration or enrichment planting
- Regeneration protection
 - Temporary caging or exclosures
- Regeneration management
 - Support size and species diversity



Forest Health

Management specific to forest health concerns

- Invasive plant management
 - Chemical or mechanical
- Sanitation cutting



Eligible Landowners

Climate Resilience

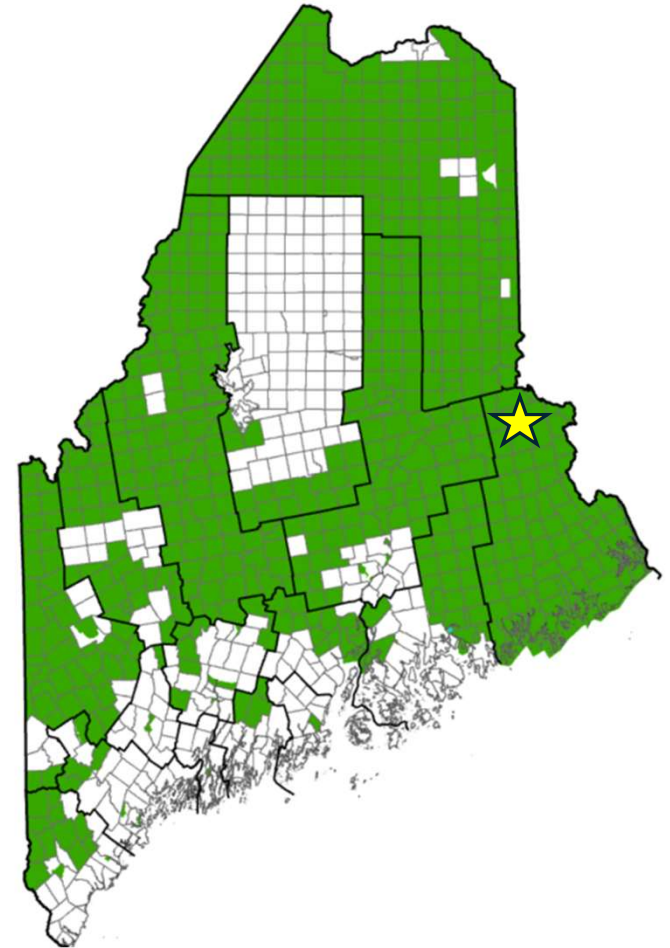
- Non-industrial owners
- Local government
- 10 to 1,000 acres
 - 5,000 acres with prior approval

Carbon Stewardship

- Private ownership
- Larger landowners
- Separate application
- [Opens Summer 2026](#)

Underserved Landowners

- Beginning farmers and forestland owners
- Limited resources producers
- Veterans
- Socially disadvantaged landowners
- Geographically underserved



Why We Are Tracking Underserved Status

- 40% of participants must be underserved per terms of the grant
 - Match waiver
 - 46% of other program participants are underserved
- 90% reimbursement for underserved
 - 60% for non-underserved





Program Timeline

- March 2026: Program Opened
 - Climate resilience funding
 - Summer 2026: Carbon funding opens
- December 2029: Grants close
 - 1 year no-cost extension?



Maine Forest Service Responsibilities

- Program development and administration
- Outreach and education
- District Foresters as point of contact
 - Site visits & technical assistance
 - Plan reviews
 - Practice closeout



Partnerships with Consulting Foresters

- Resilience Foresters trained by MFS
 - 80+, 4 trainings
- Write the Practice Plan
- Oversee implementation
- Responsible for client paperwork

WoodsWISE Resilience Program

Resilience Forester List
List of Licensed Foresters eligible to participate in
Maine Forest Service WoodsWISE Resilience Program

UPDATED: APRIL 23, 2026

To get a complete listing of all Maine licensed foresters, please contact the Board of Licensure at (207) 624-8521.



