



New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Owners
Fédération des propriétaires de lots boisés du Nouveau-Brunswick

Member Newsletter - February 16, 2025

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Photo by Nicole Violette Laforge

Several members have recently asked how they can further support the Federation, so here are a couple of suggestions;

- [Volunteer](#) - everyone has skills they might not even realize could be useful!
- Help spread the word about the Federation and recruit new members (you can receive a discount off your next annual renewal - see details on the [member home](#) page)
- [Donate](#) - every little bit helps
- Share, Like and Comment on our [social media](#) posts — interacting with our posts helps to improve the Federation's visibility, reach, and helps grow our membership.

We are now on Bluesky!



And don't forget - we love to share your pictures! Email them to info@nbwoodlotowners.ca

A Message from the Executive Director

NBFWO's Exploration of a Carbon Project

Initiatives, Challenges, and Opportunities in New Brunswick

Introduction

The New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Owners (NBFWO) is embarking on an exciting venture into the realm of carbon projects. This initiative is driven by the growing interest in carbon credits and their potential benefits for forest owners. With New Brunswick's extensive forest ownership and diverse forest composition, the region is well-positioned to take advantage of the opportunities presented by carbon projects.

Steps Taken So Far

To lay the groundwork for this initiative, NBFWO has engaged in several key activities:

- Consultation with legal experts to navigate the legal landscape of carbon projects.
- Discussions with groups experienced in carbon credits to gain insights and best practices.
- Engagement with project developers to understand the practicalities of implementing carbon projects.

Interest in Carbon Projects

The interest in carbon projects within New Brunswick is significant, largely due to the province's forest ownership and composition. Forests play a crucial role in carbon sequestration, capturing and storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This ability to store carbon makes forests valuable in the context of carbon credits, which are tradable certificates representing the reduction of one metric ton of carbon dioxide emissions.

Challenges and Solutions

One of the primary challenges in implementing carbon projects is the complexity involved in amalgamating numerous small parcels of land owned by various landowners. However, NBFWO is making strides in overcoming this complexity through a methodical approach. By working closely with stakeholders and leveraging their expertise, NBFWO is slowly but surely navigating through the intricacies of an amalgamated carbon project.

Online Tool for Carbon Credit Assessment

A key component of NBFWO's carbon project initiative will be the use of an online tool. This tool will be designed to calculate the carbon credit potential of individual woodlots using existing forest inventory data and the PID. This will enable landowners to make initial assessments of the value of the carbon stored on

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their land. This tool aims to provide a user-friendly interface where woodlot owners can easily input their data and receive valuable insights into their potential carbon credits.

Flexibility in Forest Management

It is important to note that participating in a carbon project does not preclude woodlot owners from harvesting their own firewood and managing their woodlot. The flexibility lies in the ability to sell only a portion of the available carbon credits available, allowing owners to balance their need for firewood and forest management activities with the benefits of carbon credits. This flexibility ensures that landowners can continue to meet their personal objectives for their woodlot while contributing to carbon sequestration efforts.

Forests enrolled in a carbon project need to be third party certified. NBFWO is currently working with Nova Scotia and PEI woodlot owner groups to develop a Maritime wide group certificate under the existing NS certificate for small landowners. This will be FSC certification. NBFWO will also explore the potential to having SFI certification.

Commitment Period

One of the critical aspects of carbon projects is the commitment period required. Depending on the verification system under which the project is developed, this commitment typically ranges from 35 to 40 years. This long-term commitment underscores the importance of carefully considering the suitability of the project for individual woodlot owners as the decision may impact future owners as well.

Assessing Suitability

While carbon projects may not be suitable for every woodlot owner, there are specific factors that can help determine their suitability:

- **Age and composition of the forest:** Uneven aged forests or forests that are 25 – 30 years of age with a diverse composition may have higher carbon storage and sequestration potential. Younger or older forests still sequester and store carbon but their potential to sequester large quantities of carbon are more limited.
- **Goals and objectives:** Landowners' goals for their forest, whether for conservation, recreation, or resource extraction, play a significant role in determining project suitability.
- **Future ownership:** Considering the goals and objectives of future owners is also crucial, if the commitment period extends beyond the current ownership.

