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**TO:** CT SAF Members and CFC Members  
**FROM:** Bill Bentley  
**RE:** Draft Forest Visions for January 8, 2009, CT SAF Meeting

*In the future, Connecticut Forests will...*

1. *Contain healthy and sustainable populations of native plants and animals*
2. *In the future, Connecticut Forests will be 65% of the state's land area with 42% core forest\**
3. *Include publically owned forestlands that are managed to provide clean air, clean water, and sustainable forest ecosystems*
4. *Include Private Forestlands where most owners derive personal value from their forests in line with their goals of ownership*
5. *Support a viable forest products industry that provides quality products from sustainable and diverse forest resources*
6. *Be managed with the best available scientific information.*
7. *[In the future,] Connecticut forest research problems and priorities will flow from a dialogue among scientists, forest owners and managers, and extension & outreach specialists.*
8. *Support a broad spectrum of recreational activities and opportunities for enjoyment of the experience of the out-of-doors and attract users to Connecticut's forests*
9. *Be understood and appreciated as exciting places to learn about nature*
10. *[In the future,] The people of Connecticut live in and around healthy urban ecosystems that they understand and value*
11. *Will reflect policies developed from cooperation among the government, the public, and forest landowners*

\* **Note** – currently 58% to 59% forested and only 36% core forest (was 42% in 1985).

We will have instructions on how the table process will work at the meeting and a preamble that precedes the visions. It will describe what forests are and do. This will be brief, but will clarify the meaning of words like “healthy” and sustainable” that are not precise terms in many people’s vocabulary.