



Woodlot Owner Review

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Nova Scotia Woodlot Owner of the Year Award. Winners Chosen!

Provincial Winner

Western Region - Kevin and Susan Veinotte, Bridgewater, Lunenburg Co.

Kevin and Susan's woodlot rests on a 419 acre property that has been in the Veinotte family for over 150 years. The Veinottes manage their woodlot for an uneven aged Acadian forest. Harvest methods include selection harvesting and crop tree release. The Veinotte woodlot has many forest values such as timber production, wildlife habitat, as well as recreational features. The woodlot features a 30 acre organic christmas tree lot where they use an interesting pest management system, ladybugs! The Veinotte woodlot is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The Veinottes also raise organic cattle, sheep and chicken on their property and are actively involved in their community.



Photo: Kevin Veinotte. Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

Congratulations To Kevin and Susan Veinotte, the 2007 Woodlot Owners of the Year!
The field day, and the award for the provincial Woodlot Owner of the Year will be presented to the Veinotte family by the Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable David Morse on September 29th.

Regional Winners

Eastern Region - Bob Bancroft and Alice Reed, Pomquet, Antigonish Co.

Bob Bancroft is a retired biologist from the Departments of Natural Resources and of Fisheries. Bob and Alice have a beautiful 56 acre woodlot not far from the shores of Pomquet Provincial Park in Antigonish County. The property was purchased 32 years ago. It was an abandoned field that is being restored to a natural Acadian forest. The woodlot features a rich mixture of native softwood and hardwood tree species. There have been many developments on the woodlot that are aimed at bettering the environment for wildlife and natural Acadian forest regeneration. The field day on Bob and Alice's woodlot will be held on September 15th.



Photo: Bob Bancroft and Alice Reed. Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

Central Region - Brian W. Brown, Oxford, Cumberland Co.

Brian W. Brown is an experienced and dedicated woodland owner. Retiring thirteen years ago from a lengthy career as a conservation officer with the Department of Natural Resources, he maintains 14 woodlots on a daily basis, totalling a size of 1600 acres. Brian has multiple forest values on his woodlots, such as income from maple syrup production, shiitake mushrooms, christmas trees, as well as water protection and quality, wildlife habitat, timber production, and offers many recreational opportunities. Managing 14 woodlots is a difficult task,



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and it is a full-time job for Brian. The field day on Brian's woodlot will be held on September 22nd.

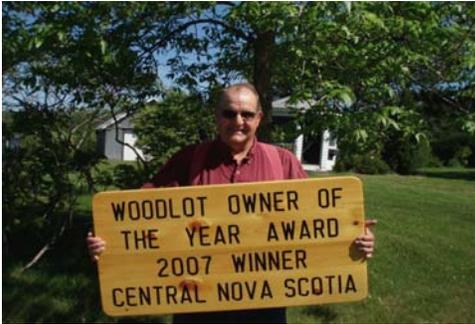


Photo: Brian W. Brown. Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

All of the 2007 Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners of the Year are

“Working with what they have!”

Meet the winners, and experience these outstanding woodlots for yourself on the field days!

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calender!

Course: Chainsaw Use and Safety

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources will host a chainsaw use and safety course in the central, western and eastern regions in December. If you are interested in attending one of these courses please contact your local DNR office or Simon Mutabazi at the Stewardship and Outreach Section of DNR.

Past Events

Workshop: Forest Harvesting Under Wet Ground Conditions: Planning and Operational Best Management Practices

In late June, the Nova Forest Alliance hosted a workshop on sound harvesting practices in wet conditions. The workshop successfully informed forest managers and contractors about harvesting techniques that have minimal negative impacts on the forest ecosystem when the soil is wet.

Woodlot Owner Conference 2007

This year's Woodlot Owner Conferences were held in March in the central, western and eastern regions of the Province. The conferences were attended by over 400 woodlot owners from across the province. The main issues discussed at the conferences were climate change, markets, and non-timber forest products, to name only a few. Stay tuned for information on next year's Woodlot Owner Conference!

Those pesky pests...

White Pine Weevil Management

The White Pine Weevil (*Pissodes strobi*) is an insect native to Nova Scotia. The weevil can attack all pine and spruce trees, however, it has only been found to damage White Pine and Norway Spruce. The weevil attacks the tree's leader and can ultimately cause a reduction in growth height, stem deformation and makes the tree more vulnerable to decay. If you are planning to plant a spruce or pine plantation on your woodlot, please consider the following in order to reduce damage caused by weevil attacks.

- plant trees with a spacing of 2.5m or less
- retain shade trees
- plant a diverse mixture of susceptible and resistant tree species
- prune to leave only one leader
- delay pre-commercial thinning



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If you follow these management techniques you will be on your way to growing healthy, pest-free stands.

