**MAINTAINING ENDORSEMENT**

**Philosophy**

By becoming an Audubon Endorsed forester, you are establishing a partnership with Audubon Vermont (National Audubon Society), committing to applying our program principles in as much as such principles align with your clients’ objectives and reasonable opportunity exists given the unique aspects of the properties you work on. Also, it is notable that we are endorsing you- not your work.

Through this program, Audubon seeks to empower you, the professional forester, with the knowledge, tools, and resources with which to apply bird-friendly ecological silviculture practices where opportunities exist. We hope you, through your work, do seek to cultivate such opportunities. As partners, we aim to foster a reciprocal relationship with you whereby we can grow this program together on the basis of our shared understanding of the complexity of forest management and the needs of forest birds. This program will need to continue to evolve as we discover, together, what works and what does not work; our program will only grow if we can ensure operability and relevance of these principles as they can be applied in real life. We will also continue to refine the mechanics of the program, as the program grows. So, that said, expect our work together to be one of evolution and refinement over time- and lets work to stay communicative and adaptable.

**Annual Requirements of Endorsement**
We ask you to annually share information with Audubon so we can assess our cumulative impact on forest bird conservation (and report these outcomes to our funders). Information we need includes the number of bird-friendly forest management plans written, number of acres included in those management plans, and the number of acres that received management that benefits birds. We may ask for geographical information for these properties; all of your client’s information will remain private and we will never reach out to your clients without first coordinating with you. We will reach out for this information in April each spring, piggybacking on Vermont’s UVA reporting process.

**Bi-Annual Requirements** **of Endorsement**
We ask that you participate in at least two continuing education opportunities provided by Audubon or other agencies and organizations over the span of every other year. These programs will, ideally, also be preapproved for SAF credits and participation certificates will be provided.  *Audubon will notify endorsed foresters of the continuing education programs in advance* and welcome your suggestions for topics we cover and field sites we visit for in-person programming. We will track adherence to these requirements and notify you of your status over time.

**Note:** Please do describe yourself, as you may, as an “[National Audubon Society Endorsed Forester](https://vt.audubon.org/conservation/audubon-forester-training-and-endorsement-program)”- and imbedding a hyperlink/reference to our [Audubon Vermont Endorsement Page](https://vt.audubon.org/conservation/audubon-forester-training-and-endorsement-program). . We want your clients, and other foresters, to recognize your partnership with us. However, we cannot grant you use of the Audubon logo given National Audubon Society branding rules.