



# Maine's forests are full of opportunities

*Patrick Strauch, Executive Director  
Maine Forest Products Council*

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a tan jacket and an orange safety vest, stands in a forest. She is holding a tablet computer in her hands and looking towards the camera. The background shows tall evergreen trees and a forest floor covered in green moss and small plants.

## I GROW ROCKET FUEL.

Maine's forests are full of opportunity.

Today's trees are replacing plastic, supplanting fossil fuels, advancing medical technology, improving clothing's comfort, even powering aerospace.

New technology, yankee innovation and continued sustainable management practices are driving the Maine forest industry's rise to meet global demands.

Learn how our forests are growing the future of Maine's economy at [www.GrowForMaine.com](http://www.GrowForMaine.com)



# Who we are

Since 1961, the Maine Forest Products Council has been the voice of our forest economy. Our members include loggers, truckers, paper mills, tree farmers, foresters, sawmills, secondary wood manufacturers, bankers, lawyers, insurance executives and the owners of 8 million acres of commercial forestland. The MFPC Board is very active, and holds weekly policy conferences during each legislative session to discuss bills of interest and arrive at a position.

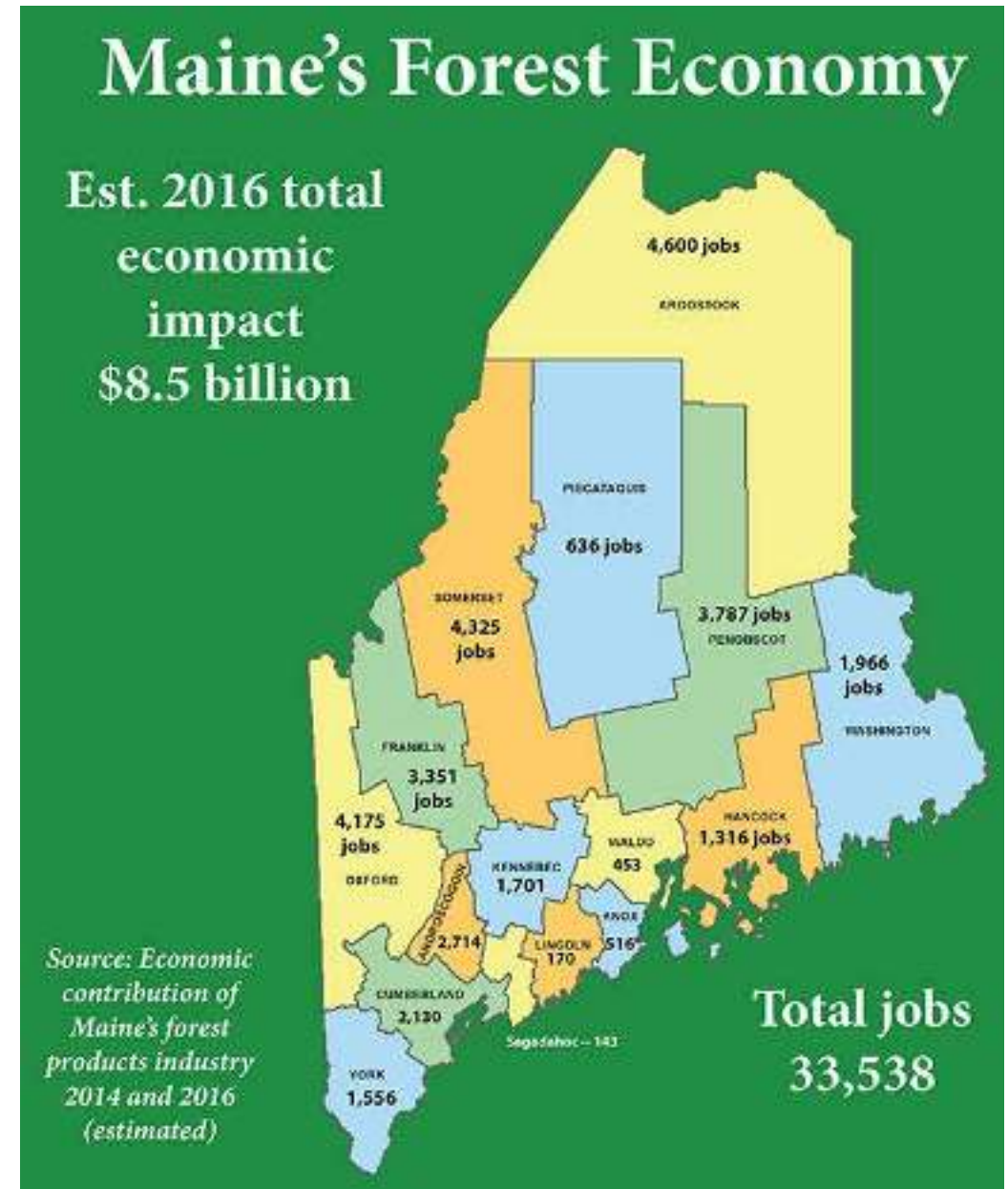






# Economic impact

- Total impact \$8.5 billion and 33,538 jobs (direct and indirect)
- About 1 out of every 24 jobs in Maine
- About \$1 out of every \$20 of Maine's GDP.



