



# A PICTURE OF VERMONT SFI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**September 13, 2011**

**Burlington, VT**

**Steven Sinclair, VT State Forester**



Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation  
*Division of Forestry*  
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# ***Viola les verts monts!***



***“Behold the green mountains!”***

***~Samuel de Champlain, 1609***



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# Early Settlement

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# Early Lumber Industry

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# VT Forest Service



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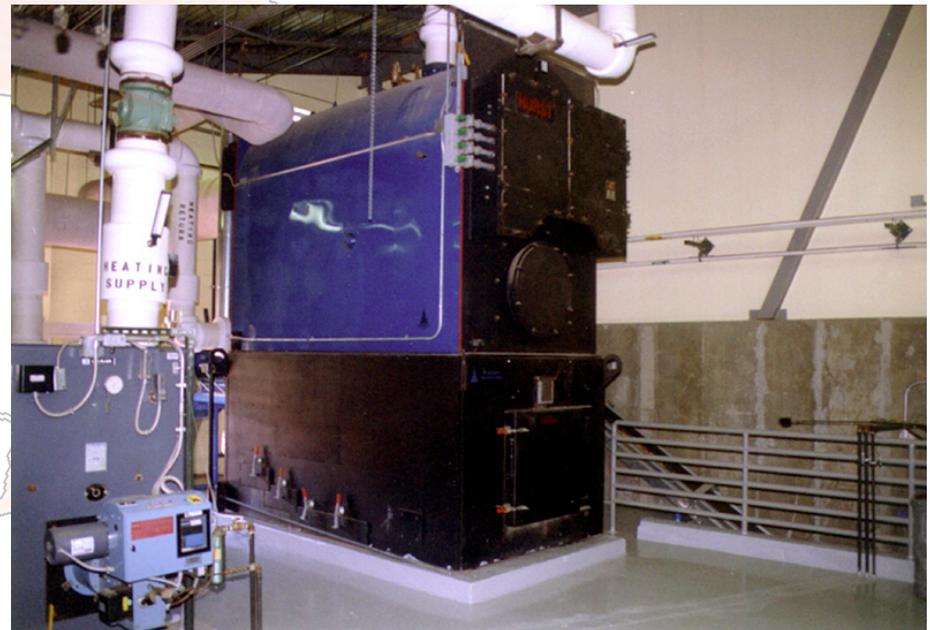
# Use Value Appraisal (Current Use)

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# Wood Energy



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# Acceptable Management Practices (AMP)

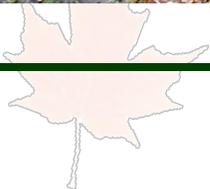


ACCEPTABLE MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES FOR MAINTAINING

