



National Plant Board Firewood Working Group Overview

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Background:

EAB: NW Siegert, USFS



- Firewood is a recognized pathway for forest destroying pests.
- National Firewood Task Force formed.
- USDA's federal EAB quarantine is providing regulation of firewood pathway.
- USDA proposed de-regulation of EAB.
- States expressed concern that de-regulating EAB would limit opportunities to oversee interstate movement of firewood.



EGM: NW Siegert, USFS



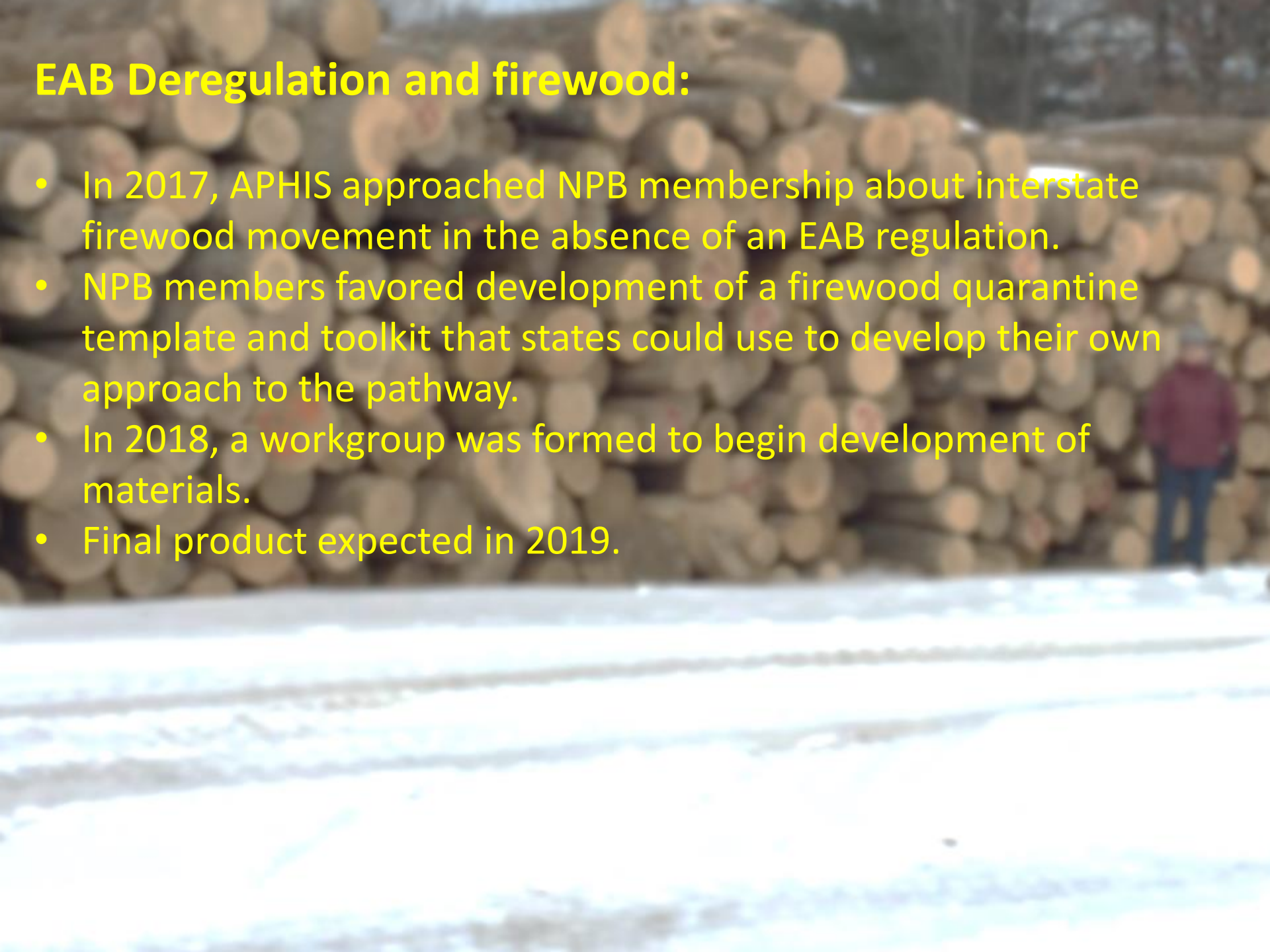
ALB: A Eitam, APHIS PPQ



Sirex noctilio: K Dodds, USFS, Bugwood.org

EAB Deregulation and firewood:

