



The Forest Timeline



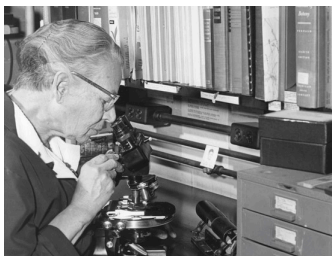
President's Message

Greetings from the Forest History Society!

As we observe Women's History Month this March, we celebrate the invaluable contributions of women throughout history, particularly those who have played a pivotal role in the stewardship of forests and the environment. From pioneering conservationists to trailblazing scientists, women have been at the forefront of preserving our natural landscapes and ensuring the sustainable management of our forests.

At the Forest History Society, we honor the stories of these remarkable women, whose work continues to inspire and shape the future of forest conservation.

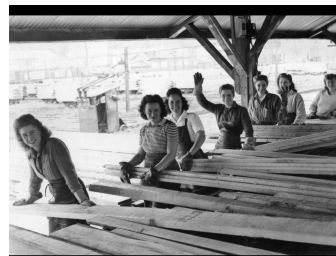
We invite you to learn more about these extraordinary women and their impact by exploring our archives, blog posts, and programs dedicated to preserving their legacies.



[Dr. Eloise Gerry](#)



[Women Trail Riders](#)



[Pauline Bunyans](#)

All my best,
Tania

Yale Forestry Forum

A History of People, Forests, and Forestry

Thursdays, Jan. 23 - Apr. 3, 2025

The Forest History Society is excited to announce a new weekly webinar series co-hosted with [The Forest School at the Yale School of the Environment](#)!

Humans have interacted with forests since time immemorial. The evolution of humanity's connections to forests illuminates how we interact with nature in a changing climate today. By understanding our past, we can contextualize our present situation and inform current and future decision-making.

The spring 2025 Yale Forest Forum speaker series examines pre-industrial and indigenous forest management practices. Attendees will gain an understanding of the origins of pre-industrial forest practices worldwide and how those practices are connected to people and place.

Available now: [Watch the latest webinar](#)

Join us every Thursday from March 27-April 3 from 12:00-1:00pm U.S. ET.

[Learn More](#)

Meet with FHS at ASEH



FHS will be exhibiting at this year's American Society for Environmental History conference from April 9-12 in Pittsburgh, PA. The conference theme is "Forging Environments: Confluence, Resilience, Intersectionality." On Friday morning, FHS President Taniz Munz is presenting and chairing a roundtable discussion "Burned-Over Country: Histories of American Fire," which considers recent research on the fire history of the United States with a particular eye toward the social effects of fire.

On Saturday afternoon, FHS Historian Jamie Lewis is chairing a roundtable session "New Directions in Forest History." Comprised entirely of PhD candidates, this roundtable will be a discussion of the major problems, themes, and innovations driving current scholarly inquiry into the subfield of forest history. Be sure to drop by the FHS exhibit table to meet with Tania, Jamie, and FHS Librarian Lauren Bissonette.

Nearly every Friday afternoon ASEH field trip has a forest history connection, so check out the offerings [here](#).

Register

A banner for the Forest History Society webinar series. On the left is a portrait of a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a blue shirt. To the right of the portrait is the Forest History Society logo, which features a stylized tree inside a circle. Below the logo, the text 'FOREST HISTORY Society' is written. Further down, it says 'Join us for the webinar series' followed by 'Conversations in Forest History' in a large, elegant font, and 'with Jamie Lewis' at the bottom.

