

Forest Climate Change Initiative (FCCI)



The University of Maine's **Center for Research on Sustainable Forests** has initiated an effort to better coordinate regional research and scientists working on the potential effects of climate change on forests. The University of Maine has significant expertise on climate and forest resources, which exists across academics units, centers, and institutes. The FCCI web portal is intended to serve as a point of access to these resources and encourage networking among university expertise as well as external stakeholders.

crsf.umaine.edu/forest-climate-change-initiative/

FCCI Scientist Profile



Nicholas Fisichelli

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Institute at Acadia National Park

Forest Ecology Director, Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

Institutional Affiliations: Center for Research on Sustainable Forests

Research Focus: Forest responses to global change, tree regeneration dynamics, and climate change adaptation



Nick Fisichelli is the Forest Ecology Director with Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park. Dr. Fisichelli's work at Schoodic Institute focuses on understanding environmental changes, assessing the consequences for protected areas and communities, and developing solutions in a continuously changing world. This includes scientific research, education, and stewardship outreach with an emphasis on understanding ecosystem dynamics, drivers, and global change stressors in eastern forests. Nick was a Fulbright Fellow in Germany and earned his Doctorate of Philosophy in Forest Ecology from the University of Minnesota.

Forest Climate Change Research Focus

The forests of Acadia, Downeast Maine, and the broader Northeast region, located in a transition zone between northern and southern climates, provide an ideal setting to document forest changes related to warming temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, and invasive plants, pests, and diseases. The Schoodic Institute Forest Ecology Program studies the establishment, growth, survival, and abundance of tree seedlings—the future forest—and actions forest managers can take in response to changing conditions.

- Using Tree Test Beds, we are examining seedling establishment, growth, and survival of 19 tree species found in Acadia today or expected to have suitable habitat here under a warmer future.
- In the Common Campus Tree Experiment, researchers and students at eight education campuses follow the growth and survival of a dozen tree species across a diversity of local climates in Maine.

