



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
BOARD OF LICENSURE OF FORESTERS
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0035

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Joan Cohen
Commissioner

Public Board Meeting
July 31, 2025
Agenda

Location: 76 Northern Ave. Gardiner ME 04345

Room: Central Conference Room

Contact: Shara Chesley- 207-624-8524- Shara.Chesley@maine.gov

Time: 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

III. MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL
Review and approve June 6, 2025, minutes.

IV. COMPLAINTS
Represent- 2025-FOR-20548

V. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Registration of Unlicensed Person Discussion

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT
Under this item, the Board will offer an opportunity to members of the public in attendance to comment on any public matter under the jurisdiction of the Board. While the Board cannot take action on any issues presented, the Board will listen to comments and may ask staff to place the issue on a subsequent agenda. At the discretion of the Board Chair, a time limit on comments may be set.

VII. MEETING SCHEDULE
The next meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2025.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT



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**DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
76 Northern Ave Gardiner ME 04345**

**BOARD OF LICENSURE OF FORESTERS
MINUTES OF IN PERSON BOARD MEETING
June 6, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
John Ackley, Chairperson	Catherine Pendergast, Director
Keith Kanoti- Vice Chairperson	Elizabeth Stivers, Assistant Attorney General
Theodore Shina, Complaint Officer	Jazmyne Marks, Professional Licensing Supervisor
Harold Burnett	Shara Chesley, Office Specialist 1
Joseph Dembeck	
MEMBERS ABSENT	

Location: 76 Northern Ave Gardiner ME 04345

Start: 9:00 a.m.

End: 10:29 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, John Ackley at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

None

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Kanoti to approve the minutes of January 26, 2024, meeting. Shina, Kanoti, Burnett and Ackley voted in the affirmative. Dembeck abstained. Motion Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Kanoti to elect Ackley as Chair, Kanoti as Vice-Chair and Shina as Complaint officer. Unanimous.

COMPLAINTS

2025-FOR-20548 -A motion was made by Kanoti and seconded by Ackley to table to gather additional information. Ackley, Kanoti, Burnett and Dembeck voted in the affirmative. Shina abstained. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Forester Application (AD): A motion was made by Ackley and seconded by Shina that the applicant meets the education and experience requirements for licensure and is approved to sit for the SAF Maine Specific 30 Question Exam. Unanimous.

Forester Application (ARK): A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Kanoti that the applicant does not meet the experience requirement for licensure and the application was denied. Shina recused. Ackley, Kanoti, Burnett, and Dembeck voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Kanoti to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m. Unanimous.

To: Board Members
From: Catherine E. Pendergast, Administrator
Date: July 9, 2025
Subject: Forester Registration of Unlicensed Persons

The following information is provided for discussion of registration of unlicensed persons. Board staff emails the attached notice, "Important Reminder to Foresters: Registration of Unlicensed Individuals" to all licensed foresters twice a year (April & December). The notice is also posted on the Board website.

Applicable Law/Rule

32 M.R.S. §5501 (4)

4. Forestry. "Forestry" means services relating to forestry requiring the application of forestry principles and techniques. The services include, but are not limited to, investigations, consultations, timber inventory, development of forest management plans, responsible supervision of forest management, forest utilization, appraisal of severed or unsevered timber, forest economics or other forestry activities as carried out in connection with any public or private lands. "Forestry" does not include services for the physical implementation of cutting, hauling, handling or processing of forest products or for the physical implementation of timber stand improvements or other silvicultural activities or measuring or scaling activities performed by persons licensed under Title 10, section 2365-A.

32 M.R.S. §5502. License required

Except as provided in section 5503, it is unlawful for a person to practice forestry or advertise or offer to practice forestry without a license issued under this chapter.