Time Frame

FSC certification will be available April 1, 2025. We still need to determine how this will be administered in NB and the cost to woodlot owners, but the system will be in place. Once NBFWO is certain that it wants to assume the liability of being a proponent for a carbon project it will take about 3 months for the web portal to be created and then somewhere between 14-18 months to be able to sell credits. This 14 - 18 months will be used to identify interested landowners, measure the carbon on their land and have it verified. It will likely be at least 2026 before we are in a position to sell carbon credits.

Conclusion

In conclusion, NBFWO's exploration of a carbon project represents a promising step toward leveraging the

environmental and economic benefits of carbon credits for woodlot owners in New Brunswick. By addressing the challenges, providing useful tools, and offering flexible management options, NBFWO aims to make carbon projects accessible and beneficial for those who find them suitable. As this initiative progresses, it holds the potential to contribute significantly to both local forest management and global carbon sequestration efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Susannah Banks
Executive Director, NBFWO
email: ED@nbwoodlotowners.ca
phone: 506-459-2990



CFO UPDATES

Canadian Forest Owners (CFO) represents 450,000 forest landowners, large and small, who are committed to long-term, sustainable forest management for a healthy climate and thriving communities. The NBFWO is a member of the CFO and our Executive Director Susannah Banks is current CFO Chair.

CFO Scholarship and Bursary Deadline is June 30th

Canadian Forest Owners is proud to provide funding to support students interested in advancing their education at technical, college, undergraduate, and graduate levels. CFO's interests include forest policy, advocacy, and the rural economy especially as it relates to private forest lands.

- [Christopher Lee Memorial Scholarship](#) – Undergraduate Level and Technical: \$2,000
- [Peter de Marsh Memorial Bursary](#) – Graduate Level: \$15,000

Please pass this information along to suitable forestry students in your network. For detailed information, visit the scholarship page at www.forestowners.ca.

Click [HERE](#) to view the NBFWO listing of scholarships



CFO remains actively engaged in **Species at Risk Act (SARA)** consultations. In September we submitted comments on both the Quebec Emergency order for caribou and the proposed recovery strategy for Spotted Owl in British Columbia. In both submissions CFO highlighted the economic and ecological significance of private forest lands. It is important to note that the Quebec emergency order specifically mentioned the exclusion of private forest lands from Critical Habitat requirements but failed to account for the eco-

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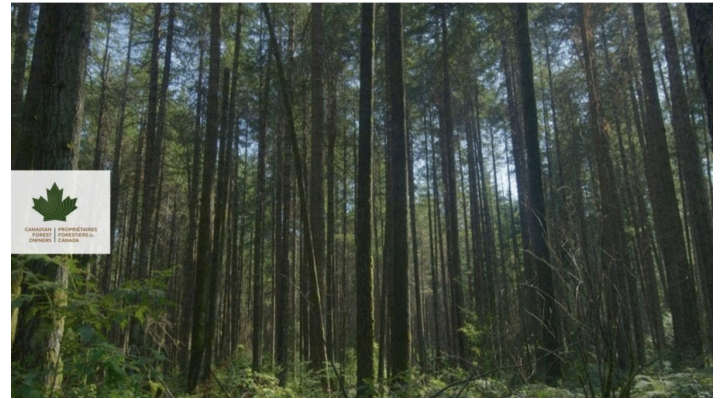
conomic contribution of these lands in the overall wood fibre basket. Unfortunately, the proposed Spotted Owl recovery strategy failed to mention private lands. CFO continues to participate in regular SARA core planning team meetings with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

CFO actively participates in market access issues including providing advice related to the **European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)** on private land procurement.

"Coming up, CFO will be meeting and working with the federal and provincial governments, the Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC) and the Quebec Wood Export Bureau (QWEB) contributing its voice to private land geolocation projects," explains CEO Andrew de Vries.

Also importantly, CFO has recently re-engaged with **Global Affairs Canada's Softwood Lumber Division** to ensure our private forest landowners' voice is heard in this critical trade issue.

