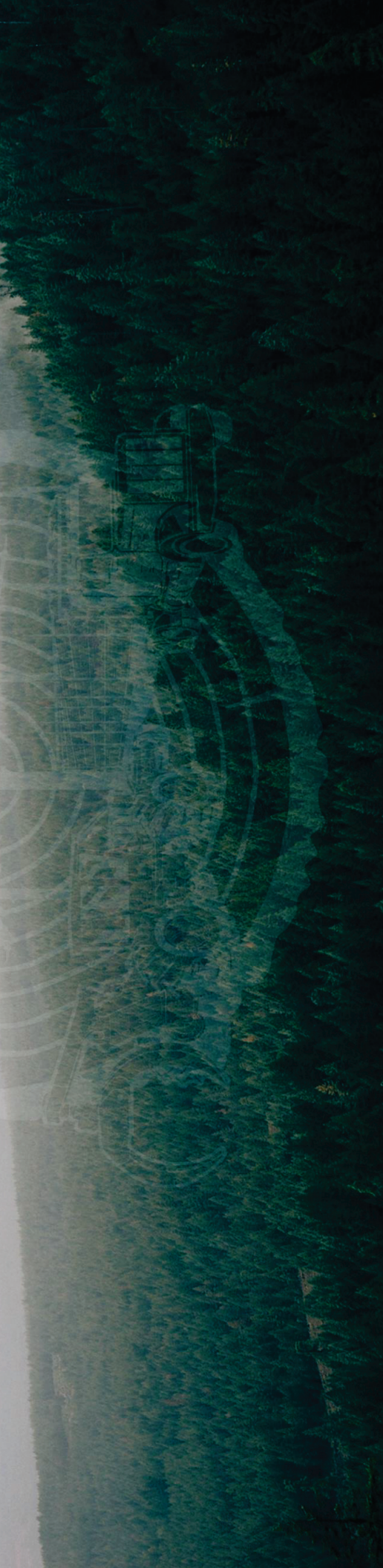




PLC OF THE NORTHEAST

FOUNDED IN 1995



In 1995

A group of loggers
created the PLC to provide

PROFESSIONAL LOGGERS

a voice in a rapidly
changing industry.





MEMBER MISSION

Our members are dedicated to promoting logging as a profession, advocating for logging professionals, cultivating responsible forest management, and sustaining a strong forest products industry.



OUR MEMBERS ARE

HIGHLY SKILLED BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NORTHEAST'S ECONOMIC ENGINE, 212 CONTRACTORS INCLUDING:

