

Rural Caucus Meeting 2/9

Vermont Forest Future Strategic Roadmap

- Addressed the future outlook of the Forestry industry and the key aspects including workforce
- Part of Act 183
- Vermont Forest Future Strategic Roadmap: to strengthen, modernize, and protect the forest industry
- Developing Roadmap: FPR, Future Iq, VSJF, and Vermonters
- Currently in the Planning and Engagement process
 - Draft recommendations in July 2023
 - Final draft January 2024
- Advisory Panel
 - Engagement process is transparent
 - Meetings with state agencies and experts
 - Outreach
- What key drivers will change our future ten years from now?
 - Demographic change for example
- Created a spectrum with plausible scenarios for the future
 - Split into four quadrants
 - Each has a different path and outcome for the future
 - Mapped these possibilities from least desirable to most desirable
- Next Engagement Steps
 - Community session Feb 27-March 3
 - Industry Sessions March 26-31
 - Focus Groups: Strategic Actions

The Naked Table Project

- Vermont Sustainable Jobs fund
 - Charlie Shackleton
- Connecting people to the environment whilst making things by hand
- Hope is to bring people together and help them understand where the wood starts
 - The process which it undergoes and who handles it
- Make a table
- Share a meal
- Connects them to the forests and the economy which relies on the forest
- Rep. Dolan's introduction to the trades bill
- Introductory courses in middle schools which provide entrance into trade practices
- Feeder program to CTE centers