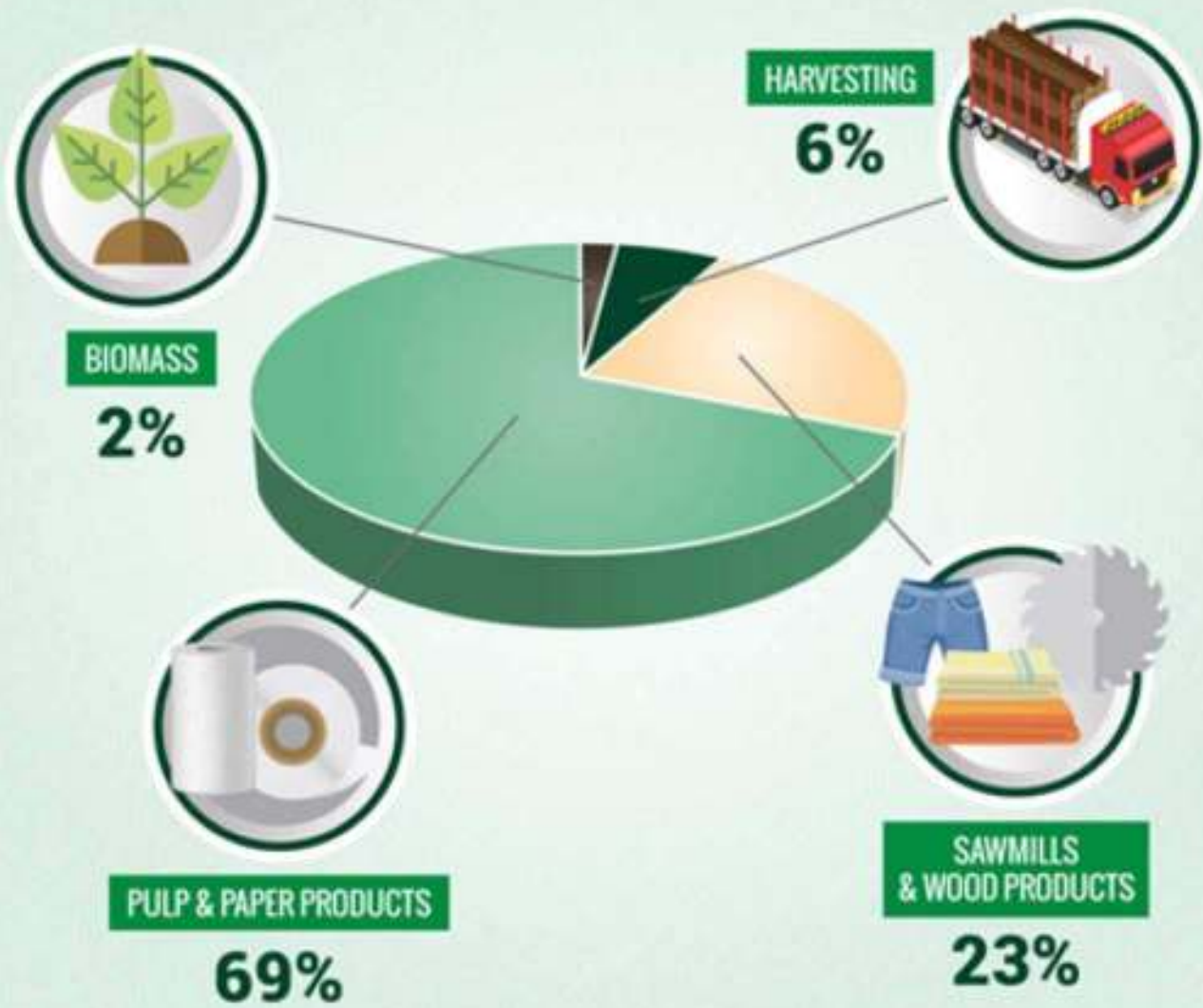


Maine has a land-use tradition  
that is unique in the nation

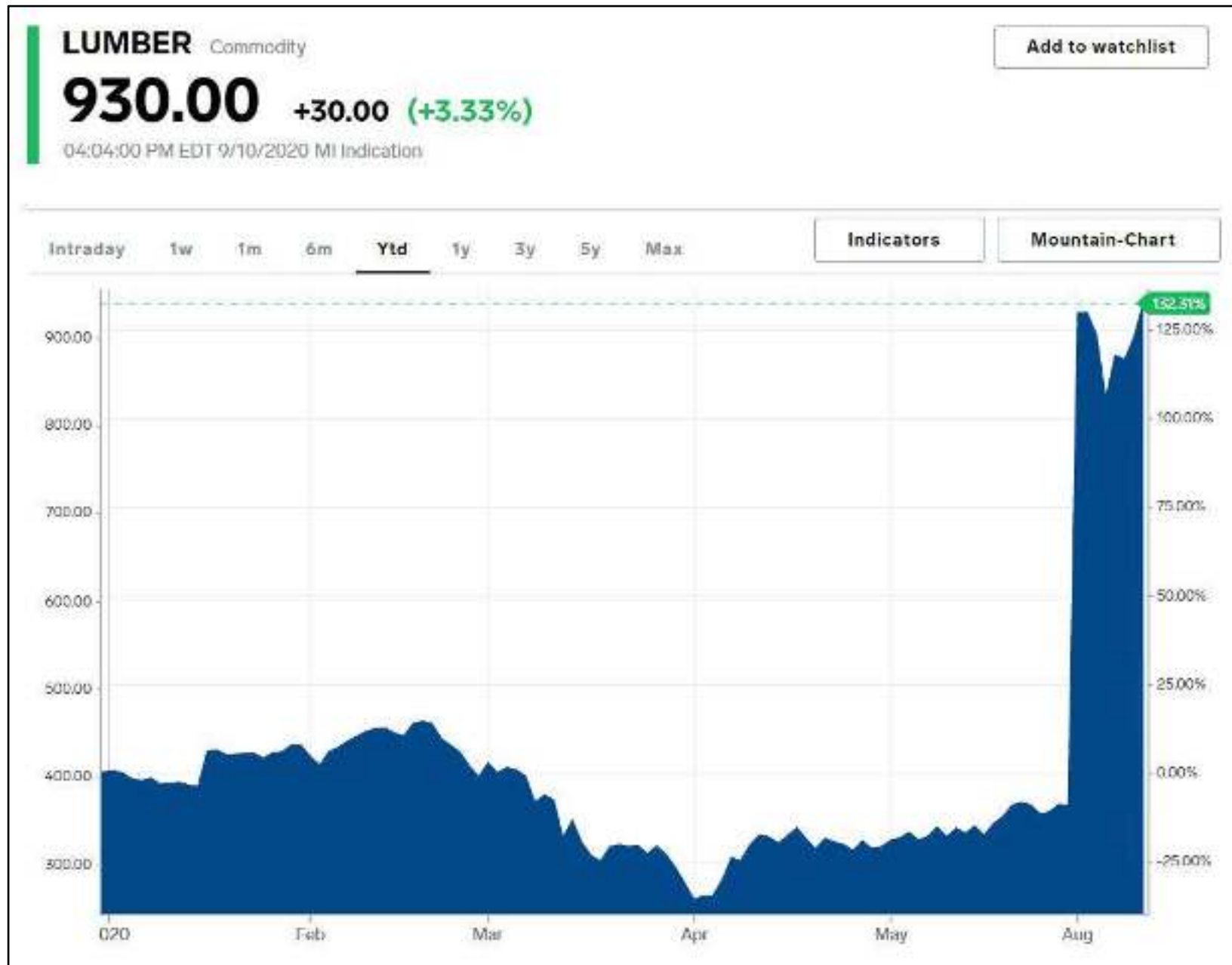
Most landowners allow  
the public to use their  
property for a wide  
variety of recreational  
activities free of charge.



