

# 2016 Central Woodland Conference Held in Oxford

## Win-Win Partnership is Sustainable Forest Management

By Ryan McIntyre, RPF

Since the late 1960's when the Northern Pulp mill (formerly Scott Maritimes Limited) opened its doors at Abercrombie Point in Pictou County, the company has provided a vital market for pulpwood fibre from Nova Scotia woodlots and, has opened doors to improved forest management following harvest. The purchase of stumpage (standing timber) from woodlot owners continues to be an important source of wood fibre for the mill operation and provides a host of minimal to no cost management options to the landowner.

The Northern Pulp Woodlot Partners Program is as much about building relationships and trust than simply buying the standing wood and harvesting it. Company personnel work closely with woodlot owners to help them accomplish their goals. Private woodlot owners are offered a variety of options. The first goal for many owners is to maximize the economic value of their wood. Their forest land is, in many ways, the same as an investment with a bank or financial broker. Land owners want a good return and they want to know their investments are in good hands over time.

As the largest private supplier of sawlogs and studwood to sawmills in Nova Scotia, and as a major wood fibre buyer, Northern Pulp calculates stumpage payments based on the value of the products growing on the woodlot. Sawlogs and studwood for sawmills in most market situations, provide the best return to the land owner. Pulpwood suitable for kraft pulp production, a lower valued product, is then factored in to calculate the overall value of the woodlot. Northern Pulp requires both products so there is no incentive to buy only pulpwood.

The purchasing process can be a useful learning experience for the land owner. It begins with an assessment of the aerial photos of the woodlot, followed by and an on-

the-ground assessment or "timber cruise" of the woodlot to see what products are actually there, then finally meetings with the land owner to review our findings and recommendations. Meeting the objectives of the landowner is an important part of the program. The result is an accurate assessment of the value of the wood products on the land and a management plan with options for various harvesting methods best suited for the site as well as silviculture activities (for example, commercial thinning as well as tree planting for reforestation). The plan will include road building suggestions and required harvest exclusions such as clumps and corridors for stream and wildlife habitat protection.

Northern Pulp makes every effort to maximize the return to the owner and enhance the sustainability of the woodlot while meeting the objectives of the landowner. Everything, from undertaking a land title search

to building roads and replanting the site after harvest is at Northern Pulp's cost.

The partnership works for several reasons; the short term financial gain by the owner today, an understanding that the longer term objectives of the owner for the land must be part of the overall plan, and a commitment that all environmental and wildlife protection measures will be applied to the site.

Northern Pulp forestry operations are third party certified and audited through various forest certification standards.

Northern Pulp has a long track record of working with woodlot owners. Over the years the approach has been to ensure the owner is getting the best possible value and the company secures the wood fibre needed to keep its business operating and people employed. Woodlot owners even have payment options that meet their individual needs and objectives. Some owners prefer a lump

sum payment based on the estimated value of their wood, while others prefer to be paid based on the harvested product, after delivery to the local sawmill or pulp mill.

If you are interested in selling standing timber stumpage on your woodlot and would like to speak to a forest professional regarding your woodlot's potential, please contact Jerrold Graham at [jerrold.graham@northernpulp.com](mailto:jerrold.graham@northernpulp.com) or 902 396 7983

**Ryan McIntyre is Woodlands Planning Leader for Northern Pulp Nova Scotia Corp. Woodlands Division in New Glasgow, NS and can be contacted at: 902-752-8461 ext. 248, [ryan.mcintyre@northernpulp.com](mailto:ryan.mcintyre@northernpulp.com) [www.northernpulp.ca](http://www.northernpulp.ca)**



Jason Stewart, right, chats with Jim Hamilton, woodland owner in Tatamagouche area who resides in Dartmouth, following Jason's presentation at the Central Woodland Conference, Oxford. Jason made a presentation on Bragg Lumber and Oxford Frozen Food. Shown on the far left is Andrew Sutherland who delivered a Woodland Boundary Lines presentation. Pictured in the background is Dave Sutherland, Coordinator, Association for Sustainable Forestry, who presented ASF Silviculture and Biodiversity earlier in the morning. (Rees Photo)



Great Northern Timber had a display table at the Woodland Conference. (Rees Photo)

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welcomes your submissions and we are proud to provide coverage of community events.



For a few minutes the line-up was long, but the wait was worth the time for soup or chowder and a great selection of sandwiches, wraps and a blueberry dessert at the Central Woodland Conference held at the Oxford Regional Education Centre on April 2. (Rees Photo)



It didn't take long for the 120 delegates to "dig-in" and enjoy lunch at the Woodland conference. Pictured on the far left is Murray and Linda Giddens, while Earle Miller is seated on the far right of the photo. (Rees Photo)



Cathy Denton was wearing a great smile all day long as she handled booth duties at the North Nova Forest Owners Cooperative. In addition to be an exhibitor, the coop was also a sponsor of the event. (Rees Photo)



Federation of Nova Scotia  
Woodland Owners

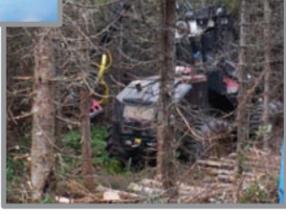
Annual General Meeting  
Saturday May 14, 2016  
Holiday Inn, Truro  
Open to Public

Enjoy a delicious lunch and listen to presentations about issues and resources to help you manage your land sustainably. Bring a neighbour or friend that may be interested in woodlots and forestry. Visit [www.fnswo.ca](http://www.fnswo.ca) for further details.

To pre-register, call Toll Free at 1-844-WOOD-LOT (844-966-3568) or email [info@fnswo.ca](mailto:info@fnswo.ca).





**FILL PLANTING**

- Normally done 3-5 years after harvest, if necessary

**MANUAL WEEDING**

- Normally done when crop trees are between 0.5m & 2m in height. Entire site must be treated.

**PRE-COMMERCIAL THINNING**

**COMMERCIAL THINNING**

- Pre-and Post Treatment Assessment (PTA) required.

**CROP TREE RELEASE**

**CROP TREE PRUNING, and**

**SELECTION MANAGEMENT.**

Contact us to join our mailing list and receive information each year for current funding availability.

**ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY**  
PO Box 696, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E5  
Phone: (902) 895-1179 Fax: (902) 893-1197  
[www.asforestry.com](http://www.asforestry.com)