The Northern Forest Region: Maine • New Hampshire • Vermont • New York
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The Northern Forest Center

Community Development

Economic Development

Conservation
Region at Risk

• Changing industries
• Millions of acres sold
• Thousands of jobs lost
• Global competition
• Low educational levels
• Lack of broadband
• Youth leave seeking opportunity
• Climate Change
• Energy Costs
Percent Change in Total Population
Aged 25-34, 1990-2005

Change in Percent
-51.8 - -41.2
-41.1 - -22.6
-22.5 - 0.0
0.1 - 5.3

> US average of 10.2%
Change in Average Wage Per Job, 1992-2004 (2005 Dollars)

Change in Average Wage
- $12.50 - $0.00
- $0.10 - $4.80
- $4.90 - $10.40
- $10.50 - $23.90
- > US average of $13.00
Sustainable Economy Initiative Origin

Northern Forest Land Council 10th Anniversary Forum:

...the development of “community and economic development strategies across the region to reinvigorate the rural economies of the Northern Forest.”
SEI Goals

Goal 1
Embed a shared vision for linking economy, community, and conservation in the work of leaders across the Northern Forest.

Goal 2
Create a first-ever strategy for sustainable economic development in the Northern Forest.
The Initiative

Two Components:

- Economic assessment
- Regional organizing and consensus-building
# New York Steering Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Bartow</td>
<td>Director, Tug Hill Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Both</td>
<td>Adirondack Harvest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cali Brooks</td>
<td>Executive Director, Adirondack Community Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Collins</td>
<td>Residents’ Committee for the Protection of the Adirondacks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert K. Davies</td>
<td>State Forester, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Erman</td>
<td>Economic Advisor, Adirondack Park Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Gibbs</td>
<td>Natural Resources Specialist, Tug Hill Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Houseal</td>
<td>Executive Director, Adirondack Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lowe</td>
<td>NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Lussi</td>
<td>President, Crowne Plaza Resort, and Adirondack Park Agency Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Malinowski</td>
<td>Associate Director of Natural Resources, Tug Hill Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Martino</td>
<td>Executive Director, Adirondack North Country Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>John W. Mills, Ph.D</td>
<td>President, Paul Smith's College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.R. Risley</td>
<td>Adirondack Economic Development Corp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Ruzow Holland</td>
<td>Community Planning Advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francis E. Sheehan, Jr.</td>
<td>NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Smith</td>
<td>Director, Wildlife Conservation Society, Adirondack Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lani Ulrich</td>
<td>Founding Director, CAP-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ross Whaley</td>
<td>Adirondack Landowners Association</td>
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The Northern Forest Region: Maine • New Hampshire • Vermont • New York
Vision

The Northern Forest region is globally recognized for its vital regional economies and communities and the unique culture and ecosystem that support them.
Goals

Protect and enhance the region’s assets

Expand enterprise

Coordinate and advocate as a region
Ten Actions

Legacy of a Forsted Landscape

1. Keep forests as forests
Ten Actions

**Economic Spark**

2. Encourage creativity and business growth
3. Coordinate regional marketing
4. Buy local to keep wealth in the region
Ten Actions

Economic Backbone

5. Invest in world-class telecommunications
6. Improve transportation systems
7. Harness renewable energy
Ten Actions

Follow Through

8. Prepare for future changes
9. Coordinate and advocate for the region
10. Secure federal investment
SEI Outcomes

- Unanimous SEI Steering Committee endorsement and support in implementation
- Sub-regional efforts integration with SEI
- Near and Longer-term action – Summit for the Northern Forest, Sector Network development
SEI Implications

- Regional four-state asset-based comprehensive, integrated framework established – “think and act as a region”
- National Rural Policy – a plan in place for infrastructure, energy, climate change, etc.
- Grass-roots, decentralized, networked operating procedure
- Current economic reality and need to create own opportunity
The Work Ahead

- Secure Governor endorsements and unified action
- Incorporate the SEI into initiatives and policy around the region
- Leverage public and private funding opportunities
- Advance pilot projects
For More Information

www.nfsei.net