WOOD PRODUCTS REVENUE (\$8.5B PER YEAR)



# Lumber Markets





# Wood panel businesses



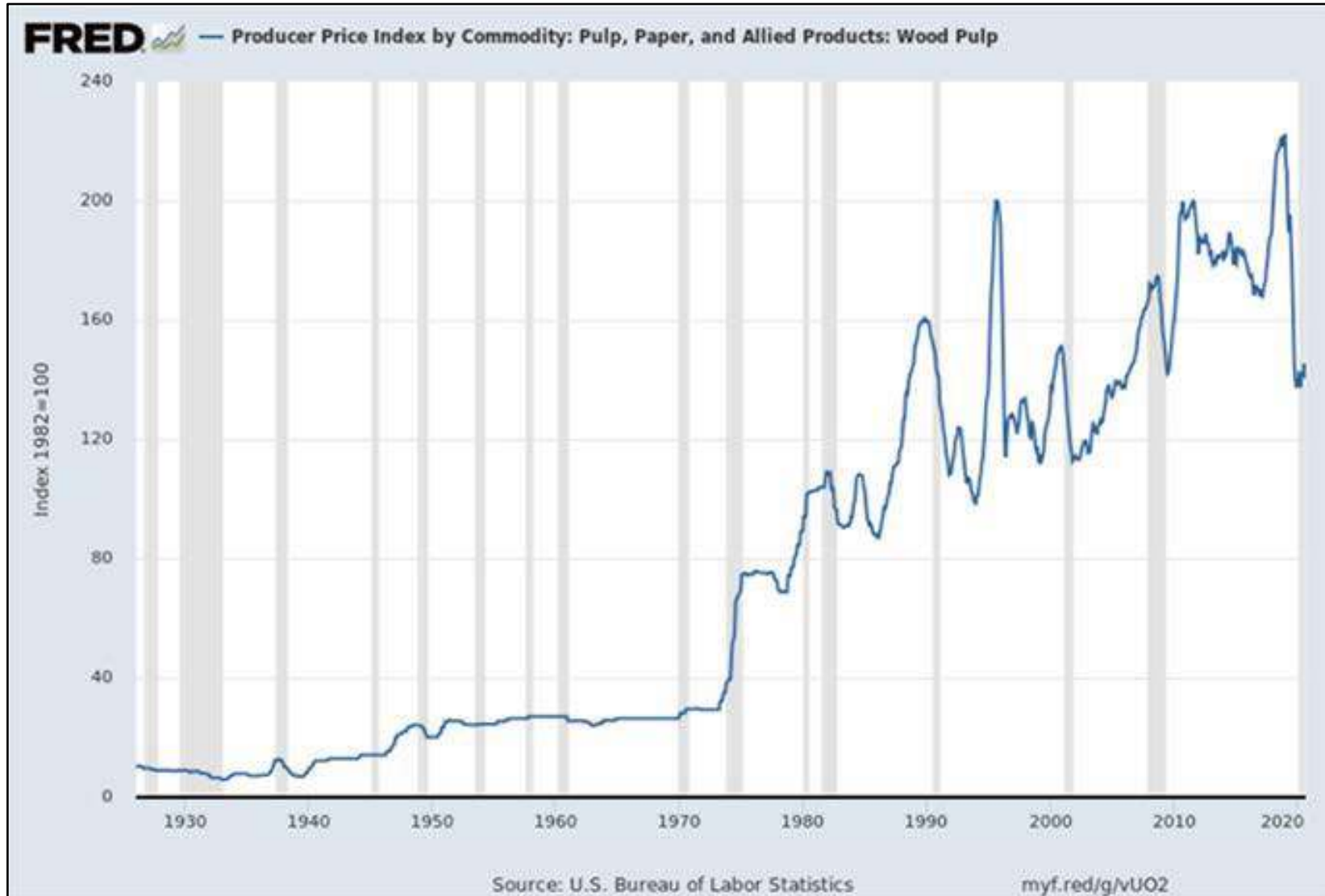
Huber Engineered Wood, Easton

Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, New Limerick





# U.S. Pulp & Paper prices declined sharply



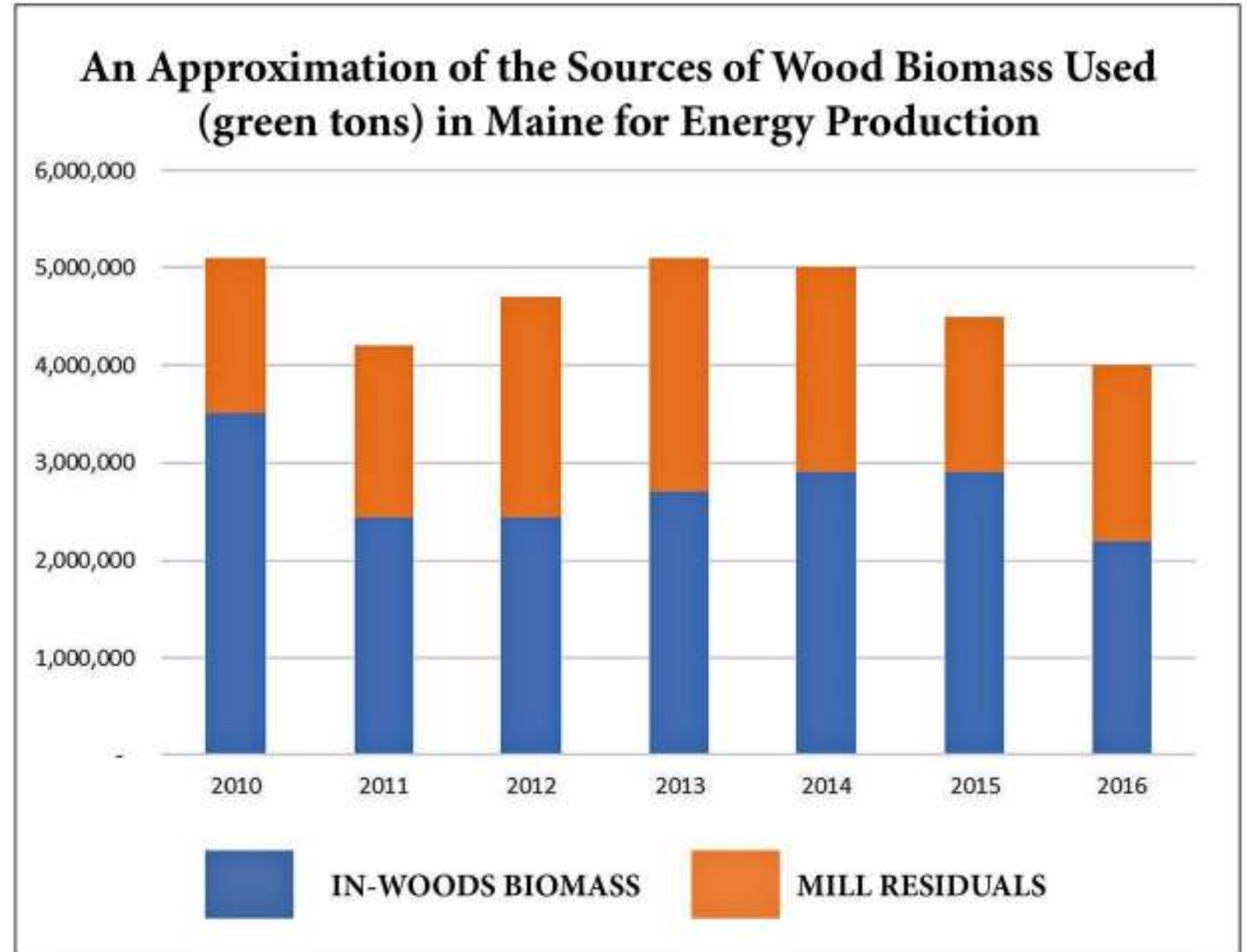
# Diversification of Maine mills is providing stability





Reduced  
outlets for mill  
residues and in-  
woods biomass

(Adapted from FOR/Maine Wood Energy  
Report - INRS)



# Challenges in the COVID era

- The effect on logging operations is profound.
- Prior to COVID, operations were strong, labor supply constraints.
- Moved into mud season with strong inventories both in mill yards and stockpiled in the woods.
- Regional and company differences, ranging from curtailments to resumed operations.
- General consensus is operations since January are down 25-30% in harvest volume.





# Building The Roadmap

FOR/Maine ties together goals and industry vision



- Ambitious but achievable vision of a robust bioeconomy strategy
- Growth of traditional industries
- Diversification into new, emerging products
- Attraction of capital investment

Five year \$1B in public & private investment



# Would you even suspect you were wearing wood pulp?

- Tencel is manufactured from natural wood pulp cell-ulose and often blended with cotton.
- Clothes can be dressy or casual.
- Highly absorbent, breathable and comfortable.
- Wrinkle resistant, shrink resistant and static resistant.
- Machine washable and dryable.



