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summer/fall 2019 Newsletter

Engaged Landowner's Objectives Met

Jason Henry hired Sappi Forestry to manage his property in Norridgewock. On their initial visit Jason and Sappi Forester Cody Lachance spent four hours walking the lot and discussing Jason's objectives for the land. Jason continued to work with Cody developing a management plan for the property and overseeing the harvest that was completed in June 2019. "Jason was very involved," says Cody. "It makes it fun for me to be working with a landowner who is so engaged."

Jason, a papermaker at Sappi's Somerset Mill, is an avid hunter. "My primary objective was to improve wildlife habitat. I wanted to open up the lot, and told Cody not to cut any oaks," he says. Deer love acorns.

That fit with Cody's idea for the forest, which had a mix of oak, pine, beech, fir, birch and brush. The lot has very sandy soils that are ideal for pine and oak. "I wanted to remove a lot of the brush and low-value trees, and harvest much of the fir and birch to bring the species mix back to what it once was, and what the soils will best support," Cody explains. "We did harvest some pine, which helped on the financial side, but we focused on fir for pulp and sawlogs, and birch. I wanted to target the trees that wouldn't be standing in 10 more years even without a harvest."

The cutting was done by GCA Logging, Inc. from Avon, Maine. "I've seen a lot of cuts over the years, and I am really happy with the work they did on my lot," says Jason. "The communication between Dustin (who worked the feller buncher), Cody and myself was excellent. They went above and beyond to keep me informed and let me be part of it," Jason continued.

Jason says that his objective was not about how much money he could make, but improving the lot. "With Cody I never felt pushed to take more than I wanted. It wasn't a sales pitch. During the harvest I went from being nervous to not being able to wait to see what they had done."

Jason used some of the proceeds from the harvest to build and improve the roads on his land. Based on the tracks on these new roads, the deer already appreciate their improved habitat.

"I never felt pushed to take more than I wanted. It wasn't a sales pitch. During the harvest I went from being nervous to not being able to wait to see what they had done."

- Jason Henry, woodlot owner



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Browntail Moth Infestation Worsens

New Map Shows Spread in Maine

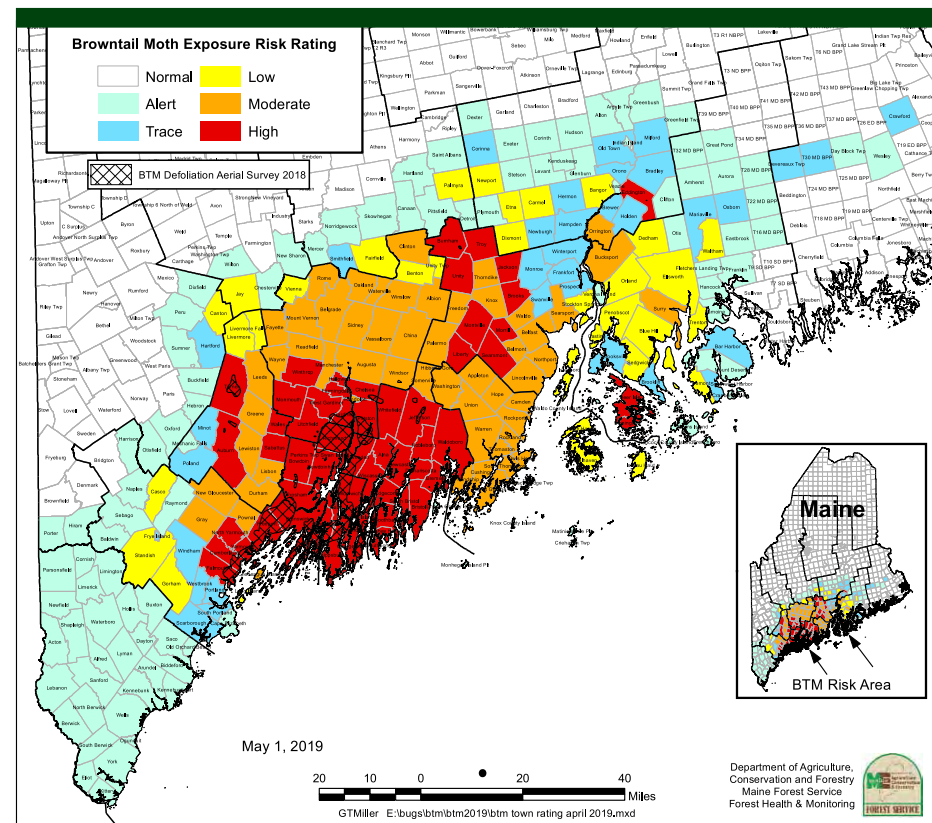


The browntail moth is a common invasive species from Europe that is impacting both tree and human health. The moth, originally found in the U.S. in 1897, spread quickly but dropped off almost entirely by the 1970s. It is now making a comeback, and while most prevalent in Maine along our coast and islands, is found as far north as Corinna and Old Town. The current infestation is the worst it has been in decades.

