

rooted in healthy forest management sapwood

summer 2016 Newsletter



Forest Management on Sugar Island

Sappi Forestry is working with the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) to manage forest operations on the state's largest inland island. Sugar Island, approximately 4,000 acres in size, is north of Greenville in Moosehead Lake, near Lily Bay State Park. The State of Maine acquired the property in 1985 through a land trade with Scott Paper Company.

BPL held multiple public meetings to develop a management plan for the Moosehead Region, including Sugar Island. Their plan designates the island as a multiple use working forest that will supply forest products to local mills, be a source of employment for loggers and truckers, and provide timber revenue to support the Bureau's various programs that provide recreational opportunities such as camping, hunting, hiking, boating, fishing and snowmobiling.

The plan calls for harvesting 40,000 cords of wood over eight to ten years. This is the third summer that Sappi has been working on the island. According to the plan, "A timber harvest on an island in Maine's biggest lake is inevitably a high-visibility operation. From a silvicultural standpoint, the harvest is well

justified; however, extra care is needed to ensure that from visual and ecological standpoints the harvest will also be appropriate."

A barge is used to carry harvesting equipment to the island and to haul wood from it. E.J. Carrier, based out of Jackman, operates the barge and is the logging sub-contractor. Sappi's forester Pete Foss is responsible for managing the harvest operation to meet BPL's objectives. Pete works closely with Marc Albert, forester with BPL, to oversee the operation.

The island has a long logging history. During the 1960s and early 1970s Scott Paper harvested wood on the island in the winter and put the wood on the ice to be driven down river in the spring.

Reliance on the barge adds a layer of complexity to the operation and limits the harvest season to the warmer months. Typically the operation runs from early June until late October. There were no roads on the island so any access roads must be constructed. When the harvest is completed the roads will be put to bed, and the barge landing on the island will be removed.

Other than the newly constructed road leading to the interior of the island, there is little visible evidence of a logging operation from the shore. Where the harvesting has taken place the resulting forest is healthy, diverse and robust.

for more info:

Contact information for any member of the Sappi Forestry Team is available at:

www.sappimeforestry.com

For more information on the Moosehead Region Management Plan and Sugar Island visit: <http://bit.ly/2bAKV45>

Information on Pleasant River Lumber is available at: www.pleasantriverlumber.com

For more information on spruce budworm contact the Maine Forest Service Insect & Disease Laboratory at: forestinfo@maine.gov or see their website: <http://bit.ly/2bAKV45/>

The Forest Service also has a booklet on the Forest Trees of Maine available for download: <http://bit.ly/1ATfedX>

Featured Landowner Guy Piper

"I give them a 10 on a scale of 1-10. They are hardworking, really good people. I like working with them, and trust them thoroughly."

Guy Piper is talking about the Sappi foresters he has worked with. Guy owns woodlots in Stetson Waterboro, and Monmouth. The woodlots range in size from 14 to 150 acres, and have been in his family for generations.

Guy's lot in Stetson came from his father's side of the family. Guy's mother was a descendant of Isaias McLucas, who established the family's Waterboro lots in the 1860s. The fire of 1947 leveled the family's farm buildings and forests, but many relatives still live in the area. One of Guy's woodlots and a McLucas family cemetery are on the road bearing the family name that leads to the Ossipee Mountain fire tower.

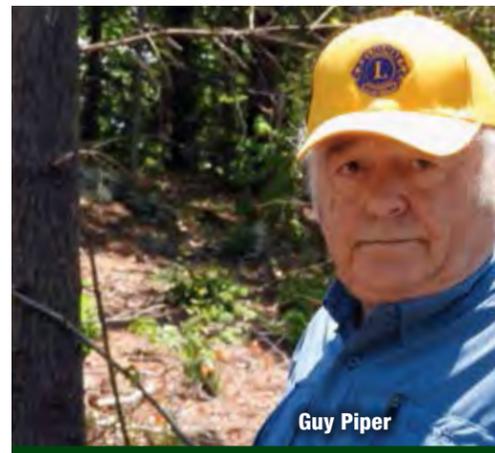
Guy grew up on a 250 acre farm in Monmouth with his parents and his brother Don. Guy's Monmouth woodlot, the Donald A. Piper, Sr. and Lorenza B. Piper Memorial Tree Farm, is named in honor of their parents, who were both school teachers. They also farmed 50 acres of sweet corn, raised boiler and laying chickens, ran a 10 acre apple orchard, and grew market vegetables.

Guy loved farm life despite the hard work involved. "The family worked before daylight until after dark seven days a week."

Guy and Don were very active in 4-H; Guy remembers fondly being a 4-H state winner in "Field Crops", an honor that allowed him to go to Chicago with his brother to attend a National 4-H Club Congress.

A member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Guy graduated from the University of Maine at Orono with degrees in Agricultural Business Management and Agriculture Resource Economics. He went on to become the County Director of the Kennebec County Farm Service. Now retired, he remains active in the Monmouth Lions Club, where he chairs their annual "Speak Out" event with Monmouth Academy students.

The Sappi Forestry team helped Guy with a



Guy Piper

harvest in Stetson, and more recently on his two Waterboro woodlots. The team will help again with a management plan and future harvest in Monmouth.