For more information, contact Andrew de Vries at ceo_dg@forestowners.ca



What's New?

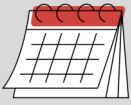
A ROUND UP OF NEWS FROM ALL OVER AND UPCOMING EVENTS

[Check out some news you may have missed this month:](#)

- *VIDEO: Thinning A Young Forest Using Log Tongs*
- *After years of a brutal killer fungus, bats in N.B. are showing signs of resilience*
- *Interprovincial trade could help blunt Trump tariffs. These are 3 barriers*
- *VIDEO: Bats in NB webinar recording*
- *Opinion: Why Canada should use lumber as leverage in a trade war with Trump*
- *Congratulations to the recipients of the Ernie Strickland Memorial Scholarship*
- *One of N.B.'s newest nature preserves could protect endangered butternut tree*
- *US Withdrawal From the Paris Climate Accord and its Impact on the Voluntary Carbon Market*
- *And more*



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EVENTS ÉVÉNEMENTS

Feb 17 - the NBFWO office will be closed in observance of Family Day

Feb 19 & 26, Mar 5 & 12 - NBEN Lunch and Learn Series: Integrating Nature-based Solutions in Your Community

Feb 24 to Mar 2 - Invasive Species Awareness Week

Feb 26 - Webinar: [Climate Smart Woodlot Management](#)

Mar 6 - Virtual Summit - [Women in Forestry](#)

MCFT is holding several Watercourse Alteration Certificate courses over the next few months, check the calendar for date and details.

Apr 8 to 10 - [Montréal Wood Convention](#)

Apr 9 to 10 - [2025 Canadian Woodlands Forum Spring Meeting](#)

Climate Smart Woodlot Management

Webinar

Wednesday, February 26
2 - 3:15 pm



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

Correction from last issue

In last month's issue, we shared an informational photo from our friends at the Meduxnekeag Valley Nature Preserve. Eagle-eyed member Jamie Simpson provided us with clarification, "the photo of the "cranberries" was actually a photo of a highbush cranberry, which of course isn't a cranberry (*Vaccinium*) at all, but rather a *Viburnum* (*Viburnum trilobum*). The accompanying info about birds' use of the highbush cranberry is certainly correct though."

Thank you Jamie for spotting that!

We strive to provide factual information for our members, so please, if you ever find an error in the newsletter, let us know. We can all learn together.

Cranberries are not a favourite food of many birds but they are an important survival food as winter progresses and other food becomes scarce. Ruffed grouse, Robins, Cardinals and grosbeaks are among the birds which feed on its fruit. The bushes are also useful as shelter from the elements and places to hide from predators. Animals such as deer, moose, red squirrels and beaver also feed on the various parts of the cranberry bush.



