



# PLC OF THE NORTHEAST

FOUNDED IN 1995

# In 1995

A group of loggers  
created the PLC to provide

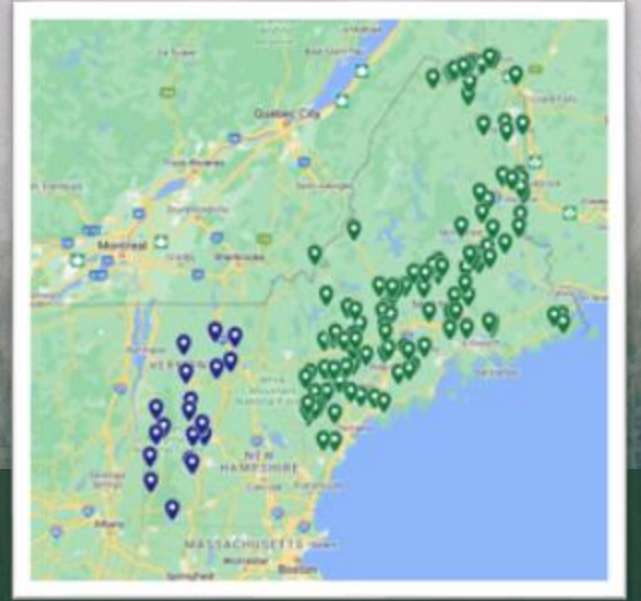
**PROFESSIONAL  
LOGGERS**

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

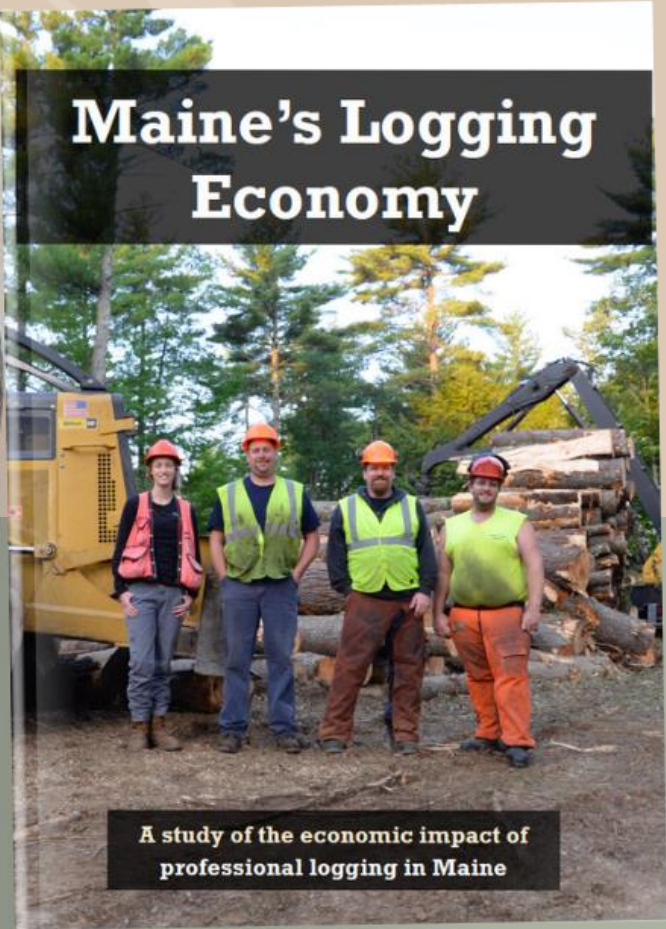
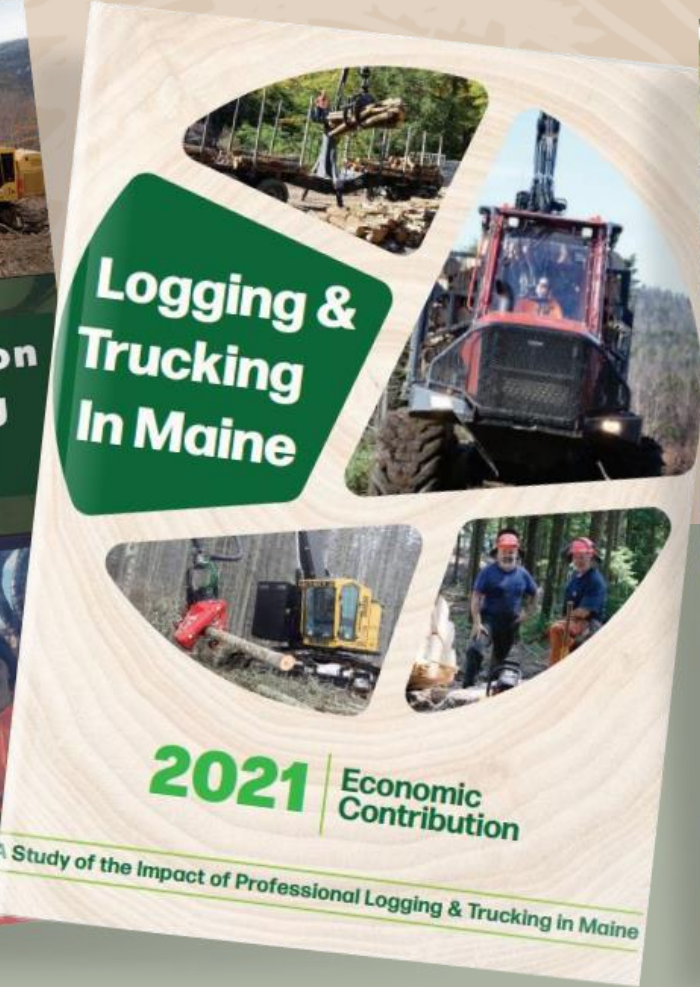
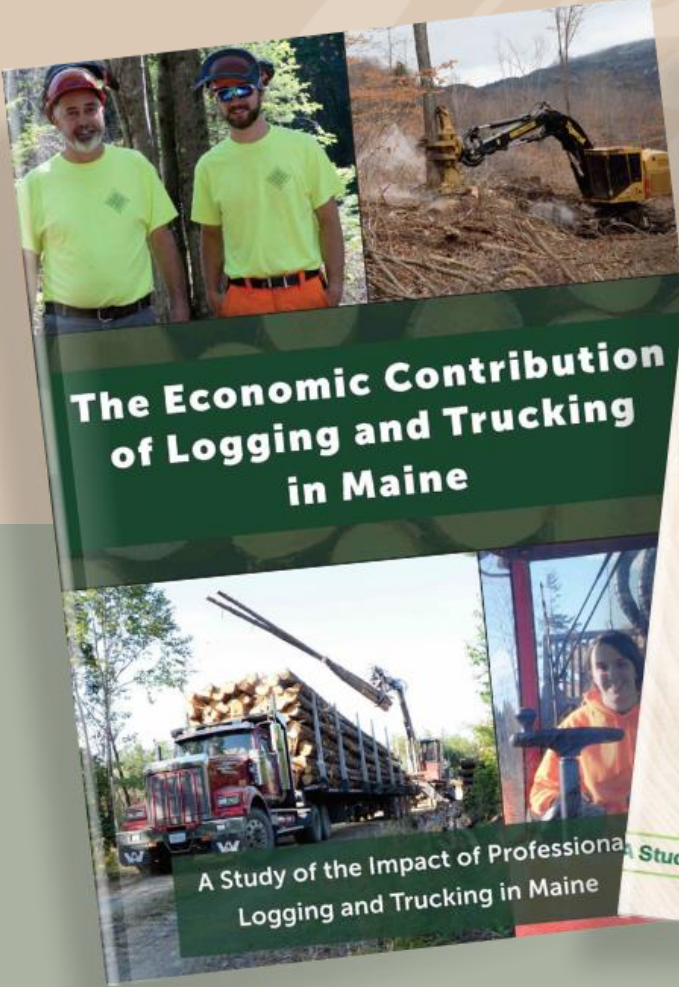
Forest Contractors

