



VERMONT FOREST FUTURE STRATEGIC ROADMAP: to STRENGTHEN, MODERNIZE, PROMOTE, and PROTECT the forest products sub-sector and the greater forest economy



**WHY FORESTS and FOREST PRODUCTS** 



This should be THEIR time



Workforce



Costs



**Changing Landowners** 



**Losing Forests** 



**Misunderstanding of Forest Management** 



Regulations



**Loosing Instate Capacity to Process Wood** 



**We Have An Opportunity** 







### **VERMONT FOREST SECTOR SYSTEMS ANALYSIS**

Exploring New Market Opportunities Across Value Chains



















JANUARY, 2016



#### **Vermont Forest Products Council**

**Blueprint for Action** 

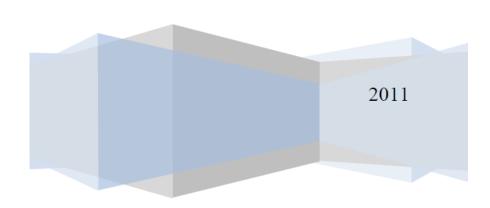


Dossenbach Associates, Inc.

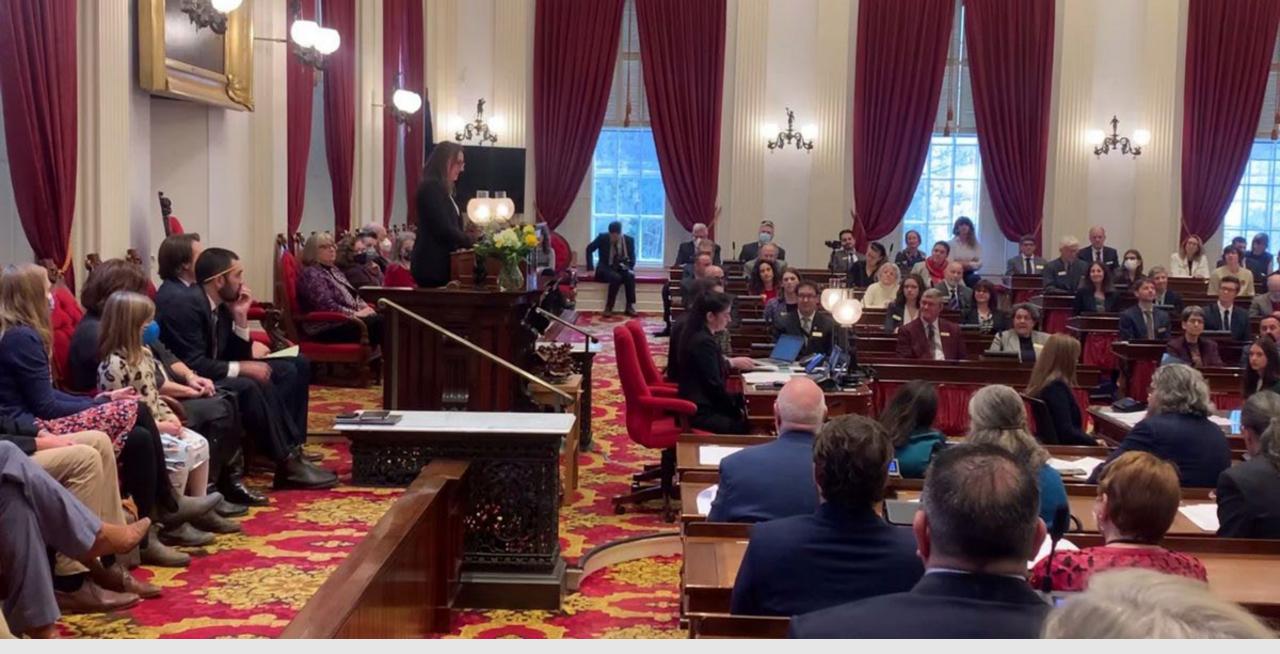
### **Vermont Wood Products Sector Strategic Plan Update**

Prepared for

The Vermont Wood Products Marketing Council



## You May Hear We've Been Here Before



This One is Different!