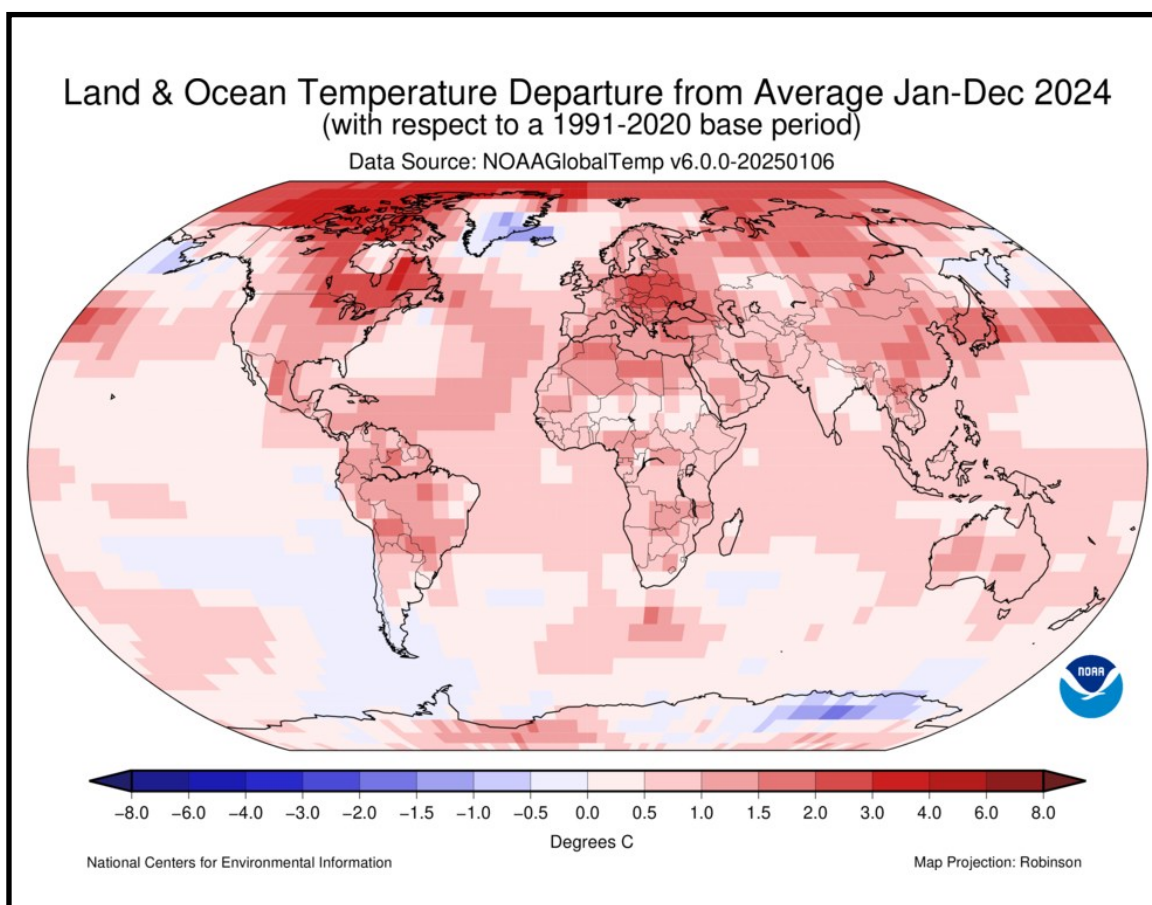


The year was 2024...

Following up on last month's newsletter article, we continue our exploration of Earth's climate history with a closer look at 2024.

