

Natural Resource Business Institute – 2008-2012 POW Worksheet

Situation:

Businesses directly or indirectly involved with farming, fishing or forestry enterprises not only make significant contributions to the New Hampshire economy, but also provide stewardship of the state’s natural resources and a working landscape benefiting citizens and attracting tourists. If the present natural resource businesses are to continue and new ones start, they need to carefully evaluate their personal goals, resource base and enterprise options. UNH Cooperative Extension is familiar with and especially positioned to assist natural resource businesses through a natural resource business institute.

Assumptions:

Businesses which provide open space, working landscapes and stewardship of land and water resources are important to the state. New Hampshire citizens and decision makers are concerned with the viability of existing natural resource businesses. Cooperative Extension offers a unique level of expertise especially pertinent to natural resource businesses. An interdisciplinary approach will produce more impact and greater results than working individually.

External Factors:

Development pressures throughout New Hampshire are reducing the natural resource base available for farming, fishing and forestry business activities. Changes in state priorities may shift support away from natural resource business viability issues. UNH Cooperative Extension budget shortfalls may limit the scope of activities. Limitations may be imposed by the geographic dispersion of team members and businesses.

Outputs/Activities	Outcomes/Impact		
	Learning Outcomes	Action Outcomes	Condition Outcomes
Natural Resources Business Institute	Participants learn how to reach their personal goals	Institute participants including youth, new land owners and natural resource based business owners develop an operational plan that includes goals, possible business enterprises and ways to implement the enterprises	Improved viability of New Hampshire's natural resource businesses
	Participants understand the interrelationship between people, resources and business opportunities		
	Participants increase their awareness and understanding of local, state and national policy issues and regulations that impact natural resource businesses	Participants advocate for an improved business environment in the state	
	NRBI1 - 10% of participants start, expand or modify a business enterprise NRBI2 - 20% of participants are active in groups that support and encourage an improved natural resource business environment NRBI3 - 50% of participants complete planning worksheets on a regular basis NRBI4 - 80% of participants indicate on a post institute survey they gained information and/or experiences to help reach their personal goals		