## Water Quality

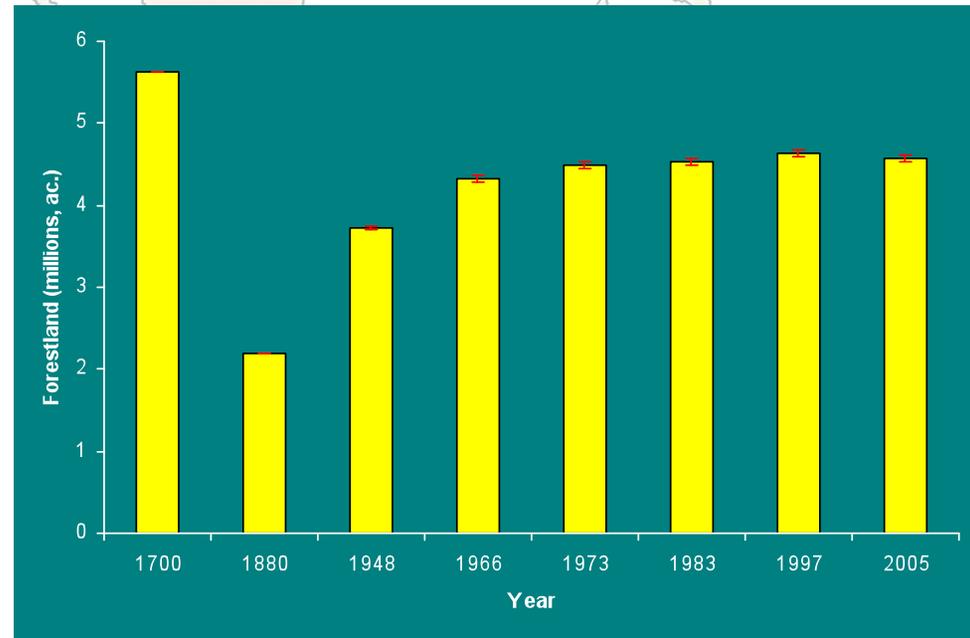
ON LOGGING JOBS  
IN VERMONT

9th Printing 2006



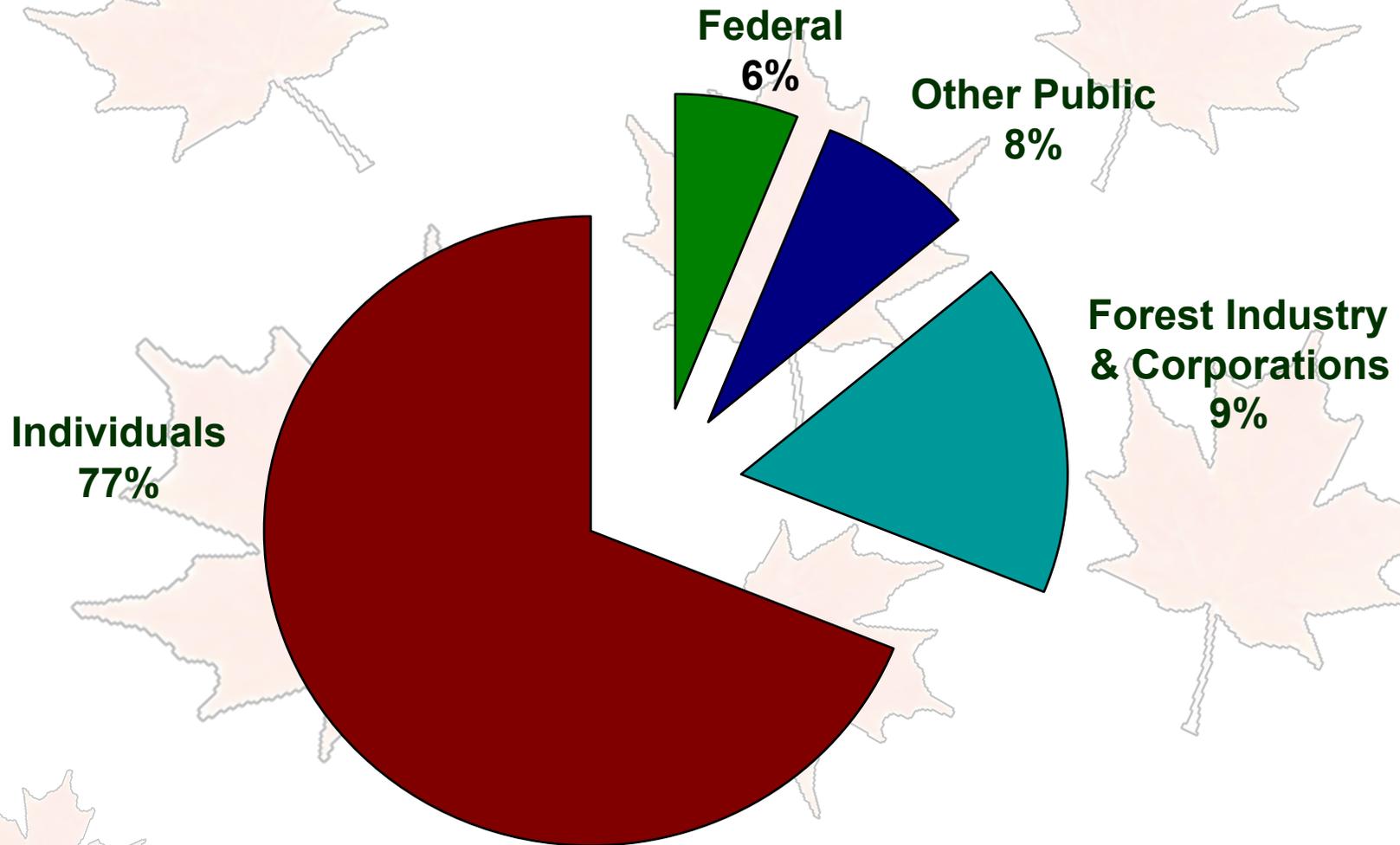
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# Vermont is Largely Forested