- In 2017, APHIS approached NPB membership about interstate firewood movement in the absence of an EAB regulation.
- NPB members favored development of a firewood quarantine template and toolkit that states could use to develop their own approach to the pathway.
- In 2018, a workgroup was formed to begin development of materials.
- Final product expected in 2019.





Firewood Challenges:

- States have varying authorities to implement firewood regulations.
- States have varying resources and enforcement capabilities.
- Firewood usage and availability varies among states.
- Firewood movement is not always best addressed through regulation.



Photos from Firewood Quarantine Enforcement events conducted by NH Forest Rangers



Photo: NW Siegert, USFS

Firewood Working Group:

- Charged with developing a framework of activities for states to help prevent the movement of pests on firewood.
- Provide firewood resources to states.
- Suggest best practices for states in:
 - ❖ Regulation
 - ❖ Best management practices
 - ❖ Outreach strategies
- Make information available to states to **promote and enable**, but **not require**, a more unified approach to firewood pathway.

This effort will **NOT**:

- Require states to implement an exterior firewood quarantine.
- Dictate how a state regulates firewood, or doesn't.
- Supersede existing state or federal quarantines with a firewood component.
- Provide funding or resources for firewood-pathway activities.



Firewood Working Group Members:

Co-chairs: Ann Gibbs, Maine and Piera Siegert, New Hampshire

Support & Facilitation: Lora Katz, Steve Shearer, and Paula Henstridge, APHIS PPQ

Regulatory:

- Helmuth Rogg, Oregon
- Steve Hildebrandt, Florida

Best Management Practices:

- Dan Kenny, Ohio
- Anni Self, Tennessee

Outreach Techniques:

- Piera Siegert, New Hampshire
- Tim Allen, Wisconsin
- Leigh Greenwood, Don't Move Firewood, The Nature Conservancy



Regulatory:

Goal: Develop a state firewood regulation template.

Review current state regulations.
Use existing regulations to develop a template that states interested in drafting a firewood rule could use.

In process.



Photo: PY Siegert, NH DAMF

Heat-treatment of firewood:

- Certified heat-treated firewood is considered low risk for moving pests.
- There are three heat-treatment standards referenced for pests:
 - ❖ T314-a: 140 F for 60 min
 - ❖ T314-b: 133 F for 30 min
 - ❖ T314-c: 160 F for 75 min
- USDA PPQ certifies firewood kilns under authorities associated with EAB quarantine.

