



Maine Forest Products Council

The voice of Maine's forest economy

Companies represented on the MFPC Board

American Forest Mgmt.
Baskahegan Co.
BBC Lands LLC
Bradbury Forest Mgmt.
Columbia Forest Prod.
Cross Insurance
Family Forestry
Farm Credit East
Fontaine Inc.
H.C. Haynes
Huber Resources
Innovative Natural
Resource Solutions
J.D. Irving
Katahdin Forest Mgmt.
Key Bank
LandVest Inc.
Limington Lumber
Louisiana Pacific
Maibec Logging
ND Paper
Nicols Brothers
Pingree Associates
Pixelle Specialty Sol.
Pleasant River Lumber
Prentiss & Carlisle
ReEnergy
Richard Wing & Son
Robbins Lumber
Sappi North America
Southern Maine Forestry
Stead Timberlands
TD Bank
Timber Resource Group
Timberstate G.
Wadsworth Woodlands
Wagner Forest Mgt.
Weyerhaeuser

Testimony in Support of Catherine Robbins-Halsted's Nomination to the Land for Maine's Future Board

February 9, 2021

Patrick Strauch, Executive Director

Sen. Dill, Rep. O'Neill, and distinguished members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee, I am Patrick Strauch, executive director of the Maine Forest Products Council. I am speaking today in support of Catherine Robbins-Halsted's nomination to the Land for Maine's Future Board (LMF).

Since 1961, the Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC) has represented our state's diverse forest products community, including logging contractors, sawmills, paper mills, biomass energy facilities, pellet manufacturers, furniture manufacturers, and the owners of about nine million acres of commercial forestland in Maine.

Ms. Robbin-Halsted's roots run very deep in our industry and in MFPC itself, so we know her well. We believe that with her knowledge, skills, experience and very strong work ethic, she will be a valuable member of LMF Board.

In addition to being one of the fifth generation of her family to own and manage Robbins Lumber, she also understands both the process and the benefits of land conservation. In 2000, 21,000 acres owned by the Robbins family around [Nicatous Lake were protected](#) through a combination of a working forest easements and the state acquisition of key shoreline areas.

Along with Ms. Robbin-Halsted's challenging jobs as co-owner of Robbins Lumber and vice president of Georges River Energy, she also currently serves on several boards that have increased her familiarity with LMF issues, including:

- Maine's Forest Legacy Committee, 2012 - present.
- Forest Society of Maine, 2013 – present.
- Maine Forest Products Council, Board of Advisors, 2011- present; 2010 Board of Directors, 2009-2010 Executive Committee.

We strongly support Ms. Robbin-Halsted's nomination and believe her broad perspective, ability to work well in groups, and determination to understand the issues will be great assets for the LMF Board.