**Toad and Co. (store in Freeport) 48% Tencel, 48% Organic Cotton, 4% Elastane**

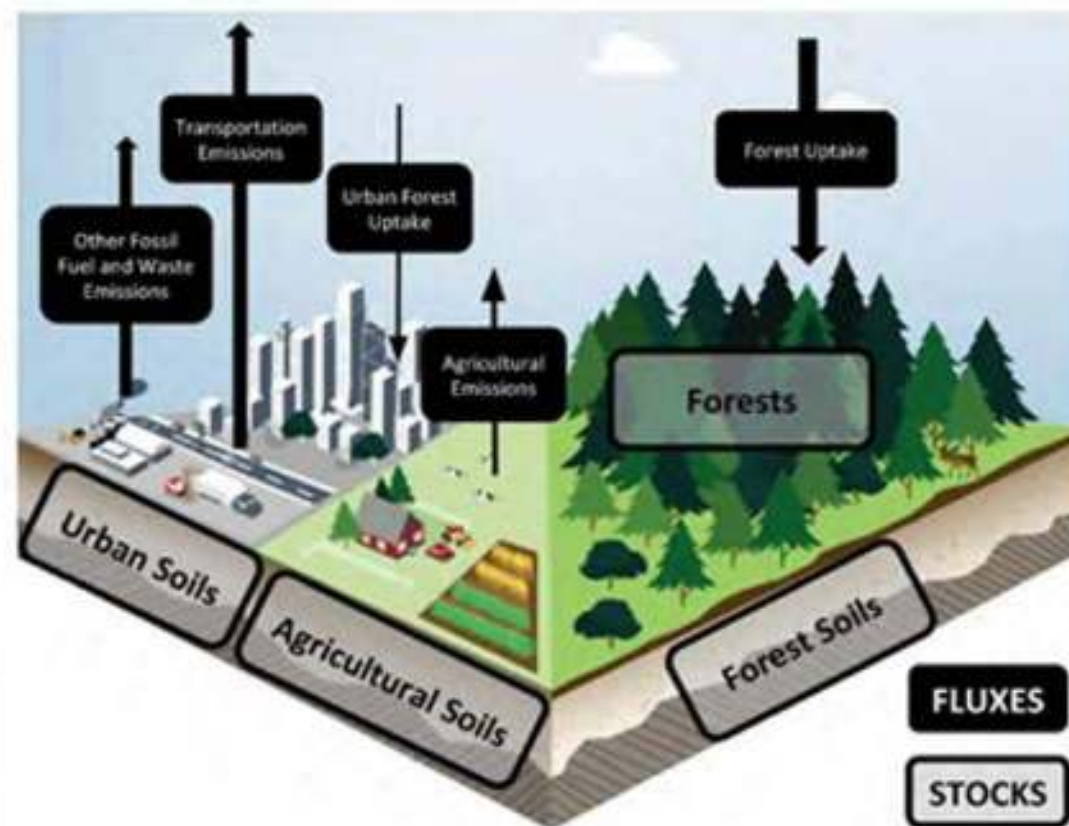


**L.L. Bean flannel shirt made of 52% organic cotton and 48% Tencel.**



## Maine Forest's Importance to State's Annual Carbon Budget

Carbon Pool	% of State's Annual Fossil Fuel Emission
Forest carbon stocks + annual growth	60%
Forest products	15%
Total forestry sector	75%
Net Land Sink	78%



# Wood buildings sequester carbon



The eight-story (85 feet high) Carbon 12 building in Portland, Oregon (above left) is the tallest commercial structure in the U.S. to be built from mass timber. Mjøstårnet (above right), located in central Norway, is 280 feet tall and currently the world's tallest wooden building.



# Maine Climate Council

Forest economy represented on 5 of 6 Working Groups

**Working Group  
Roles + Responsibilities**

Each working group spent months developing its climate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the council. Click the icon for each working group to see its past meeting schedule, minutes, and supporting information.

The image shows a 2x3 grid of circular icons, each containing a different symbol. The top row contains icons for trees, a lighthouse, and a building. The bottom row contains icons for a server rack, a magnifying glass, and a leaf with a plug. The icons are connected by a yellow line forming a grid.

**Guiding Principles**

**IMPROVE THE RESILIENCE** of Maine's communities, people, and industries to climate impacts

**PRIORITIZE** the welfare of Maine citizens—especially the most vulnerable communities

**FOSTER** the value of the State's natural resources and natural resource industries

**ENCOURAGE** diversity, inclusion and equity of all Maine communities and people

**UTILIZE** the most recent scientific and technical information and measure progress



# Maine Climate Council

## PROCESS TIMELINE



**June 2019**  
Governor signs LD 1679, establishing Maine Climate Council



**Sept 2019**  
Governor appoints Maine Climate Council members; MCC launches



**Oct 2019 - June 2020**  
Working Groups & Scientific + Technical Subcommittee Meet Monthly to Develop Mitigation & Adaptation Recommendations, Characterize Climate Impacts



