



**2024  
LAKE STATES  
REGION  
FALL MEETING**  
October 16-17, 2024



**JEFFERSON STREET INN  
WAUSAU, WI**

## FRA 2024 Lake States Region Fall Meeting

Strengthening Our Workforce: The Key to Wood Supply Chain Success

Jefferson Street Inn

Wausau, WI

October 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

All times are Central

\*U.S. Congressman Tom Tiffany (R-WI-07) will be addressing the meeting, time TBD\*

Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

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|------------------|---|
| 8:30 – 8:45 am   | Welcome and Opening Remarks<br>Mike Filtz – Chair, Lake States Region Steering Committee, Ahlstrom  |
| 8:45 – 9:15 am   | The Vital Role of County Forest Lands<br>Rebekah Luedtke – Executive Director, Wisconsin County Forests Association   |
| 9:15 – 9:35 am   | Rick Horton – Executive Vice President, Minnesota Forest Industries   |
| 9:35 – 9:55 am   | Henry Schienebeck – Executive Director, Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association  |
| 9:55 – 10:15 am  | Justin Knepper – Executive Director, Michigan Association of Timbermen  |
| 10:15 – 10:30 am | Break   |
| 10:30 – 11:15 am | Forest Products Industry Market Overview - A Dynamic Situation<br>Jeremy Kessinger – Senior Business Intelligence Consultant, ResourceWise  |
| 11:15 – 12:00 pm | Mass Timber: SFI Prepares the Next Generation<br>Annie Perkins – Senior Director, Green Building and Supply Chain, Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc.                             |
| 12:00 – 12:45 pm | Lunch   |
| 1:00 – 5:00 pm   | Field Trip – University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Treehaven – Forest Advancement Center  |
| 6:00 – 10:00 pm  | FRA Awards Reception and Dinner <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2024 LSR Technical Writing Award</li><li>• 2024 LSR Outstanding Logger Award (sponsored by STIHL)</li></ul> |



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8:30 – 8:45 am	Chris Boor – Forester, Bell Lumber and Pole
8:45 – 9:30 am	John Bozec – Sr. VP/GM Van Truckload Dedicated, Schneider
9:30 – 10:15 am	A Tale of Two Railroads: The Short-line Railroad Niche in Providing Transportation Service Jamaar Benton – Sales Manager, WATCO Companies LLC
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 – 11:15 am	Navigating Risks: Insurance Strategies and Legal Safeguards in the Forest Industry Steve Barnett - Vice President Underwriting, BITCO Insurance Companies
11:15 – 12:00 pm	Sawbucks to Sawdust Corey Fanslau – VP of Traditional Lending, GreenStone Farm Credit Service
12:00 – 12:45 pm	Lunch
12:45 – 1:30 pm	Science Can Be the Foundation for Effective Policy Erik Schilling – Ph.D., Director, Eastern Sustainable Forestry
1:30 – 2:15 pm	Logger and Forester Perceptions of Changing Winter Weather and Its Impact on Their Operations Charlie Blinn – Ph.D., Professor Extension Specialist, University of Minnesota
2:15 – 3:00 pm	Estimating Current and Future Carbon Stocks and Flux in Minnesota Forests and Forest Products Under Multiple Management Scenarios John Zobel – Assist. Prof. Biometrics, Modeling, Measurements, University of Minnesota
3:00 – 3:45 pm	Timber, Bats, and More: An Update from USFS R9 James McFarland – Assistant Director of Renewable Resources, Eastern Region, U.S. Forest Service
4:00 pm	Adjourn