FOREST HISTORY
Society

Join us for the webinar series

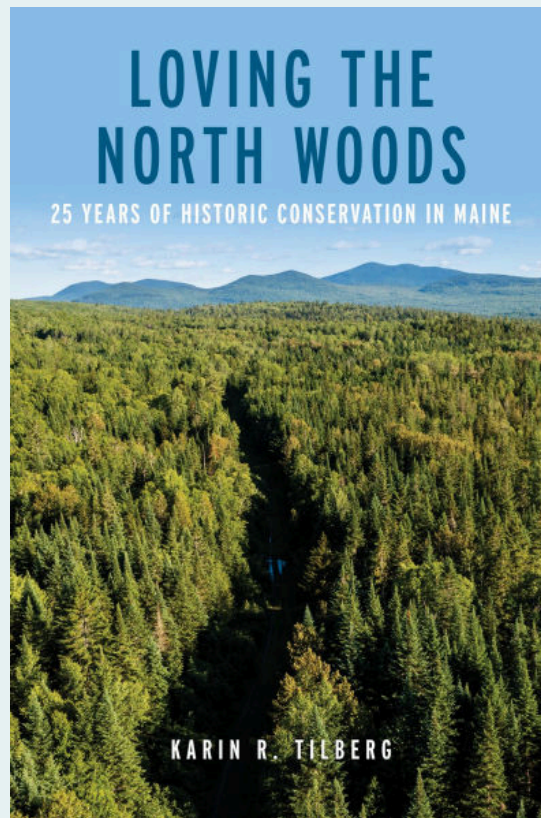
Conversations in Forest History

with Jamie Lewis

"Loving the North Woods: 25 Years of Historic Conservation in Maine"

with Karin Tilberg

April 15, 2025 at 1-2 pm ET



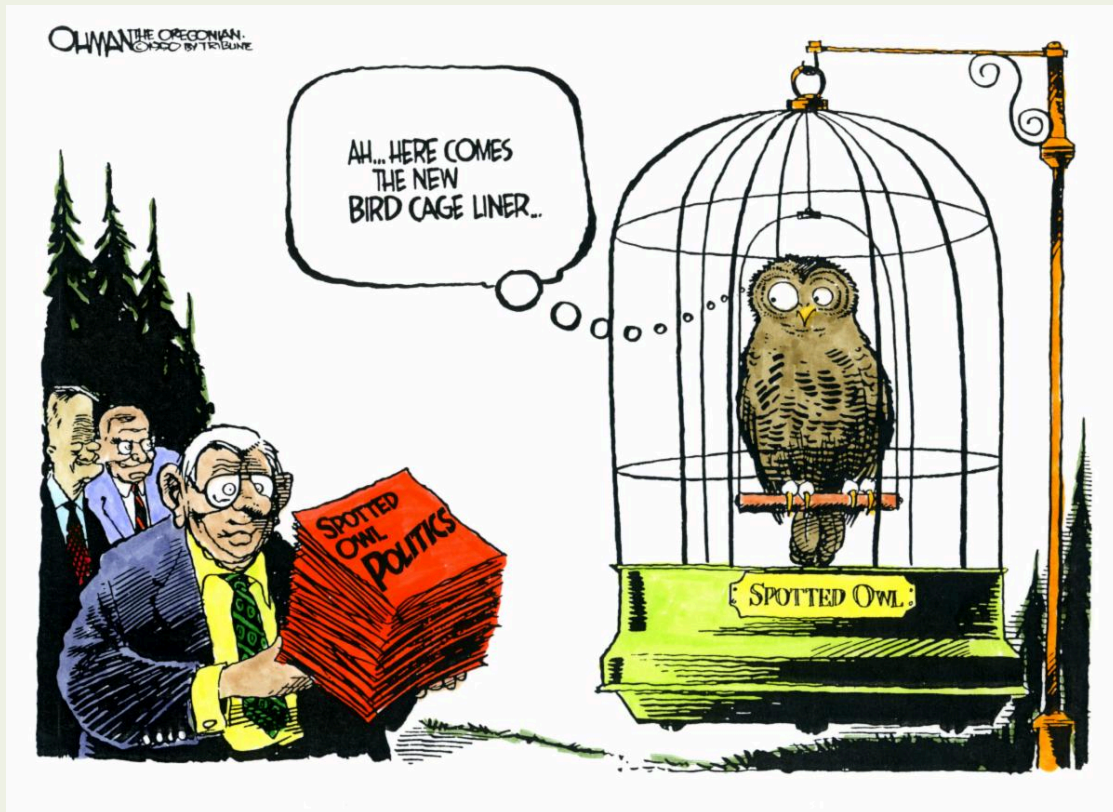
Drawing from her recently published book, *Loving the North Woods: 25 Years of Historic Conservation in Maine*, Karin Tilberg, the past-president/CEO of the Forest Society of Maine, will outline the difficult challenges to conservation during a remarkable period of activity from 1990 to 2015. During this time of tremendous forest ownership changes, Maine went from about 5% of the state having some form of conservation, to having 20% being conserved in some manner. Seven major conservation initiatives in the North Woods were significant factors in this tremendous outcome. Karin will discuss the forces behind this seismic change and share untold stories of conserving Maine's North Woods. She'll explore how people's love of a place brought about action leading to these historic achievements in American conservation and how these stories could guide us now and far into the future.