32 M.R.S. §5503 Exemptions to licensing

A license is not required for forestry activities conducted by:

1. Forestry instructional and educational institutions. A forestry instructional and educational institution approved by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the laws of the State or a program of education at an institution licensed or approved by the State to grant a bachelor's or higher degree;

2. Federal Government employee. Federal Government employees conducting forestry practices within the scope of their employment;

3. Person registered and practicing forestry. A person registered and practicing forestry under the supervision of a forester as set forth by section 5515, subsection 10, paragraph B; or

4. Owner. An owner managing or otherwise conducting forestry practices on that owner's land.

32 M.R.S. 5515 (10)

10. Sponsor; supervisor. A forester:

A. May act as a sponsor for an intern forester pursuant to the requirements of section 5514 and rules adopted by the board; and [PL 2001, c. 261, §4 (NEW).]

B. Must register with the board to supervise the activities of an unlicensed person pursuant to rules adopted by the board.

**02 DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL
REGULATION**

333 BOARD OF LICENSURE OF FORESTERS

**Chapter 90: REGISTRATION OF FORESTERS FOR THE SUPERVISION OF
UNLICENSED 'PERSONNEL**

Summary: This chapter implements a registration system for foresters who supervise unlicensed individuals in the practice of forestry.

1. General

1. Registration available

A forester may register with the board to supervise and direct an unlicensed person in the practice of forestry.

2. Registration required

No forester may permit an unlicensed person to practice forestry unless:

- A. The forester registers with the board and enters into a supervision agreement with the unlicensed person as set forth in this chapter; or
- B. The unlicensed person is exempt from licensure pursuant to 32 MRSA §5503.

3. Supervision agreement between supervising forester and unlicensed person

The supervising forester and unlicensed person shall enter into a written agreement signed by both parties acknowledging that the supervising forester will provide direction and supervision to the unlicensed person in the practice of forestry. If not for general employment, the supervision agreement shall describe the particular project, assignment, contract or subcontract for which direction and supervision will be provided. The supervising forester shall provide a copy of the agreement to the unlicensed person. The supervising forester shall retain a copy of the agreement for one year following the termination of supervision, and shall provide the board with a copy of the agreement upon request.

4. Responsibility for activities of unlicensed person

A supervising forester must provide direction and supervision to all unlicensed persons with whom the supervising forester has executed a supervision agreement as described in this chapter. The supervising forester is responsible for all activities of an unlicensed person relating to the practice of forestry that arise from or are related to the employment, particular project, assignment, contract or subcontract referenced in the supervision agreement, whether or not such activities are authorized by the supervising forester.

2. Time and Manner of Registration

A supervising forester shall register annually with the board at time of license application or renewal, although the supervising forester may initially register with the board at any time. The supervising forester shall provide the name and address of each unlicensed person whom the forester anticipates supervising during the year for which registration is made, and the name and address of each unlicensed person whom the forester actually supervised during the year preceding the year for which registration is made.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 MRSA §5515(10)(B)

EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 4, 2002 - major substantive chapter, accepted for filing June 5, 2002, filing 2002-181

Important Reminder to Foresters: Registration of Unlicensed Individuals

Is someone working with you who needs to be registered?

If you have anyone conducting forestry services under your license, they must either be licensed as a forester or intern-forester, **OR**, be registered with the Board as an unlicensed person under your supervision.

If you think you may need to register someone with the Board, this is the link to the registration form: [Registration of Unlicensed Individuals](#)

Please Note: A forester may not permit an unlicensed person to practice forestry who is not currently registered with the Board. Below is additional information regarding this issue or you may contact the Board at (207) 624-8521 if you have questions.

Any person providing forestry services must be licensed by the Board of Foresters (see [32 MRSA §5501](#) (4) & [§5502](#)) or be exempted from the licensing requirement as set forth under [32 MRSA §5503](#). One of the exemptions is for "a person registered and practicing forestry under the supervision of a forester." [Chapter 90](#) of the Board's rules sets out the process for a supervising forester to register an unlicensed person so that person may legally perform forestry services.

The registration process permits a person to gain lawful forestry experience that may be used to qualify for an intern forester license via the "variance pathway to licensure" (see [32 MRSA §5514](#) (2) and [Chapter 40](#) of the Board's rules). Registration is not limited to persons who may pursue an intern forester license, however. As noted above, an unlicensed person who is providing forestry services as defined by Maine law (see reference above) must be registered with the Board. It is the responsibility of the supervising forester to register the unlicensed person with the Board annually.