

Regional Forest Economy Partnership Awards

RFEP 2020:

- **Vermont Department of Public Service** - \$1,000,000 (VT): Model funding program for community-driven broadband expansion to expand broadband across the State of VT.
- **Northern Forest Center** - \$1,000,000 (ME, NH, NY, VT): Launch and capitalize Phase One of the four-state Northern Forest Fund to address the availability of quality workforce housing in four communities, one in each state of the NBRC territory.
- **Town of Madison** - \$1,000,000 (ME): Infrastructure improvements at the former UPM Paper Mill to create a state-of-the-art Forest Products Hub.
- **Northern Vermont University** - \$986,252 (NH & VT): Establish the NVU Forestry Accelerator & Workforce Development program to address the economic shift produced by the chronic and consistent decline of the forest products industry across the tri-county region of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, and Coös County, New Hampshire.
- **Town of Hardwick** - \$1,000,000 (VT): These funds will support the Hardwick Yellow Barn Business Accelerator. The project consists of the adaptive reuse of historic property to create a business accelerator that will lead to significant job growth and market expansion in the farm and food-based sector.

RFEP 2019:

- **Town of East Millinocket** - \$450,000: To redevelop the East Millinocket paper mill site into a multi-industrial complex.
- **Maine Development Foundation** - \$646,396: A partnership model building on stakeholder-driven work to focus on the development of community revitalization projects in communities most impacted by mill closures.
- **Northern Forest Center** - \$908,277: To launch the Northern Forest Rural Destination Development Initiative in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and New York to attract visitors and improve the quality of life for residents.
- **Preservation Trust of Vermont** (through the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance) - \$1,000,000: To establish the Northern Heritage Economy Program in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and New York to help communities undertake community-driven preservation projects with strong economic revitalization potential.
- **The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board** - \$624,060: To advance the agricultural economy by launching the Northeast Agricultural Business Assistance Network throughout the four-states in the NBRC region.

- **Vermont Technical College** - \$1,000,000: To create educational pathways to train and educate a skilled workforce in the forestry field for better woodland management and stewardship.
- **Workforce Development Institute (WDI)** - \$571,267: To focus on workforce development and training for jobs in the forest products industry.
- **University of Maine** - \$1,000,000: To build a demonstration facility cellulose nanofiber (CNF) plant to speed the commercialization of a new forest product.