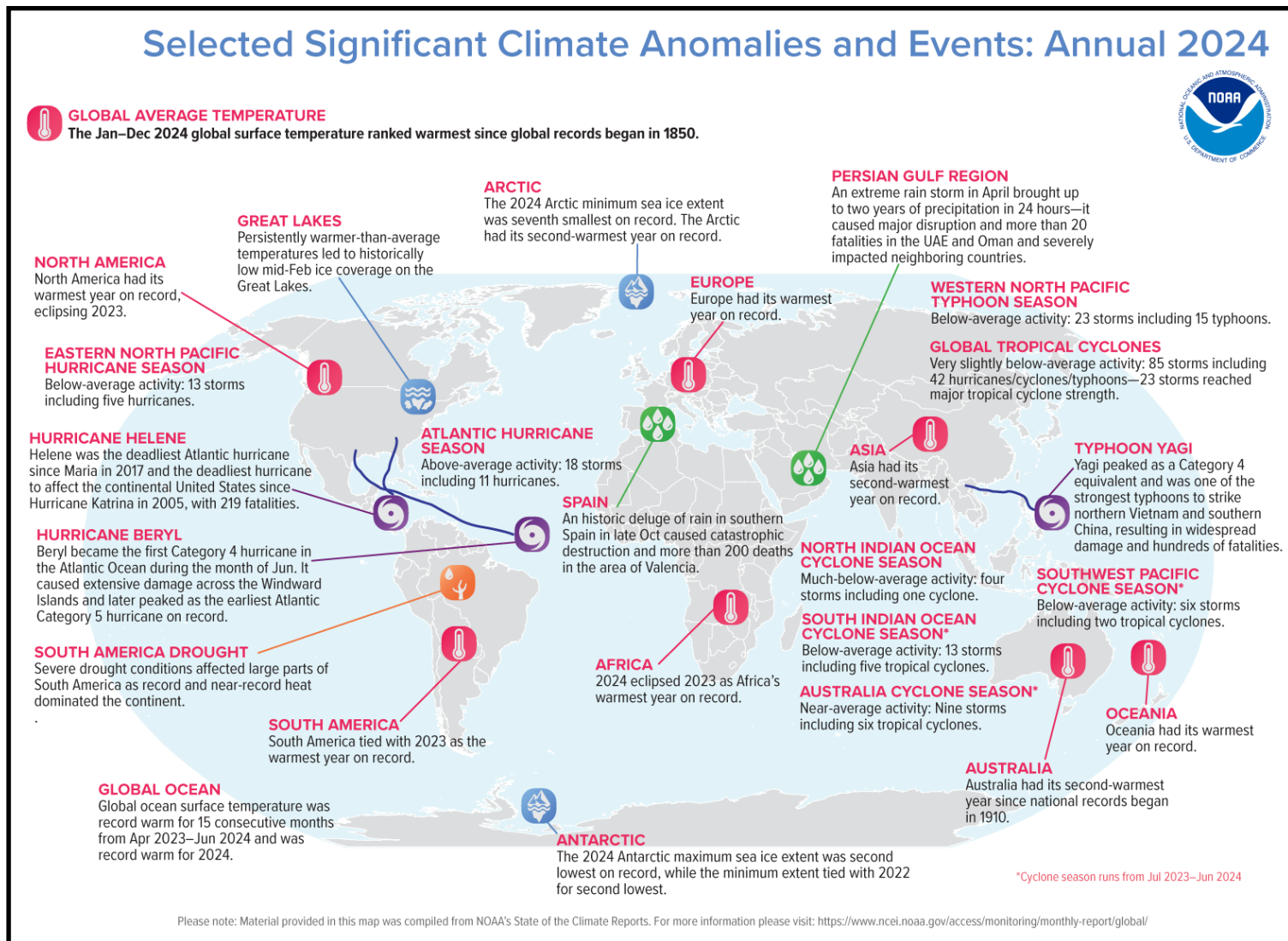
2024 is officially the warmest year on record since 1850. Its global surface temperature is 1.29°C (2.32°F) above the 20th century average of 13.9°C (57.0°F).

This year has been marked by exceptional temperatures, nearing or exceeding record levels in many regions. These temperatures were higher than the 1991-2020 average across much of the world, as illustrated in the global map below. The largest positive anomalies were observed in Eastern Europe, north-eastern North America, and the Arctic.



Pictured above: Land and ocean temperature departure from average for January-December 2024.
Source: NOAA

2024 also witnessed numerous significant events:



Pictured above: Selected significant climate anomalies and events that occurred in 2024.

Source: NOAA

It has now been 48 years since Earth has experienced a year cooler than the average! 2025 is likely to make the 49th. It may not be as warm as 2024, but it is expected to be one of the warmest on record, according to NOAA.

While it is hard to predict what lies ahead, the scientific community is actively studying future projections to better understand the trends. The latest scenarios suggest that global temperatures will likely continue to rise.

To be continued...

By Diane Fargialla, NBFWO Climate Change Outreach Coordinator

References

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



SEEDS OF WISDOM

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



Emergency Erosion Control on Private Forest Land: A Watershed Forestry Success Story

As climate change impacts our winter weather patterns, we are seeing more frequent storms and less frozen ground. The University of New Hampshire Extension created a document to guide forest managers in enhancing their best management practices to meet the challenges of climate change. Learn more [here](#).

TREES AROUND THE WORLD: Big Lonely Doug

Big Lonely Doug is a coastal Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *menziesii*) located in British Columbia, on Vancouver Island, and is regarded as one of the biggest of its species in Canada. Standing at 66 meters, it dominates the landscape, earning its nickname. This exceptional tree was destined for logging, along with its neighbors, but Dennis Cronin decided otherwise in 2011, when he marked it with a green ribbon with the words “Leave Tree”.

Big Lonely Doug with a person at the base for scale (by Ryan Cutler)



Are you growing nut trees?