The toxic hairs on the caterpillar can cause a poison ivy-like rash and can cause respiratory irritation for some sensitive people. Hairs can come off dead or live caterpillars and become airborne. They can remain toxic for several years.

The moths feed heavily on hardwood leaves, especially favoring apple, oak and cherry. They can completely defoliate trees and seriously impact tree health. This stress year after year can lead to tree mortality.

The moth is active in July and August, with June-August posing the highest risk for human health. The caterpillars form tightly woven webs at the top of the tree's crown. The best control method, which should be taken with caution, is manual removal of webs in winter months when caterpillars are dormant and destroying the webs by burning or soaking in a water/detergent mix.



For more information check the Maine Forest Service website: www.maine.gov/eab, or contact your Sappi forester.

northern white cedar

Northern White Cedar is generally found where the soil is moist. Dense stands are widely distributed statewide. Trees grow to 60 feet in height and to 3 feet in diameter.



The wood, which is light-weight and resistant to decay, is used for fencing, cabin logs, poles, and shingles. Cedar shavings are used for animal bedding and mulch.



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Featured Maine Mill

Frost Cedar Products

Royce W. Frost started Frost Cedar Products nearly 60 years ago, in 1960. He worked with his wife, Blandine, who kept the books until she retired in 1984. His elder son Royce F. Frost, who goes by Frank, now runs the company along with his wife Debbie.

Frank and his younger brother Jack worked at the mill while they were in high school, and unexpectedly took over for a few months as their father recovered from a serious heart attack. Frank and Jack then became partners in the business. Jack stayed involved for five years and left to become a logger. Frank took over the mill operations when his father retired in 1982.

Debbie Frost also worked at the mill in high school in the 1970s and continued working in the mill room after she married Frank. Debbie took over the office work and books in 1985. Justin, Frank and Debbie's son, has been helping them run the mill for the past 20 years. Justin does a lot of the fabricating and runs his own Wood Mizer at the mill. Trisha, their daughter, worked in the office with Debbie until after college.

A fire in 1968 destroyed the mill. Royce W. had no insurance



and had to completely rebuild from scratch.

Approximately 75% of the mill's production is cedar fencing. They make a variety of other cedar products, including v-match, decking material, 6x6 beams, shiplap and two-sided logs. They sell cedar sawdust to local farmers for bedding and bark for mulch. "Dad initially thought the demand for northern

white cedar products was a fad, but now, nearly 60 years later, the business is still going strong. We had to give up installing cedar fencing many years ago because we were too busy with the manufacturing operations," Frank says.

The mill currently employs 9 people, including the Frosts. They process 50-70 cords of cedar per week, getting much of it from the Sappi procurement program. "We bought cedar from S.D. Warren and Scott Paper before Sappi acquired them."

Justin will be taking over the operations at some point in the future when Frank and Debbie retire. He says, "It isn't usual for a family business with three generations working together to still like each other. We do."



Cedar Posts and Fencing



Frank and Justin Frost



Cedar Pickets



Sappi Maine Forester: Cody Lachance

Cody Lachance was born and raised in central Maine, the area he now covers for the Sappi Maine Forestry Program as a procurement forester, working with private landowners to manage their woodlots. “I treat every woodlot like it is my own,” he says. “I want to find out exactly what the landowner wants from their woodlot and understand their objectives. When the job is done, I want them to look at their woodlot and say, “This is exactly what I was looking for.””

Cody is a licensed forester in the state of Maine. He attended the University of Maine, where he graduated with a B.S. in Forestry along with a minor in business administration. After graduating with his undergraduate degree, he decided to continue his education at the University of Maine, receiving his M.S. in Forest Resources.

Before coming to Sappi, Cody worked for Weyerhaeuser out of their Bingham office. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, cooking, carpentry, and spending time with family and friends.

“It’s truly great working in the area I’ve called home my entire life,” says Cody. “I take great pride in helping landowners in this area manage their woodlots. I plan on doing this for many years to come and look forward to seeing these woodlots grow through the years. My goal is to be able to help landowners for multiple harvest cycles on their land.”

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