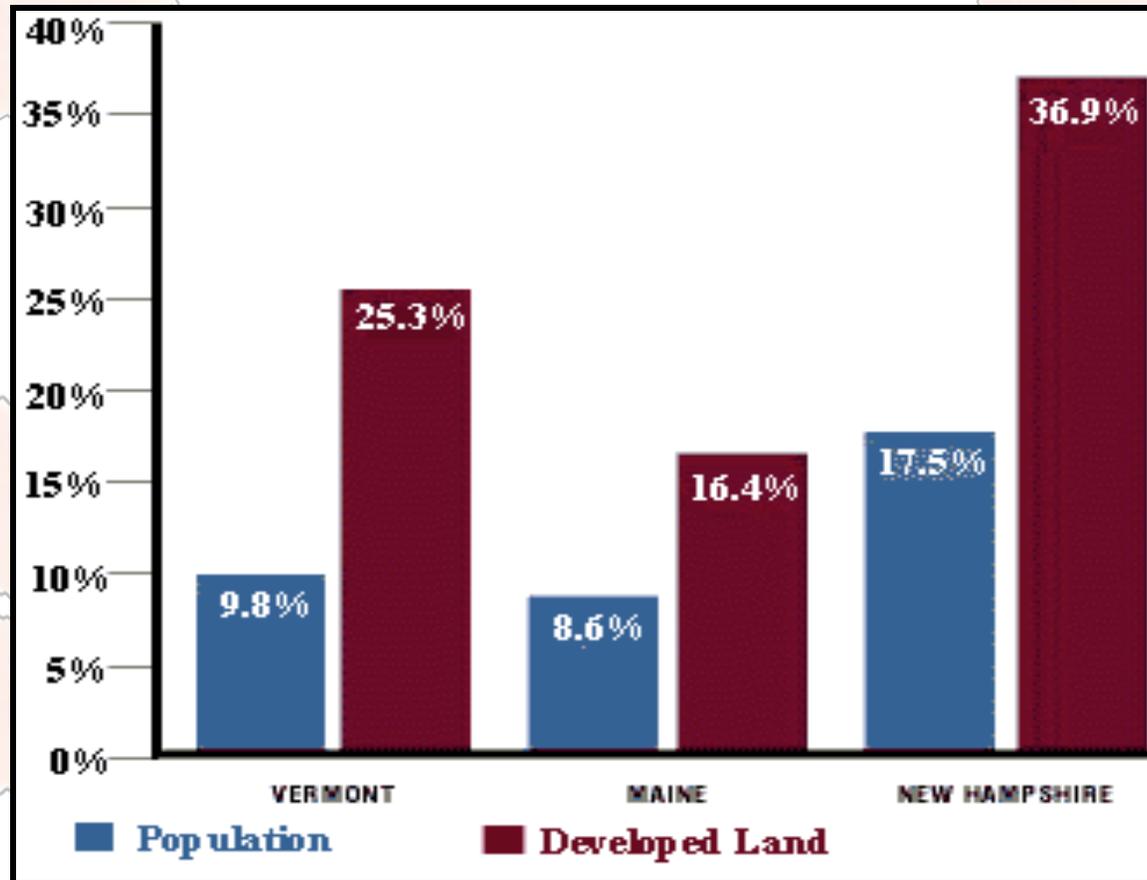


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# Forest Ownership



# Development Outpacing Population Growth



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# Parcelization...A Cumulative Problem

