

The 2025–2026 PFPA Regional Meetings were a tremendous success, with all five events setting new attendance records and offering valuable opportunities for networking and industry connection. Each meeting featured updates from PFPA Executive Director Fred Strathmeyer, followed by engaging presentations from guest speakers who shared insights into key industry topics.

PFPA extends its sincere appreciation to all attendees and sponsors for their continued support and commitment to strengthening Pennsylvania’s forest products community.

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Below is a recap of our guest speakers:

Fall Regional Meeting Speaker-

Senior Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Rob Willig.

Mr. Willig will deliver an informative presentation on [Pennsylvania's ACRE Law](#) (Agriculture, Communities, and Rural Environment), a critical piece of legislation that protects the rights of farmers and forestry professionals. His session will help ensure that PFPA members and guests are well-informed about their legal rights—particularly when local municipalities question the legality of harvesting operations. The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee offers a valuable fact sheet, available [here](#) for your reference.

Spring Regional Meeting Speakers –

Eric Probert serves as the Silviculture Chief for the DCNR Bureau of Forestry, where he oversees the department's timber sale program. With 29 years of experience—25 of those as a Timber Management Forester—Eric brings deep expertise and practical insight. His presentation will provide an overview of the BOF Harvest Allocation Model and explain how harvests are modeled across Pennsylvania's state forest system.

Paul Weiss serves as the Chief Forester for the Pennsylvania Game Commission, a role he has held since 2022. He joined the agency in 2018, bringing with him extensive experience from more than a decade with the DCNR Bureau of Forestry. Prior to his work in state service, Paul began his career in the private sector as a forester in northwestern Pennsylvania, where he spent nearly seven years refining his field expertise. In his presentation, Paul will discuss how the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)—developed collaboratively with DCNR—has enabled forest management activities to continue on State Game Lands while ensuring compliance with conservation requirements. He will also highlight potential opportunities for private forestry organizations to draw from this model should the industry choose to pursue an HCP of its own.