1

Contractors from Stump to Roadside

2

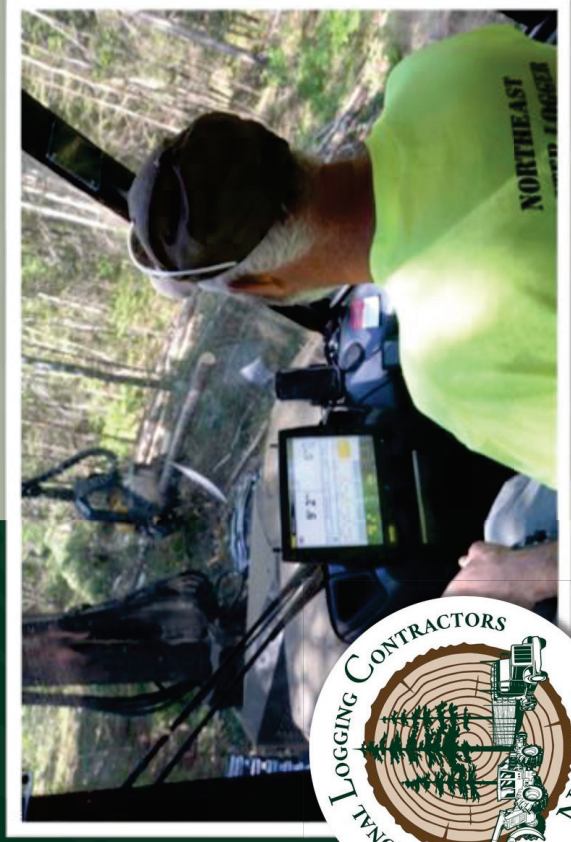
Affiliated Contractors

3

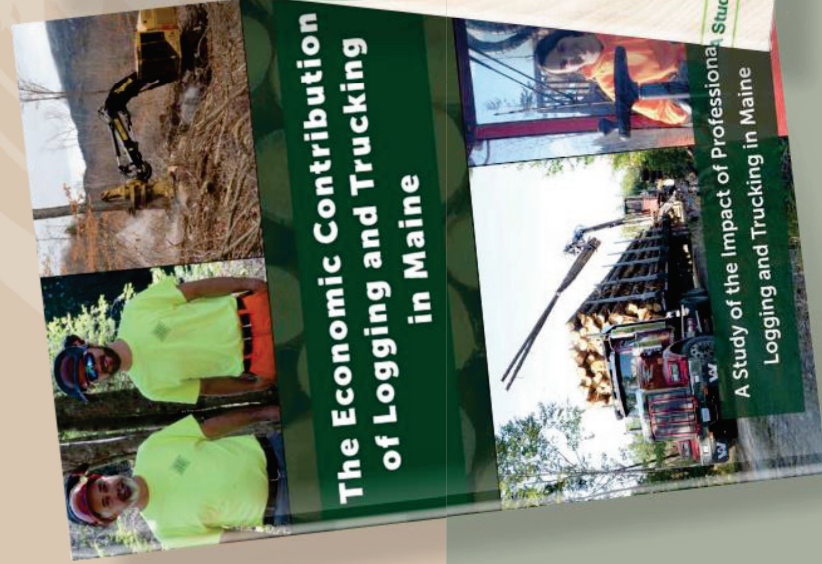
Forest Contractors

OUR MEMBERS COMMITTED TO

1. Logger Advocacy
2. Business Innovation
3. Responsibility
4. Quality Harvest Operations
5. Education and Training
6. Community Impact



ECONOMIC IMPACT PLANS



The Logger's Voice

Washington, DC

Federal Successes:

- Workforce Development
 - ✓ Youth in Logging Careers - change FLSA for 16 & 17 year olds
 - ✓ Continue family tradition for loggers
 - ✓ \$1 million earmark for MLOFT
- Wood for Energy
 - ✓ Biomass Equity
 - ✓ BTU Act
 - ✓ Renewable Fuel Standard
- Transportation
 - ✓ 100,000 lbs. GVW on I-95
 - ✓ Pilot program for veterans – 18 year olds in interstate commerce
- Markets and Survival
 - ✓ PPP and PATHH
 - ✓ Softwood Lumber Duties
- US Forest Service
 - ✓ PLC assisted VT secure \$500,000 for a new crane mat program from the US Forest Service.



MASTER LOGGER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM[®]