**June 2020 - Dec 2020**  
Maine Climate Council Considers and Selects Final Strategies for State Climate Action Plan



**Dec 1, 2020**  
State Climate Action Plan Delivered to Legislature



# CLIMATE CHANGE COUNCIL

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Recognition of actively managed forest as a climate solution
- Opportunities to build on a carbon friendly forest bioeconomy
- Public connections to the forest economy

## **Challenges**

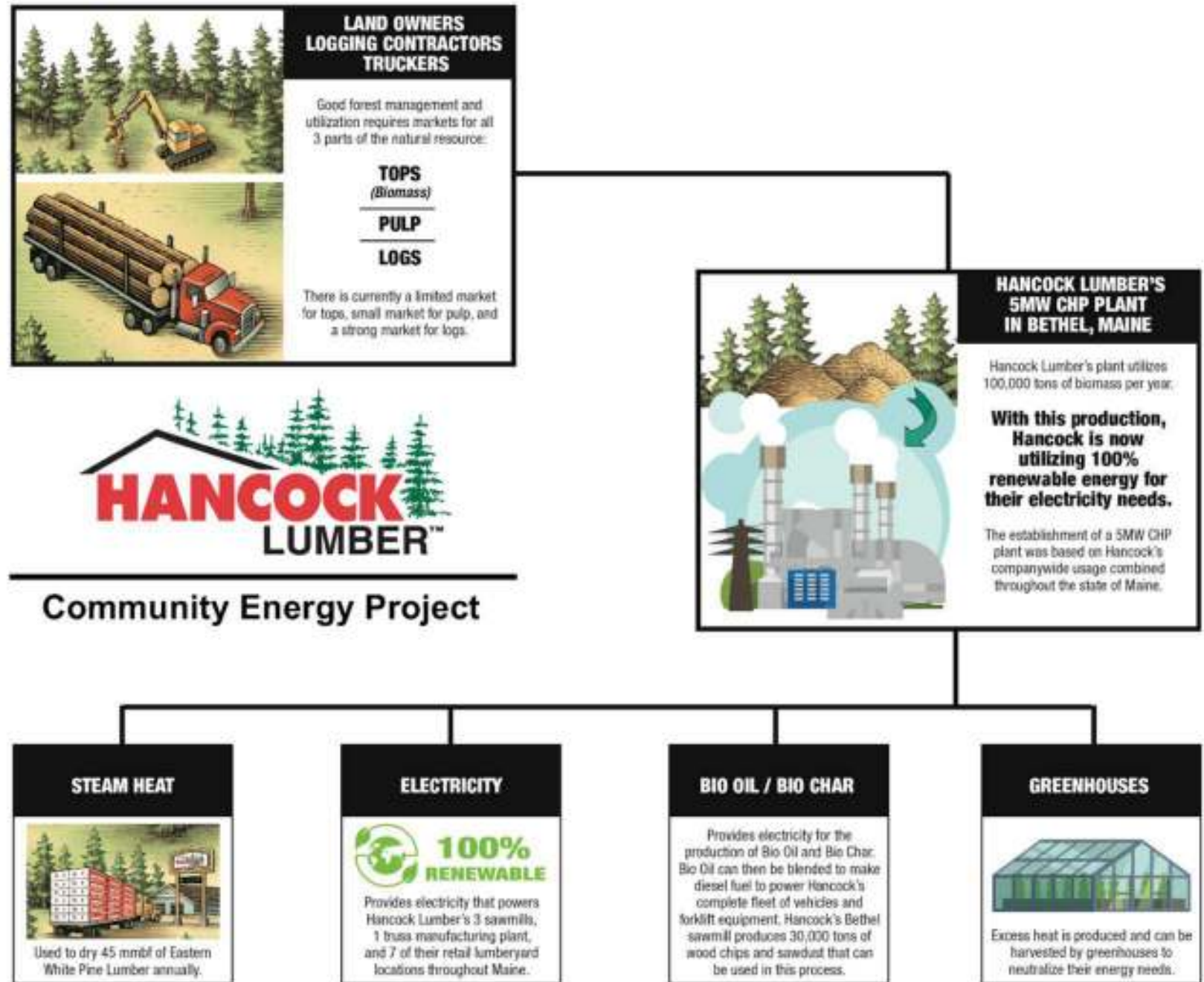
- Managing expectations for forest sequestration
- Regulatory protection tendency
- Challenges to biogenic carbon cycle
- Funding sources for recommendations
- The call for BOLD initiatives w/o consideration of social and economic factors