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# Threats



# Forest Products Industry



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# Forest Action Plans

## 2010 Vermont Forest Resources Plan



*A bird's eye view of the Statehouse in Montpelier accented by Vermont's forested landscape.*

DIVISION OF FORESTS

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS,  
PARKS AND RECREATION

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JUNE, 2010

## State Assessment and Resource Strategies



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# Forest Certification- National Perspective

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## The NASF Position on Forest Certification

- 1) **NASF advocates a voluntary and inclusive approach to certification as it relates to landowner objectives.** Public and private sector requirements for certification should recognize ATFS, FSC, SFI, and all other credible options. There is no single “best” forest certification program. The value of certification is derived from credible processes and not from brand names. **Competition among certification programs produces innovation and continuous improvement in certification processes and on-the-ground forestry practices.**
- 2) Forest certification is one tool for promoting sustainable forestry practices. The American Tree Farm System (ATFS), the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) are examples of **forest certification programs that can make positive contributions to our nation’s public and private forests.**



# Forest Certification- National Perspective

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## The NASF Position on Forest Certification

3) Credible forest certification programs include the following fundamental elements: **independent governance, multi-stakeholder standard, independent certification, complaints/appeals process, open participation and transparency.**

4) Marketplace demands for “chain of custody” certification must be met with workable solutions for U.S. land ownership and wood supply patterns.

5) **State foresters** have a unique public trust responsibility for the nation’s forests and **are uniquely qualified to contribute to the continuing improvement of forest certification programs at all levels.**



# Vermont Strategies Supporting Certification

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## State Forest Action Plan

- **Strategy 62- Continue to support and enhance participation in the UVA program as a stable tax equity program that promoted forest land retention and management.**
- **Strategy 63- Encourage voluntary adoption and field application of best management practices for timber harvesting.**
- **Strategy 64- Support forest landowners and forest products industry on third-party certification and chain-of-custody marketing opportunities**



# 'Certified' Lands in VT

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**UVA- 1.6 million acres, 13,000 parcels**

**Tree Farm- 166,000 acres, 421 parcels**

**SFI- 86,000 acres**

**FSC- 56,600 acres, 57 parcels**



# Certification- State Initiatives

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## Vermont Initiatives:

**'One Size Fits All' Plans**

**UVA 'Group Certification'**

**FSC/Consulting Forester Partnership**

**Certify State-owned Land**

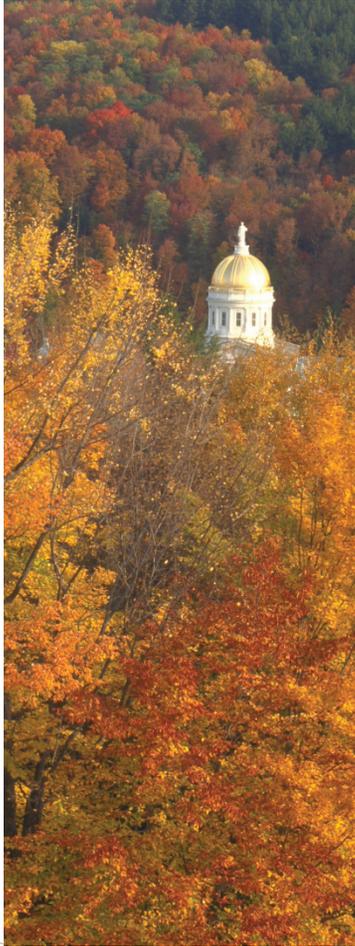
**'Vermont' Brand**

**Harvest for Use**



# Vision of Vermont's Forest

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The forests of Vermont will consist of healthy and sustainable ecosystems, a prosperous and sustainable forest products industry, abundant recreational opportunities and a combination of ownership patterns supporting a working forest landscape and large, unbroken forest tracts. Citizens, government and businesses understand their proper roles, responsibilities and rights, and work together to support the values of forests for this and future generations.



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# FOR MORE INFORMATION

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