**The Future** 

# Planning & Engagement Process Now

**Final Report** 

January 2024



July 2023

**Our Timeline** 



# **Our Planning Process**



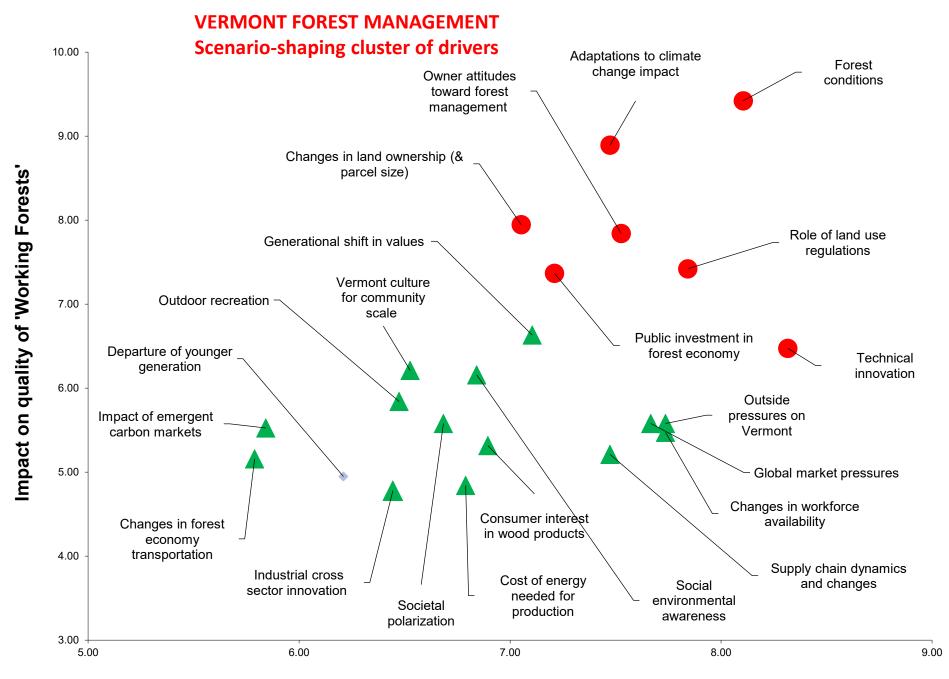
**Our Advisory Panel and Engagement Process:** 

Roundtables, Surveys, Think Tank, Community Input, State Agencies, Focus Groups, Outreach

### **Key Drivers**



- Forest conditions
- Adaptations to climate change's impact
- Role of land use regulations
- Consumer interest in wood products
- Changes in workforce availability
- Generational shift in values
- Changes in land ownership (& parcel size)
- Cost of energy needed for production
- Owner attitudes toward forest management
- Outside pressures on Vermont
- Supply chain dynamics and changes
- Changes in forest economy transportation
- Public investment in the forest economy
- Impact of emergent carbon markets
- Vermont culture for community scale
- Societal polarization
- Industrial cross-sector innovation
- Departure of younger generation from Vermont
- Technical innovation
- Global market pressures
- Outdoor recreation



Impact on overall 'Forest Economy'

# Plausible Scenario Matrix 2035

### Hands-off approach

The forest landscape and land use patterns are allowed to freely follow prevailing market and economic demands, with little to reduced public policy intervention. The forest resource and landscape is allowed to naturally evolve, driven by landholder priorities and attitudes, and is shaped by the long-term impacts of climate change.

### Invest in proactive adaptation

Proactively invest public and private resources, to build strong cross industry linkages, and spur new ideas and innovation. Promote the environmental credentials of new wood products and build regional supply chains and brand awareness of VT forest products.

### Scenario Scenario

adaptation

**Vermont forest** 

A

Scenario

D

mana

Industry

management

Scenario

B

### **Focus on traditional strengths**

Focus is on existing industry strengths and proven approaches. Allow market forces to shape the industry trajectory and investments. Publicly promote the economic value and contribution of the forest industry. Focus on the traditional forest products and workforce.

#### Intentional intervention

There is intentional policy intervention, and public investment, to optimize conditions for forest products. The overarching forest management approach focuses on maintaining productive forests that are resilient to climate change and support a viable and diverse forest economy.



The People Involved



**The Collective Us** 



**Opportunity for Future Forest** 



# What would be different 10 years from now if we are successful?