# Poland Spring, UMaine to explore biobased alternative for packaging material



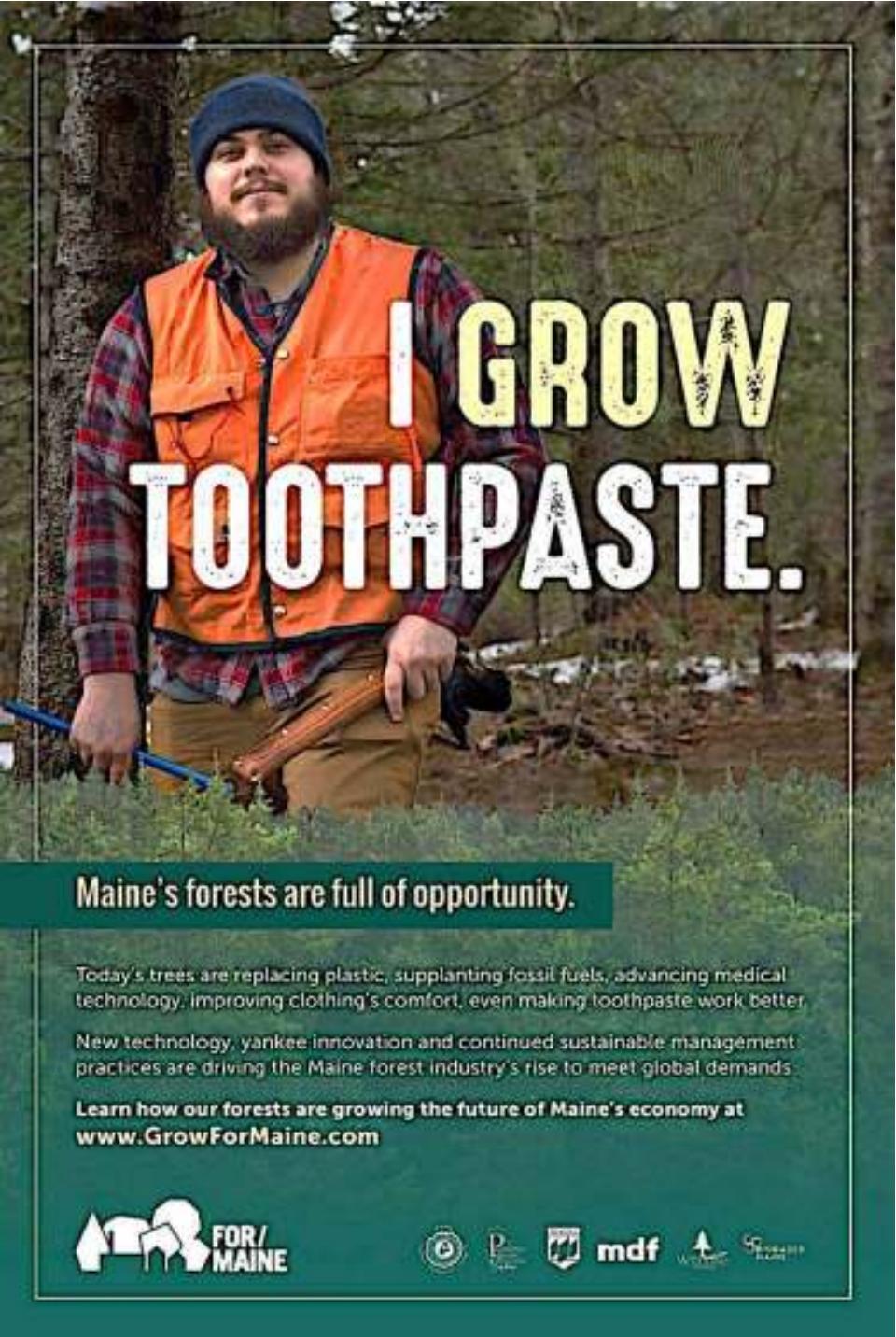


# Innovation in the next generation of wood manu- facturing facilities



# Strategic actions

1. Build more diversity in Maine's forest products portfolio
2. Expand markets based on available sustainably managed forests
3. Capitalize on emerging global markets
4. Develop the workforce
5. Remain competitive in business factors (e.g. taxes, energy, workforce development, regulatory predictability)
6. Communicate the vision for a prosperous forest industry and rural communities.



# THANKS! Maine's forests are full of opportunities

Today, trees are replacing plastic, supplanting fossil fuels, advancing medical technology, improving clothing's comfort, even making toothpaste work better.

New technology, Yankee innovation and continued sustainable management practices are driving the Maine forest industry's rise to meet global demands.