THE PURPOSE

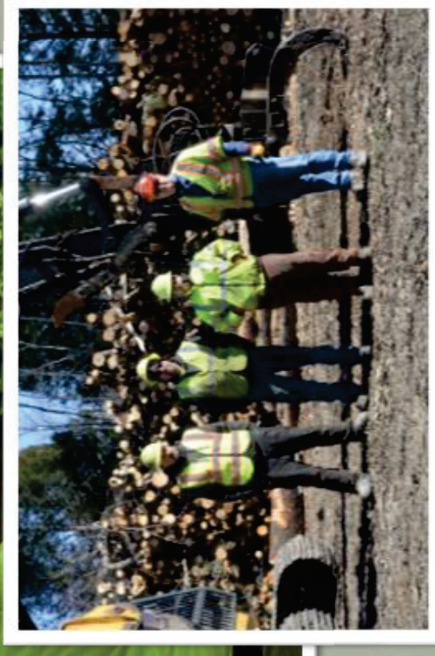
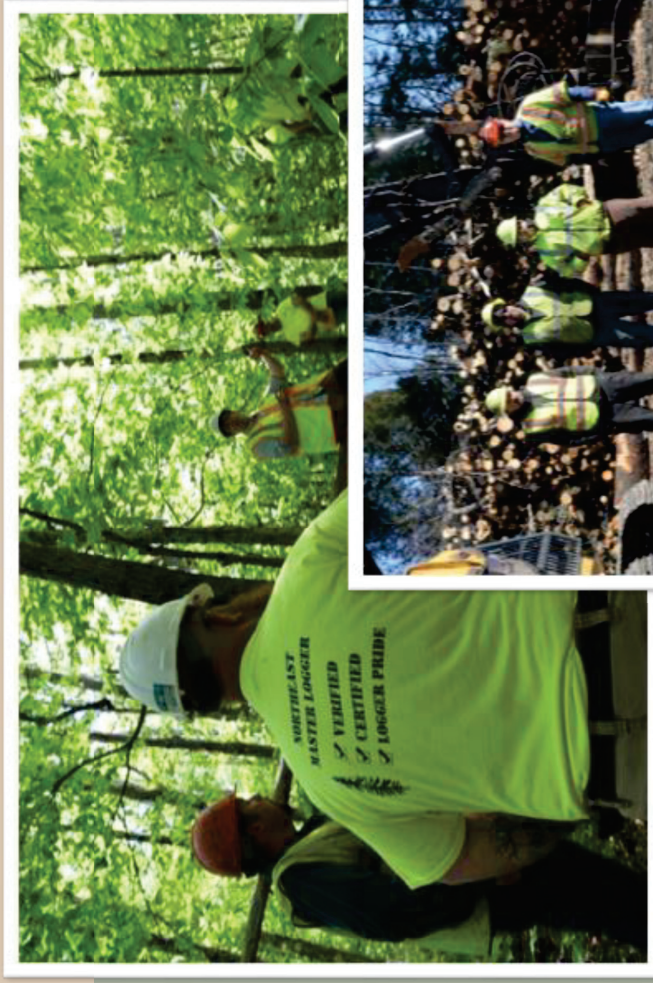
- Recognize high achieving logging companies
- Raise the bar in the logging industry
- Provide benefits for those who achieve the status

THE PROCESS

- A performance standard- Not training based
- Meet or Exceed Nine goals
- Internal Audits performed by Independent Professional Foresters Annually
- Third-Party Certification by the Preferred By Nature.

UPDATES

- Contractor Certification
- FSC Award



Master Logger improves the overall practice of forestry and logging while also enhancing the opinion of landowners and the public.

Acadia Dividend Program

- Once the total program premium in Vermont has reached an adequate threshold, Acadia will establish a dividend plan for eligible PLC members in Vermont
- Acadia Insurance paid \$419,241 in premium dividends to eligible Maine policyholder PLC members for 2023
- Since 1999, Acadia has distributed \$14.5 million+ in premium dividends to PLC Members

Safety Training

- Annual participation encouraged to foster a culture of safety across PLC members
- Held at member garages throughout the region for convenience
- Breakfast and lunch provided at training sessions
- Topics change yearly based on the biggest industry risks and contractor requests
- Logger and fleet safety training offered at no cost to PLC members and potential members
- CPR/First Aid
- Northeast Safe Logger: interactive online training, accessible on any device, and completed at the user's own pace