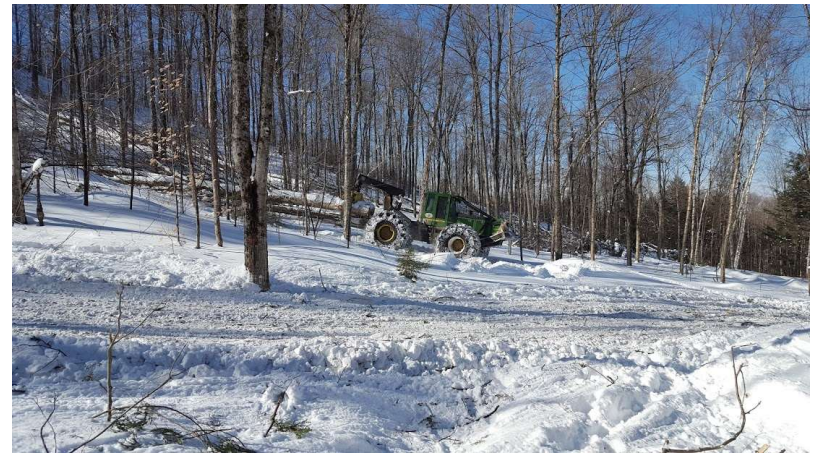
Maine Forest Service
Forest Policy and Management Division
Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
22 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04330
<http://www.maineforestservice.gov>





Payment Details

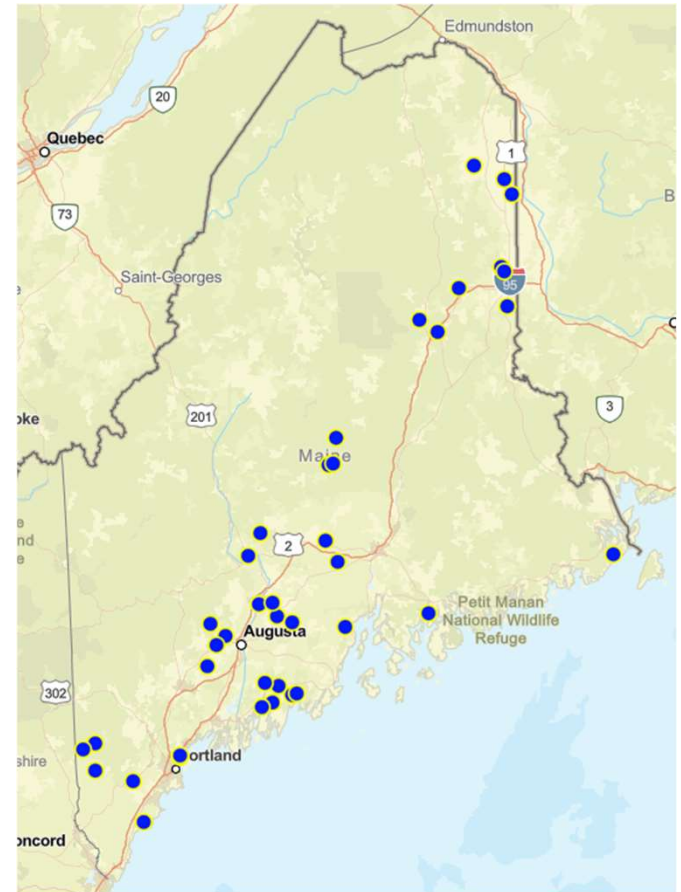
- \$20,000 landowner cap
 - Taxable income
- 90% reimbursement for underserved landowners
 - 60% for all others
- Payments cover:
 - Forester time
 - Practice implementation
 - Based on NTE rates



