



Member Newsletter January 21, 2024

2024 so far, the year of wind?

Welcome to a new year! It has certainly been a windy one so far.

To quote the Weather Network, "winter has not been cancelled", despite the mild December we had.

We have received reports of some blowdown throughout the province. How well did your woodlot fare in the latest storms?



photo by naturetrustnb

This is considered the second year of the 'El Nino' effect, and that means things should continue to be a bit wild. If typical climate patterns hold, the soaring temperatures we had in 2023 could get even hotter this year.

"Usually, it's the subsequent year that is the warmest year," said Tom Di Liberto, a climate scientist and public affairs specialist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

El Niño normally peaks around this time of year, the beginning of the new year, and then usually ends sometime in the springtime.... We'll see if that holds true."

Even if El Niño doesn't make 2024 a record-breaker, its effects are still likely to be felt across Canada.

As Maritimers and woodlot owners we can adapt to anything nature throws at us.

Happy New Year everyone!

In this month's issue:

- ◆ [A Message from the ED](#)
- ◆ [What's New?](#)
- ◆ [Seeds of wisdom](#)
- ◆ *And more!*

www.nbwoodlotowners.ca/calendar-of/#event-list

HOW CAN WE MANAGE FORESTS TO HELP AT-RISK FOREST BIRDS?

with Dr. Cindy Staicer

Start at 3 PM AST 🕒
Tuesday, Feb 6, 2024 📅

A Message from the Executive Director

Happy New Year! The Board and Staff of the Federation wish you all a year filled with prosperity, health, and happiness. We hope that you all enjoyed time with family and friends over the holiday season.

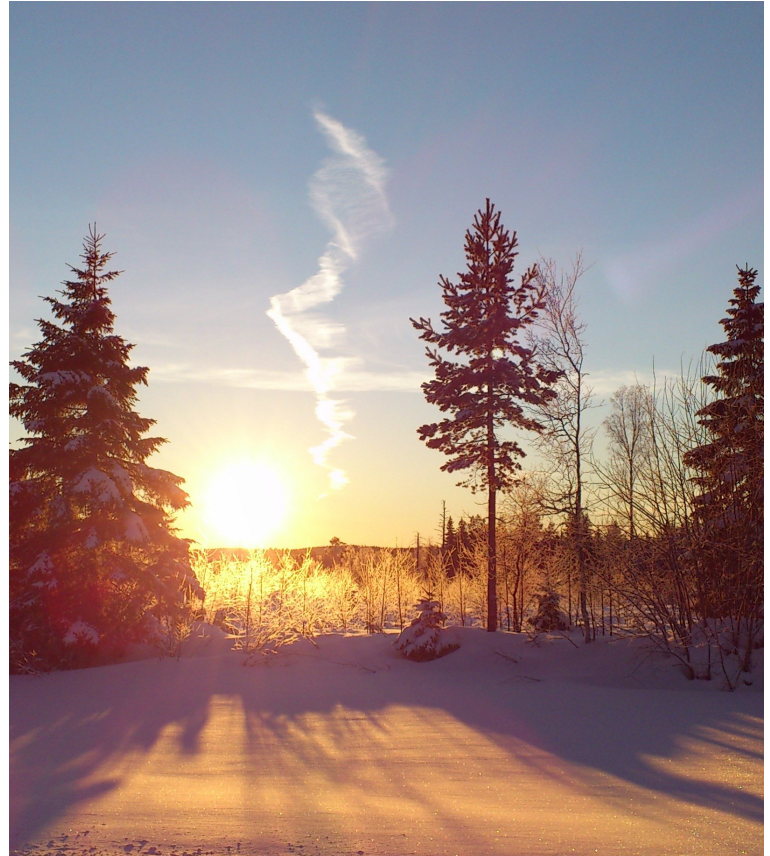
It is important to take some time to slow down and enjoy the good things in life and to take stock of all that you have accomplished. That is what we are doing at the Federation. Since we have returned in the new year, we have been taking stock of what you, our members, told us you like from last year and are using that to build an action plan for the current year.

Last year we had too many irons in the fire for the human resources that we currently have and so are looking to better match our human capital and our efforts in 2024. This does not mean that we will not be working hard for our members but rather that our efforts will be more focused on what you have told us are your priorities.

The Board will be having a strategic planning session soon to determine the actions, key performance indications and goals for the coming year. Plans are already underway for another trip to Ottawa **to lobby for better policies** for private forest owners.

We are pleased that in 2023 we again had 2Billion Tree money and I am speaking with NRCan staff on Monday about an extension until the end of the program.

We are part of a Maritime group that has received funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada to develop a **Maritime FSC certificate** and to provide training and awareness of what it means/requires to be FSC certified. We think that the demand for FSC certified wood will increase in the future and that FSC certification will make pri-



vate land carbon credits more attractive to purchasers.

As ever, we remain optimistic that there will be opportunities for private woodlot owners. Never have environmental issues been such a focus for government and we continue to strive to position our members so that they can take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

Cheers to 2024 may it be a good one!

Respectfully submitted,

Susannah Banks
Executive Director

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What's New?