MLOFT

Mechanized Logging
Operations and Forest
Trucking Training Program

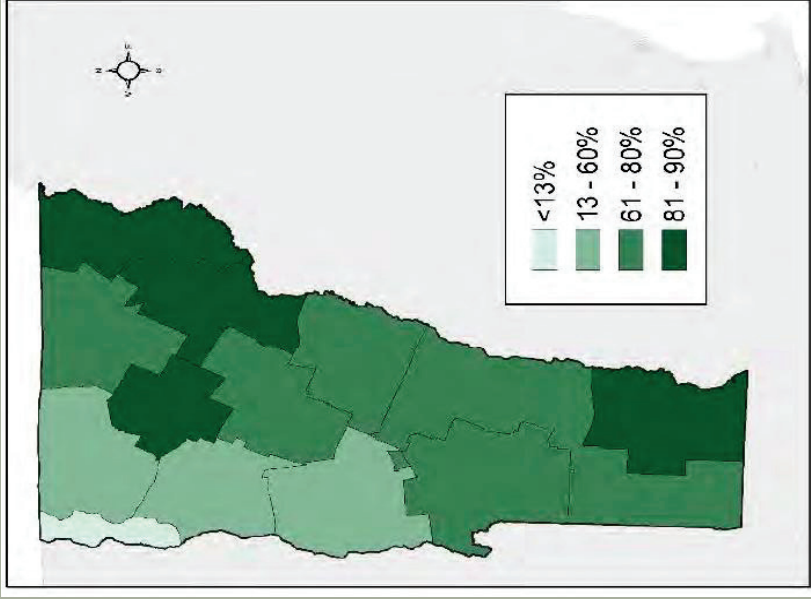


COMMUNITY IMPACT

During the past 29 years, loggers and the forest products community have raised over \$2.4 million for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.



Vermont Logging Landscape



Percent Forestland by Vermont County

Vermont Quick Facts:

- 76% of Vermont is forested
- Total Forest Economic Impact - \$2.1 billion (2017)
- Direct economic impact: \$91.0 million
- Direct labor income: \$50.3 million
- Direct value-added impact: \$52.8 million
- Direct logging and trucking jobs: 1,737
- 57% of logging jobs are part of other industries' contributions in Vermont.

STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE

Impact of Market Disruptions:

- Mill Closures – Putney Paper - Putney, A. Johnson - Bristol, Mill River – Clarendon. Maine mills, including Bucksport, Jay, Lincoln, Madison, Millinocket and Old Town Closures have led to a decrease in markets for pulp – 5-million-ton reduction since 2012. .
- Inflation on equipment, parts, wages and labor since 2020 is nearly 40%.
- Saw log markets have also dropped precipitously in 2024 due to high interest rates and reduced construction for the housing market.

Impact of Weather on Logging Contractors:

- Two consecutive years of wet and unsuitable ground conditions (2022 -23)
- Logging contractors were the most affected business category in Vermont following the July 2023 flooding.
- Total losses for logging contractors exceeded \$2.5 million.
- 96% of losses were due to economic damage (business interruption).d
- The average loss per logging company was over \$46,000.



VERMONT LEGISLATURE

A Strong Start in 2024

Legislative Successes:

- \$1M allocated for loggers to install Climate Resilience Measures to ensure Water Quality.
- Funding for Master Logger scholarships
- Passage of timber trespass bill
- Language included in agriculture bill for low-interest loans for contractors from VT Economic Development Authority
- Impact on legislation affecting Stored Solar's biomass plant

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025:

Building on Success and Expanding Impact

- Forest Future Strategic Roadmap Process and Priorities
- Purchase and Use/Sales Tax Exemption for the purchase of heavy duty trucks, log trailers, chip vans, service trucks, company pickups and parts.
- Mandating equipment ownership for companies that bid on state harvests
- Licensed foresters sign off on UVA management plans for implementation efficiency – Action 6 of the Roadmap recommendations: Support Vermont’s Use Value Appraisal Program by a) Modernizing Administrative Systems; and b) leveraging the expertise of Vermont’s Licensed Foresters.
- Revolving Loan Program for Low Ground Pressure Equipment - Legislative approval of the Clean Water Board Budget



STANDING STRONG FOR LOGGERS

YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