NBFWO member John Reist is working towards increasing the diversity of trees on his woodlot by introducing nut-bearing trees. He is looking for other members who may already have stands of Walnut, Hickory, or American Chestnut on their property. He would like to learn more about where in NB these nut-bearing trees have historical ranges.

So far, he has planted some Walnut, Hickory, Butternut and Chestnut trees that he grew from seed as well as bare root.

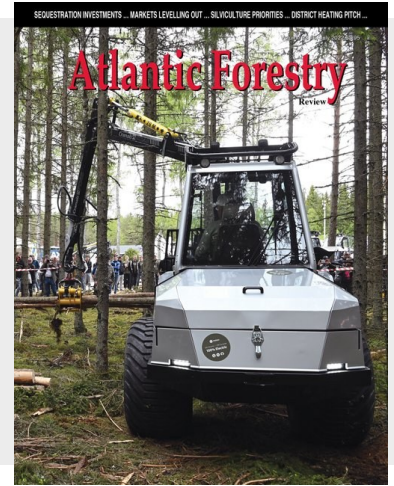
If you have grown nut-bearing trees on your property, please reach out to info@nbwoodlotowners.ca and we will get you in touch with John.

Did you make any resolutions for this new year? If you resolved to read more, may we suggest a subscription to the **Atlantic Forestry Review**?

Federation members 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!



Share your pictures!

We would love to see your woodlot pictures! Send us your pictures and they could be showcased in the newsletter, on social media or on the website.

Email them to: info@nbwoodlotowners.ca



Writers wanted

Do you have an interest in writing? We are looking for volunteer members who would like to write about forest-related topics for the Newsletter.

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

Email info@nbwoodlotowners.ca

Perkopolis

Have you signed up to receive FREE perks just for being a Federation member?

You can find instructions on how to sign up (and how to find your member number) when you sign into the website and go to the [Member Home](#) page. Scroll and select the 'Perkopolis tab.

One of the latest deals available will be going on all year!



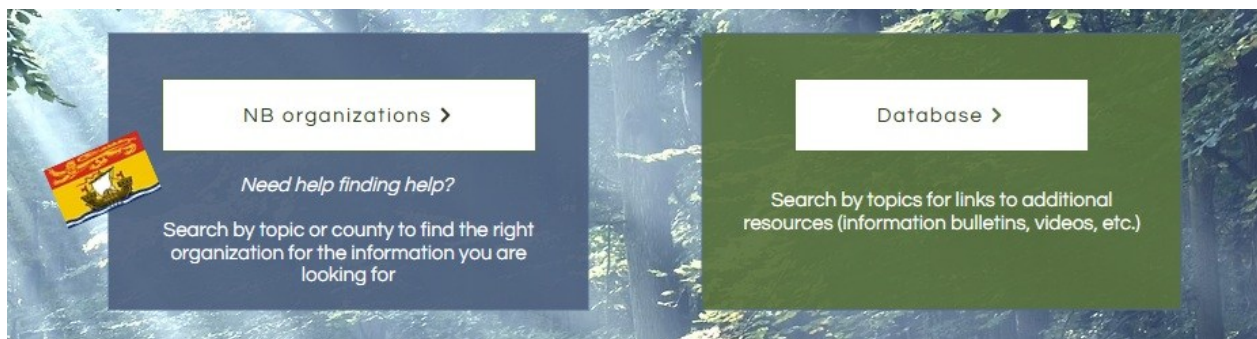
New Resources

In collaboration with several New Brunswick organizations that create resources that could be of use to land owners, we have made some updates to the [Resource Centre](#) on the website.

There is now an option to search for [NB organizations](#) that provide services in your county, such as your local watershed organization, or you can search by topic. Organizations can add themselves or update their contact information at anytime by filling out a form on the page. There are still many organizations that need to be added, so please feel free to email suggestions using the link on the page.

We also have a [Database](#) full of links to informational brochures, videos and more.

Your feedback on these new resources is appreciated. Help us improve so we can better serve you!



Thanks for reading - Until next time!

www.nbwoodlotowners.ca
