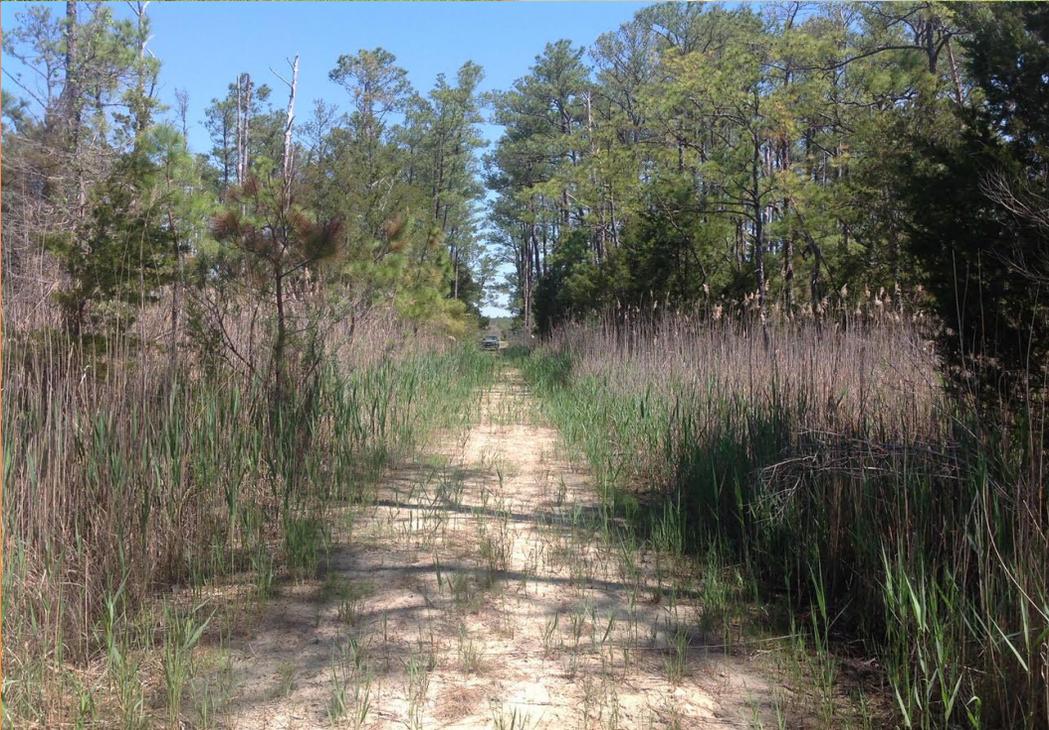


MAJOR ECOLOGICAL STRESSORS TO FOREST HEALTH – A DICHOTOMY



STAC HEALTHY FORESTS WORKSHOP

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EASTERN REGIONAL FORESTER
MD FOREST SERVICE
FEBRUARY 24, 2026



WHAT ARE THESE STRESSORS?

How do they fit into the Chesapeake Bay Agreement?

Are they different than before?

How do we expect them to change in the future?

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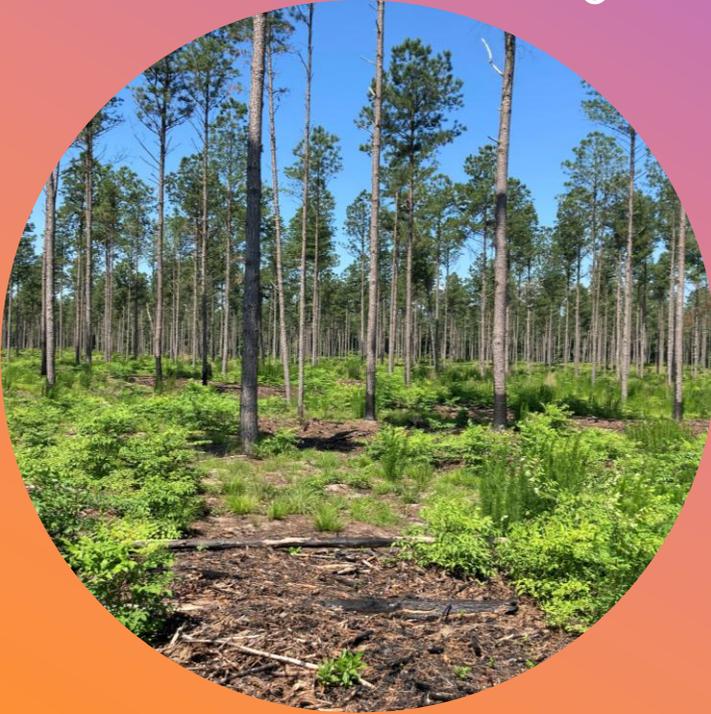
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**FOREST MANAGEMENT HAS
ALWAYS HAD CHALLENGES**

TODAY'S STRESSORS

- Salt water intrusion
- Flooding
- Wet/Dry Extremes
- Temperature Extremes
- Invasive Species – Pest/Pathogen
- Deer populations
- Inadequate management
- Land use changes

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WHAT CAN WE CONTROL AND PROMOTE?

WHAT WE CAN'T CONTROL

- Salt water intrusion
- Flooding
- Wet/Dry Extremes
- Temperature Extremes
- Invasive Species – Pest/Pathogen



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WHAT WE CAN CONTROL*



- Species composition
- Density
- Wildlife habitat

CONTROL IS CONDITIONAL

- Markets!!!! Low grade specifically
- Contractors/Funding
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MAXIMIZING RESOURCES

- Aligning with forest industry
- More outreach with partners



Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Landscape Scale Restoration Grants

USFS Landowner IRA Grants



GRANTS/COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Healthy Forests, Healthy Waters

EQIP, CSP, CREP, WIP, etc.

QUESTIONS???



THANK YOU

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