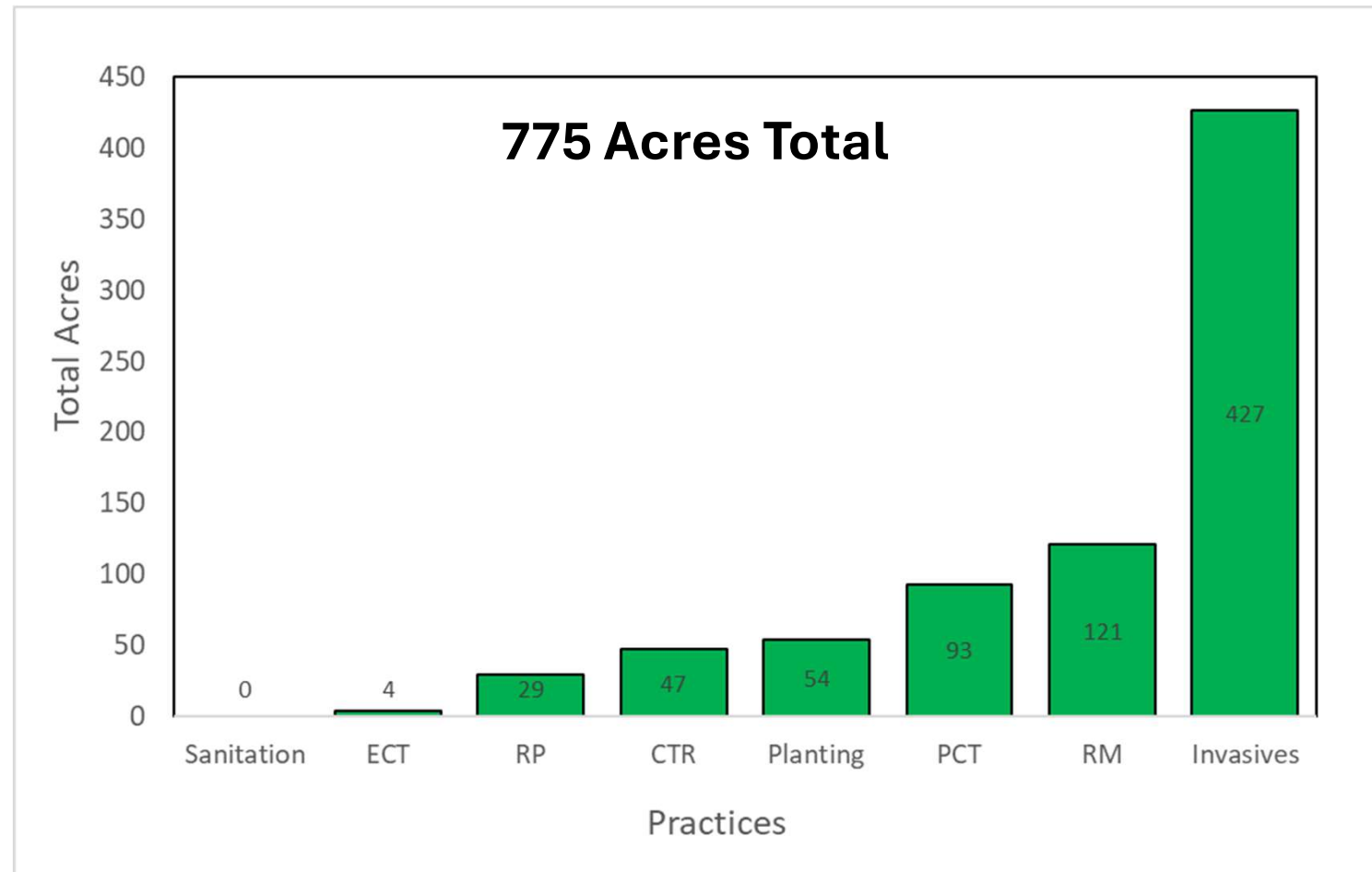


Program Rollout & Interest

- 46 Landowner Site Visits
 - 63% underserved
- Practice Rankings
 - Invasive plant management
 - PCT
 - Planting



Impact by Acres





Next Steps

- First round of applications to landowners on May 15th
 - Second round of applications on June 13th
 - Rolling application process going forward
- Carbon funding opens in June or July
- Applications accepted until funds are allocated

Thank You

Nicole.s.rogers@maine.gov

Landowner Outreach Forester

Maine Forest Service

207-446-3418

Additional Payment Details

- Practice plan: not to exceed \$500 per plan + \$200 per additional practice
- Forester time: NTE \$100 per acre
- Landowner hourly rate: NTE \$25.13 / hour
- 60% baseline reimbursement, 90% for underserved
- \$20,000 landowner maximum



Practice Rates

Practice	MFS NTE (\$)	Unit
PCT	1000	acre
ECT	650	acre
Crop tree release	650	acre
Crop tree release	5	tree
Planting	3000	acre
Planting	5	tree
Exclosures/tube shelters	800	acre
Exclosures/tube shelters	5	tree
Regeneration management	1000	acre
Invasive plant control	900	acre
Sanitation cutting	300	acre

When can LO Request Reimbursement?

- After the practice plan is complete
- After 50% of the work is complete
 - 5 acres or more
- When all work is complete
- Payment process initiated by Resilience Forester

Proof of Payment

- A copy of a check or a signed invoice for services rendered and paid
- Landowners must work with their forester to determine an acceptable plan for payment of services
- Resilience forester must sign off on work completed by a contractor or landowner
- Landowners are encouraged to keep all receipts/invoices for 10 years