Landowner Planning for Roadside Forest Management Given Multiple Stressors

Anita Morzillo, Emlyn Crocker, and Jacob Cabral

University of Connecticut

Department of Natural Resources and the Environment

Contact: anita.morzillo@uconn.edu

UCONN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STORMWISE
stormwise.uconn.edu
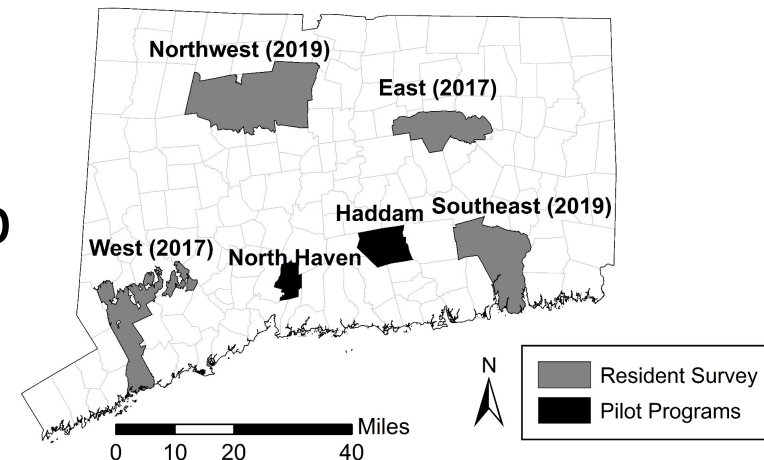
UCONN   Eversource Energy Center   EVERSOURCE

Landowner Planning for Roadside Forest Management Given Multiple Stressors

Human Dimensions of Roadside Forest Management (social science)

Research to date has included:

- Arborist interviews

- Tree crews interviews

- Community relations workshop

- Resident surveys

- Landowner interviews

- Forest management community…

UCONN | Eversource Energy Center | EVERSOURCE

Multiple stressors affect tree health, increasing the risk of roadside tree damage to powerlines
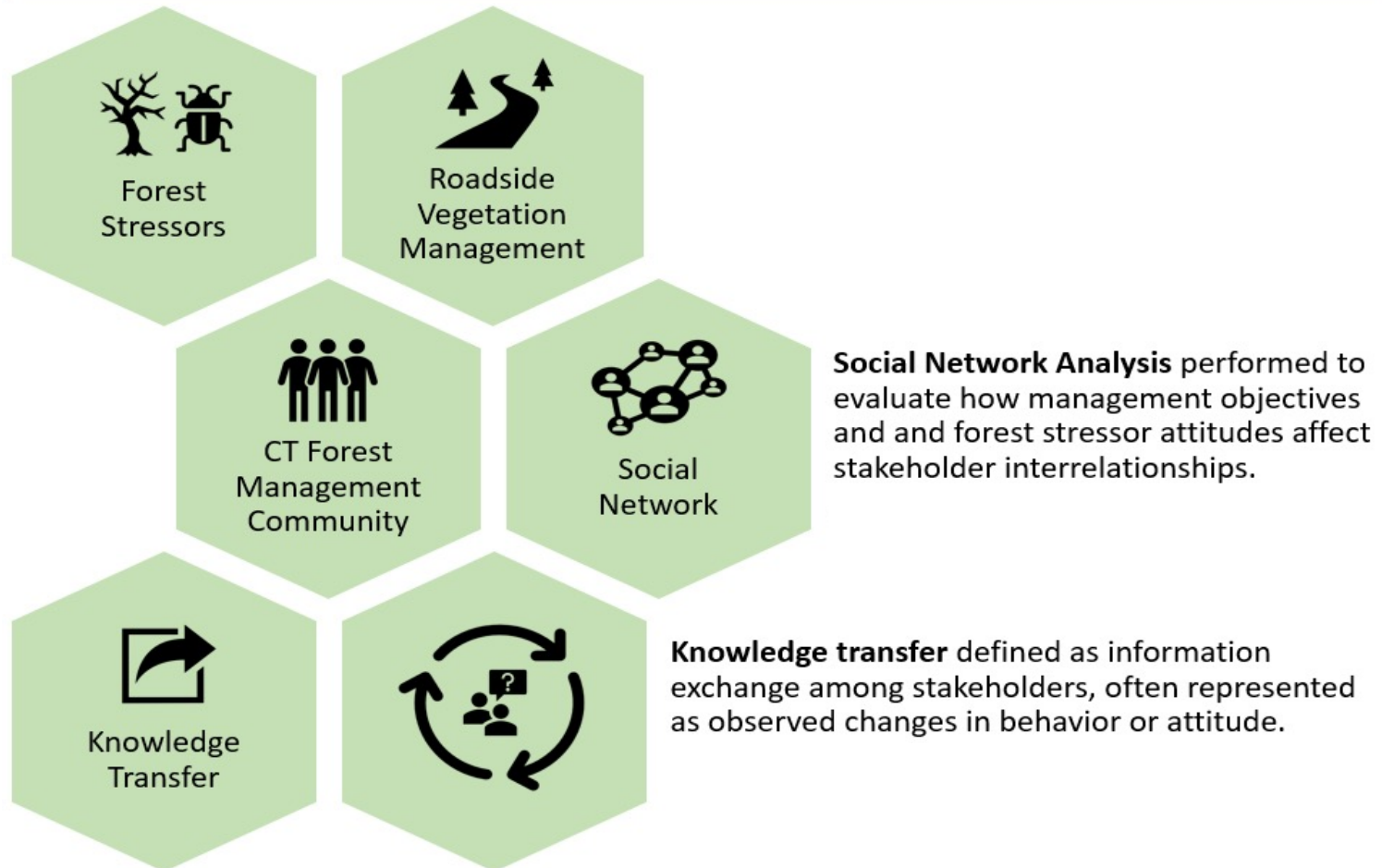
Research questions:

- 1. How do interrelationships within the CT forest management community influence collaboration related to forest stressors and roadside forest management?

- 2. What is the role of knowledge transfer in decision-making actions among the CT forest management community?

Conceptual Frameworks for Analysis

Forest Stressors

Roadside Vegetation Management

CT Forest Management Community

Social Network

Social Network Analysis performed to evaluate how management objectives and and forest stressor attitudes affect stakeholder interrelationships.

Knowledge Transfer

Knowledge transfer defined as information exchange among stakeholders, often represented as observed changes in behavior or attitude.

Landowner Planning for Roadside Forest Management Given Multiple Stressors

Preliminary Results

Semi-structured interviews with 39 participants

- Tenure in CT forest management of 1.5 to 40+ years

- Management of private and public lands

- Objectives included both forest management and roadside forest management

- Forest stressors of highest concern: forest pests, invasive plants, and severe weather

Social network and knowledge transfer analyses underway

UConn IRB #H16-007

UCONN   Eversource Energy Center   **EVERSOURCE**