A round up of news from our website, other organizations and upcoming events

We're hiring! We are looking for an outgoing **Membership Development Manager** who will be in charge of member engagement and member acquisition. A results-driven individual who is excited about growing a unified voice for woodlot owners across the province.

If you know someone that loves the outdoors, people, and being creative, [sent them this link!](#)

February 6, 2024 we will be co-hosting a **free webinar**: **“How can we manage forests to help at-risk forest birds?”** in partnership with the Nashwaak Watershed Association. [Registration](#) is now open.

There will be a **total solar eclipse** going right across the province on **April 8** this year! For the occasion, Nature NB has created an [‘Observe the Skies’](#) webpage. They will be updating you with the latest on major events going on in the New Brunswick sky. Stay in the loop for articles and information leading up to the eclipse.

Want to show off your woodlot owner pride and look great while doing it? Then we have the t-shirt for you!

Check out the new [Shop](#) on the website. (more items, including books, coming soon!)

Front of t-shirt
Devant du t-shirt



Back of t-shirt
Dos du t-shirt



You probably already know that the [Ads Board](#) on the Federation website is **FREE for members** to post their ads. Everyone can view the Ads Board, so post your ad and reach a wider audience!

But now non-members can buy a 3-month subscription to advertise on the Ads Board as well. If you know anyone that would like to reach a larger audience, point them to the Ads Board page!

Keep an eye on the [News](#), [Ads Board](#), and [Calendar of Events](#) on the website for additional events and details.



SEEDS OF WISDOM

Bits of information to help you make the most of your woodlot adventures

Tree profile: Red Oak

“In spring northern red oak trees are a boon for our pollen-hungry native bees. Mammals and birds feast on abundant and hearty oak acorns in fall. Cavity nesters such as wood ducks, screech owls and pileated woodpeckers make homes in the sheltered nooks of oak trees. Oak leaves are a primary food source for many species of caterpillars, which in turn are an important food source for migrating vireos, warblers and thrushes. Further, with the decline of our native nut-bearing American beech trees to disease, many species will lean all the more on oak acorns in fall and winter as a rich source of nutrition.”

Red oak acorns can be found in naturally occurring stands of red oak. Pick acorns from low branches or from the ground towards the end of summer when they are starting to change colour from green to reddish-brown and some of them are starting to drop.



And the best part is that red oak is expected to adapt to the changing climate very well in our region!

Moose vs. Deer Scat 101

Ever wanted to learn about animal tracking? Let's talk about the subtle differences between deer and moose scat.

Deer scat is small and round, about 1 cm in diameter, and are left in piles of many pellets, they can often be found in cleared fields, open trails and sometimes in forests. If you spot a scat that looks like a chocolate-covered raisins, you're in deer territory. And they poop an average of 13 times per day!



Deer vs Moose Scat!

Moose scat is even larger at 1.5-2 cm in diameter and oval in shape, often looking like chocolate-covered almonds! If a moose has been munching on tougher foods, their poop may resemble deer's, but remember theirs is much larger in size.

Keep your detective hat on! Winter pellets can reveal more—look at their size and shape. Small pellets might belong to moose calves, while cow moose pellets tend to be narrower and longer than bull moose droppings. Next time you're on a woodland adventure, keep an eye out for these unique forest clues!

Sourced from Nature Nova Scotia

Do these headlines interest you?

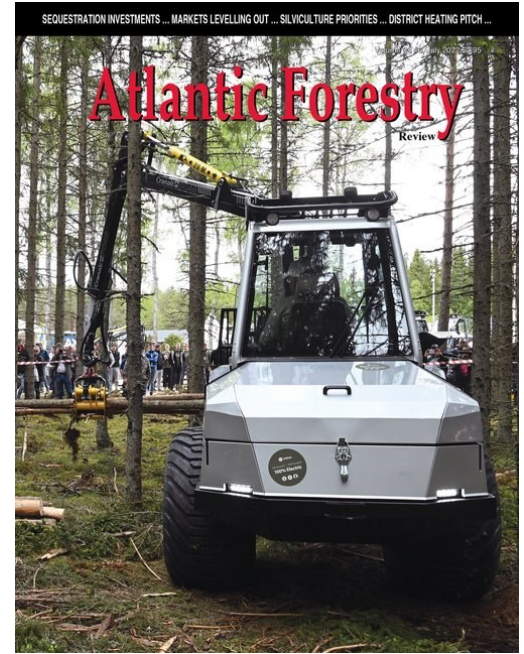
- *Access Issues: Building good woods roads is a sound investment*
- *Planting Pointers*
- *Gearing up for Greenery Season*

These articles and much more are in the latest edition of the Atlantic Forestry Review!

As a NBFWO member, you can receive a \$6 discount off of the price of a 1-year subscription. **That's 6 issues a year for only \$14 - what a deal!**

Makes a great gift too!

[Click here](#) to sign up today!



Blog writers wanted

We are looking for opinion pieces to include in the NBFWO [Blog](#). Would you like the opportunity to share your knowledge and writing skills?

If you are interested, please get in touch with the topic(s) you would like to write about. Email info@nbwoodlotowners.ca



Be social with us!



www.nbwoodlotowners.ca

Thanks for reading

Until next time!