Guy heaps praise on Mandy Farrar. Although no longer with the program, Mandy was the first Sappi forester he worked with. "She did a super job," he says. "She worked well with contractors and neighbors." Guy also praises Bryan Savoy as a great person to work with. Bryan completed work in Stetson after Mandy left.

Guy was so impressed that he used the Sappi program again for a recent harvest of his two Waterboro woodlots, this time using the services of Paul Larrivee. "Paul is very professional. Like all the Sappi team, he goes the extra mile, and is there for you before, during and after the harvest." Guy says that the contractors have also been great to work with, and that his neighbors are happy with the job they do. His brother Don also used the Sappi program for his woodlot in Waterboro.

"I appreciate the help the Sappi team has provided," Guy says. "I learned a lot. The landowners, foresters and harvesters work well together—excellent teamwork. I am fortunate to be in the program." Pausing, he concludes, "If my mother and father were still alive they would say the same thing."

Featured Maine Mill Pleasant River Lumber

Pleasant River Lumber is a 100% U.S., family-owned Maine business with four generations of experience in the forest products industry. Jason and Chris Brochu have been the co-presidents of Pleasant River Lumber since 2013. Rich Smith is their wood buyer.

The Brochu family purchased the Pleasant River Lumber Company and its spruce dimension mill in Dover-Foxcroft in 2004. In 2011 the family bought a white pine mill in Hancock. The family purchased another pine mill in Sanford in 2012, and in 2015 Jason and Chris Brochu purchased the Moose River spruce sawmill in Jackman, Maine.

The company has recently moved into the trucking business with an April 2016 purchase of

Chaffee Trucking. Pleasant River Lumber buys 99% of their logs from Maine forests, including those coming off Sugar Island. Their framing lumber is sold throughout the northeastern U.S. Other products include sawdust, pellets, pulp chips and animal bedding.

Since 2004 the Brochus have spent over \$20,000,000 modernizing the Dover-Foxcroft facility in order to increase production and efficiency. They invested more than five million dollars to modernize the Hancock mill. A \$2 million upgrade for the Dover-Foxcroft planer mill is planned in 2017.

Pleasant River Lumber employs 300 people throughout their mills in Maine.



Chris Brochu



Rich Smith



Jason Brochu

Spruce Budworm

Spruce Budworm is a native insect to Maine that eats needles of fir and spruce trees. The budworm population cycles over a 40 year period with the maturing of fir and spruce. The insect kills trees by eating all the needles year after year.

Maine suffered a severe outbreak of spruce budworm in the 1970s, and is again reaching the peak of the 40 year cycle. The Maine Forest Service prognosis for this outbreak is that it will cause noticeable defoliation in Maine in 2-4 years, killing trees and reducing their growth. The outbreak may not be as severe as the last one as the trees are younger and not as contiguous

across the landscape. Infestations may be more severe further north.



Photo: USDA Forest Service-Northeastern Area, Bugwood.org

maine spruce & fir



Spruce is one of Maine's most valuable trees for the production of building lumber. It is used for joists, sills, rafters, pilings, poles and heavy construction timbers.

Fir is also used for building lumber, often interchangeably with spruce.

Compared to spruce, balsam fir is more difficult to kiln dry, less rot resistant, and a higher percentage of each log ends up as waste when milled. For this reason, some mills limit the amount of fir that can be mixed into a load.

tree ID: spruce or fir?

Balsam fir, the most abundant conifer in Maine, often grows with Red, Black or White spruce. Many people find it hard to distinguish which is which. Their needles can be used to identify the tree. Crush a handful of needles and smell. Balsam fir smells like a Christmas tree. White spruce smells like cat urine or skunk, red spruce like orange rind, and black spruce like menthol.



Balsam Fir needles are flat and soft. They cannot be easily rolled between your fingers. Mature needles have two parallel stripes on the underside of the needle.

Spruce needles are square and sharply pointed, which makes them prickly when grabbed. The needles are easy to roll between your fingers.



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Sappi Maine Forester: Pete Foss

Enthusiastic After 42 Years

Pete Foss has been with Sappi and Scott Paper for 42 years. He worked for ten years managing company land, ten years with the stumpage program, nine years as a wood yard supervisor, and the remainder as a procurement forester.

A licensed forester in the State of Maine for more than 30 years, Pete still loves forestry and working with landowners on the management of their timber. “The best part of my job is talking to landowners” Pete says. “It helps me understand their objectives for managing their woodlands.”

Pete travels approximately 60,000 miles per year for his work. He has worked all over the state, and says that some of the best wood has come from Bar Harbor and Seal Cove.

A major portion of Pete’s work is on public lands, including his current primary project, managing forest operations on Sugar Island. He works closely and collaboratively with many of the State’s foresters. When he was at Scott Paper Pete worked alongside Doug Denico, who is now the State Forester.

The harvest on Sugar Island is limited to the warmer months, but Pete’s busiest time is usually in the winter. That leaves him some time to help his son manage the campground he owns, Yogi Bear’s Jellystone Park™ at Yonderhill in Madison, Maine, or enjoy his own camp on Embden Pond. Pete likes all kinds of outdoor activities. He is especially fond of spending time with his five grandchildren.

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www.sappimeforestry.com

800-633-2091

Suite 1, Skowhegan, ME 04976

165 North Avenue

Sappi North America