For more information, please visit the Natural Resources Canada white pine weevil website at www.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/subsite/weevil.

BSLB course highlights-May 24, 2007

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources hosted a workshop on the Brown Spruce Long horned Beetle (BSLB) on May 24th, 2007. The workshop featured presentations from Glenn Harrison from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Gina Penny, the provincial entomologist, and Andrew Fedora of the Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners. The workshop focussed on a brief history of the BSLB in Nova Scotia, identification techniques, the new Ministerial Order and what it means for private woodlot owners in Nova Scotia. Here are some of the key points from the workshop:

New Ministerial Order: The expansion of the BSLB containment area was announced on May 14th, 2007. The new containment area refers to parts of Halifax, Hants and Colchester County. Movement of spruce logs, bark and unprocessed wood chips are restricted out of the containment area. In order to move the above mentioned wood products out of the containment area, you must obtain a permit from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. For more information on obtaining a movement permit or detection methods, [please visit www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca) or contact the

Nova Scotia BSLB Office

1-877-868-0622 or (902) 426-4667

Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m-4:00 p.m.

Current Issues

Climate Change

In Canada, the average temperature has increased by approximately 1°C over the past 150 years. According to the Natural Resources Canada climate change model, the prediction is that within the next 20 years there may be an average increase of 3°C - 5°C in northern regions like Canada. But what does the threat of climate change mean for Nova Scotia woodlot owners? Climate change may drastically affect the resource availability of the forestry sector. Native tree species may become stressed and may have to adapt to live in a warmer climate. Trees that are able to quickly adapt to new temperatures may not be greatly affected by climate change. However, trees that are not able to adapt fast enough may be forced to recede northward, leaving room for southern tree species to become established. Trees that may be incapable of adapting quickly enough to withstand climate change are slow growing trees with a long life expectancy, and only produce a small amount of seeds. The result may be a dramatic change in tree species found across the province. Also, earlier springs and a decline in tree health may increase the impact of invasive pests, such as the BSLB. The demand for lumber may also be influenced by the increased frequency of natural disasters fuelled by climate change.

The exact impact that climate change will have on Nova Scotia's forests is difficult and complex to predict because both the climate and forestry sector are dependent on many different factors. However, we should be prepared to be capable of adapting to a new climate in the near future. For more information, please visit the Natural Resources Canada climate change website at

www.ecosys.cfl.scf.nrcan.gc.ca/issues/clim_chg_e.asp



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Did you know?

Managing for a woodlot rich in biodiversity can reduce the impact of destructive pests!

Thinking of building a nest box on your woodlot?

It is not always possible to retain cavity trees for natural bird nesting sites. So to help out our aerial friends why not build a nest box on your woodlot. Having a nest box on your woodlot has several advantages. You can help restore declining bird populations, increase pollination rates on your woodlot, increase the recreational value of your woodlot, and nest boxes may also add to an Integrated Pest Management system (IPM) on your woodlot. Different bird species require different nesting sites. Here are a few things to consider when building a nest box.

- install nest box early in the year
- build out of strong, untreated, weather-proof wood
- have the appropriate sized opening
- drill a few small holes at the base of the nest box to keep it dry
- place nest box high enough to avoid predators
- place nest box in a quiet, low traffic area, and located close to a food source

For more information on constructing the appropriate nest box for specific species, please visit the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources website on constructing nest boxes at www.gov.ns.ca/natr/wildlife/conserva/13-04-3.htm.

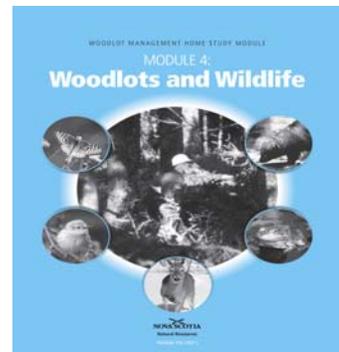


Photo: Barred Owl nest box on Bob Bancroft and Alice Reed's woodlot. Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

Woodlot Management Home Study Modules

The revised Module 4 "Woodlots and Wildlife" of the Department of Natural Resources Woodlot Management Home Study Series is now available. The revised module will replace the old module "Wildlife and Forestry". This module explains all the living and non-living components of a diverse woodlot, and emphasizes the importance of maintaining diversity on your woodlot. The module also has a chapter dedicated to habitats and species of special concern in Nova Scotia and explains how you can practice sound forestry on your woodlot without damaging these valuable habitats and species. If you would like to receive a copy of the revised module, please contact your local DNR office or the Stewardship and Outreach Section at the location below.

Order your Woodlot Management Home Study Module 4 "Woodlots and Wildlife" today.



How to reach us:

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