**02-333**

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

**BOARD OF LICENSURE OF PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS**

2025-2026 Regulatory Agenda

AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **02-333**

AGENCY NAME: Department of Professional & Financial Regulation, Office of Professional & Occupational Regulation, **Board of Licensure of Professional Foresters**

CONTACT INFORMATION for thE agency **RULEMAKING LIAISON**: Penny Vaillancourt, Director, OPOR, 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333, 207-441-7153, penny.vaillancourt@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA**: None.

**EXPECTED 2025-2026 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY:**

A review for conformance with statutes and current rules will be conducted and updated as may be necessary, including an update to discontinue the use of the terms “handicap,” “handicapped” and “hearing impaired” pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 2557, sub-§2.

**CHAPTER 20**: **General Information**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 5506

PURPOSE: This chapter provides for the election of Board officers and changes may be needed to clarify certain provisions.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 30**: **Advisory Rulings**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 5 M.R.S. §§ 8051, 9001(4)

PURPOSE: This chapter provides for the discretionary issuance of advisory rulings by the Board. Changes may be needed to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 40**: **Educational Qualifications for Issuance of an Intern Forester License**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 5506(1), (2), and 5514(2)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth the education and experience requirements necessary for licensure as an intern forester. Changes may be needed to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 70**: **Qualifications for Forester License**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 5506(2), 5515(3), (5), (5-A), (6), (10) and 5516(2)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure as a forester. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision and to amend provisions as necessary to implement legislation with regards to licensure by endorsement.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 70-A: Licensure by Endorsement:**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §5516(2)(D) and 10 M.R.S. §8003-H

PURPOSE: This chapter describes the pathway for Maine licensure for applicants with an active forester license in another U.S. jurisdiction that maintains licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to Maine’s requirements, so long as the applicant is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds or has held a license and no cause for denial exists under 10 M.R.S. §8003(5-A)(A) or under any other law.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 80**: **Continuing Forestry Education**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §5515(7); 5506(4), 5514(4)

PURPOSE: This chapter establishes the minimum continuing education required for license renewal. Changes may be needed to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 90**: **Registration of Foresters for the Supervision of Unlicensed Personnel**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 5515(10)(B)

PURPOSE: This chapter implements a registration system for foresters who supervise unlicensed individuals in the practice of forestry. Changes may be needed to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 100**: **Code of Ethics**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 5506(3)

PURPOSE: This chapter defines unprofessional practice as failure to comply with the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board in this chapter. This chapter may be amended as necessary to address unprofessional conduct resulting from Board complaints and changes in forestry practice.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: N/A**

STATUTORY BASIS: 32 M.R.S. § 5516; 10 M.R.S. 8003-H

PURPOSE: To implement P.L. 2021, c. 167 and P.L. 2021, c. 642, to establish a process to grant provisional licenses to applicants from other jurisdictions.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A