Karin Tilberg has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from the University of Vermont and a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law. A strong advocate for the conservation of the North Woods, for decades Tilberg has provided guidance on environmental and natural resource law and policy matters to individuals and organizations, including the Maine Audubon Society and Northern Forest Alliance. She served as Deputy Commissioner of the Maine Department of Conservation from 2003 to 2007. From 2007 to 2010, she was Senior Policy Advisor to Governor John E. Baldacci. Most recently, Tilberg was the president and CEO of the Forest Society of Maine, where she worked from 2011 until retiring in November 2024.

[Register Now](#)

This Month in Forest History



March 7, 1991: U.S. District Court Judge William Dwyer blocks timber sales in National Forests to protect [the northern spotted owl](#). The ruling is in favor of the National Audubon Society and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund challenging the U.S. Forest Service's 1986 Forest Management Plan as inadequate to protect the owl. The Forest Service is ordered to halt more than 75 percent of its planned timber sales until the agency develops a final plan to protect the threatened species.

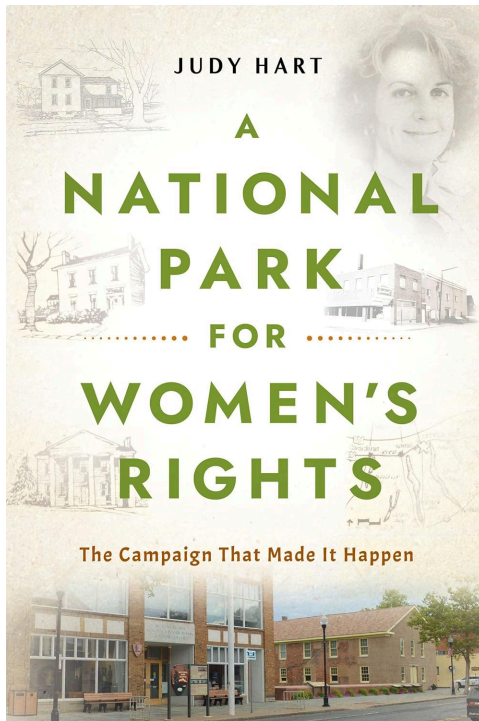
Also in March:

- **March 1, 1911:** [The Weeks Act](#) is passed, authorizing federal purchase of land within watersheds of navigable streams and placing such lands under the authority of the U.S. Forest Service. In all, about 34 million acres will be conserved under the law. Section 2 set up a cooperative framework for federal-state-private efforts to fight wildfires.
- **March 1, 1932:** The [Lindbergh baby is kidnapped](#), and wood forensics turns out to be an important part of the story.
- **March 15, 1801:** [George Perkins Marsh](#), author of *Man and Nature*, is born in Woodstock, Vermont.
- **March 26, 1906:** Frank Oliver introduces the Dominion Forest Reserves Act in Canada. This act authorized the Dominion Forestry Branch to create and manage

a system of national forests on federal lands and placed 14,000 square kilometers of prairie forests under management by scientifically trained foresters.

- **March 31, 1933:** The Emergency Conservation Work Act is signed into law, creating several federal agencies, including the [Civilian Conservation Corps](#) (CCC). The first CCC camp would be established on George Washington National Forest in Virginia.

Book of the Month



A National Park for Women's Rights: The Campaign That Made It Happen by Judy Hart

A National Park for Women's Rights chronicles a little-known story in American history: the establishment of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York. Hart narrates the uphill battle she fought to secure the park's location—on the site of the first women's rights convention in 1848—and to gain respect for the idea of a park dedicated to women's rights from 1978, when she first championed its creation to the triumphant moment in 1982 when the park opened its doors, and following years.

Look for this book in your local library, bookstore, or buy directly from the publisher below.

[Read More](#)

From the Archives



**Group on Easton Glacier, Mount Baker, Washington National Forest (Image ID# WT67).
Image from the 1916 "Guide For Tourists and Travelers On The Washington National
Forest"**

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