# 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<sup>®</sup>

## 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



| a Berkley Company

# 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

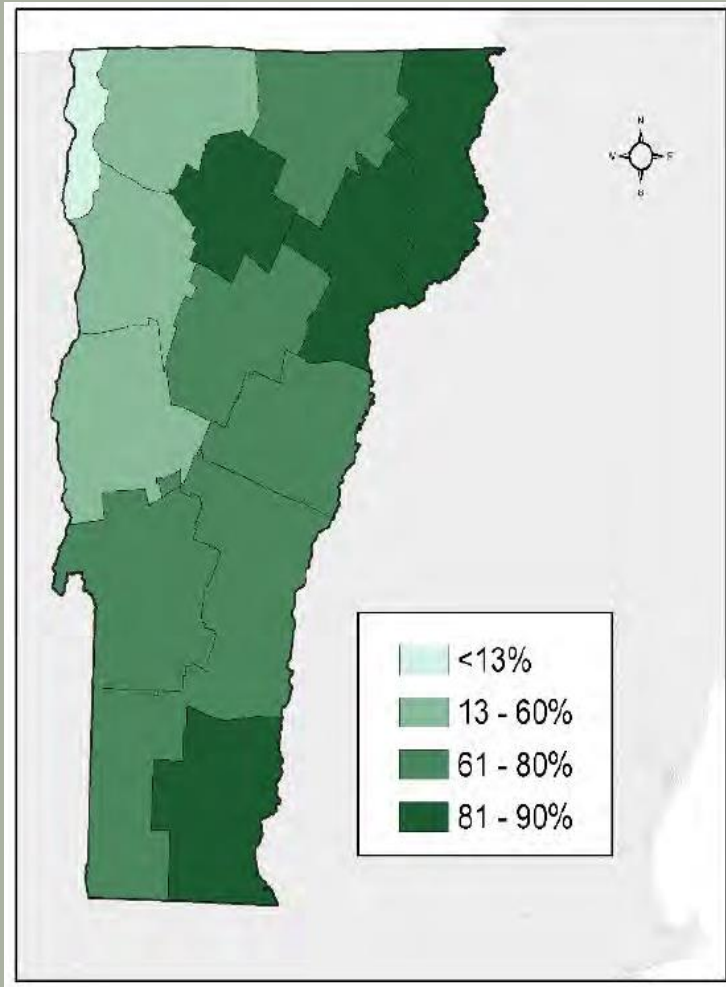


# COMMUNITY IMPACT

*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