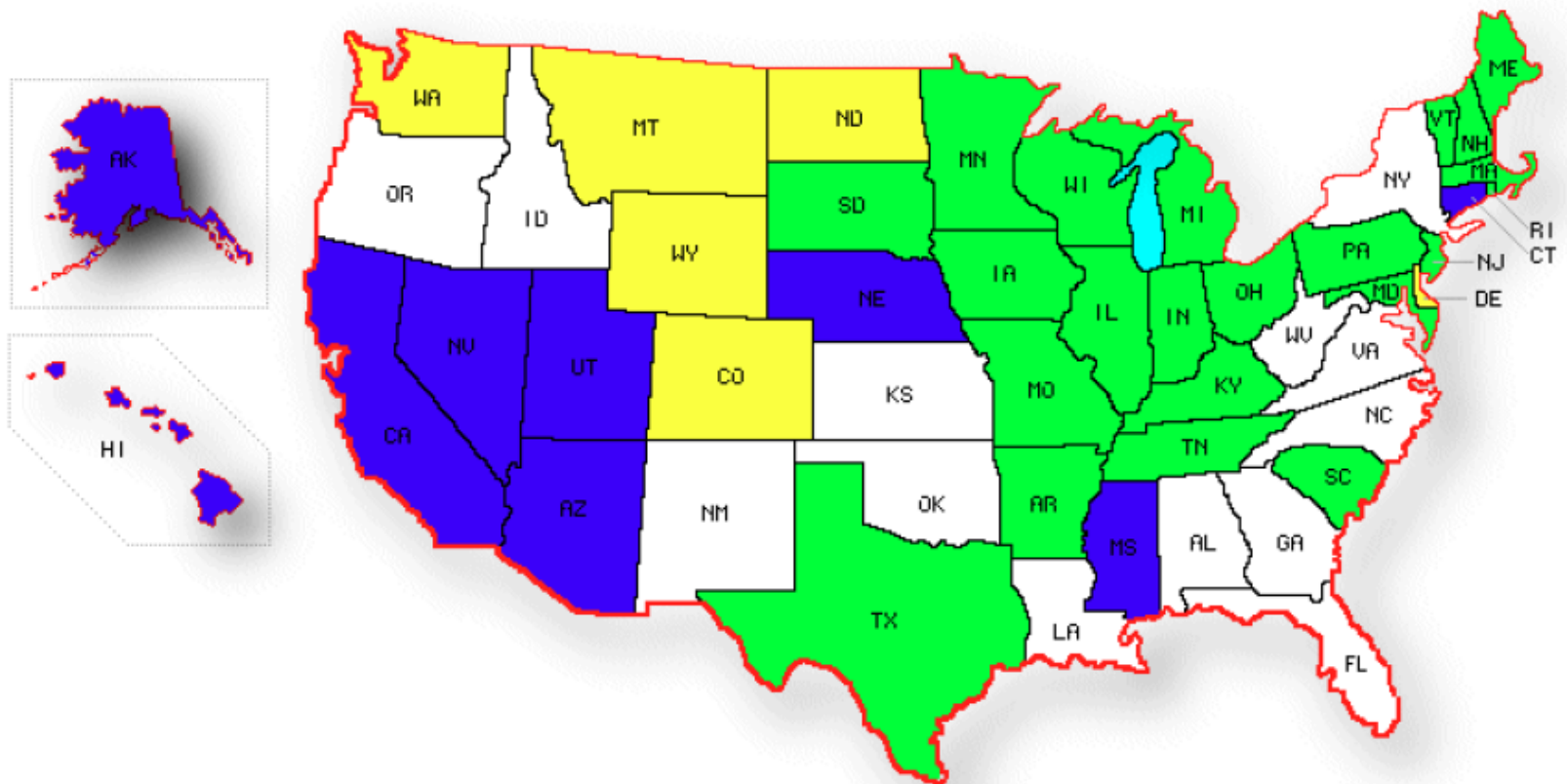
Conducted a survey of NPB members about heat-treatment of firewood. Information provided by 38 states.



Heat treatment of firewood appears regional:

Are firewood kilns used to heat treat firewood?

- - Yes
- - No
- - Don't know / NA



Who is certifying Firewood Kilns?

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- A map of the United States with states color-coded by region. The colors are: light blue for the West (CA, NV, UT, AZ, WA, OR, ID), cyan for the Mountain states (MT, WY, CO, NM), green for the Great Plains (SD, NE, KS, OK, TX), yellow for the Midwest (MN, WI, IL, IN, OH, MI, IA, MO, TN, MS, AL, GA, FL), light green for the Northeast (ME, NH, VT, MA, NY, PA, NJ, DE, RI, CT), and white for the South (LA, AR, KY, WV, VA, NC, SC). Insets show Alaska (AK) and Hawaii (HI).

A photograph of a man and a woman standing in front of a wood kiln. The man on the left is wearing a dark blue button-down shirt, a baseball cap with a red 'B' logo, and has curly hair and a beard. The woman on the right is wearing a dark vest over a light-colored shirt and khaki pants. They are standing in front of a large metal frame filled with wood, which is part of a kiln. In the background, there are trees and a clear blue sky.

States need assistance in order to assume kiln-certification activities from APHIS

- A majority of states indicated that they are not able to assume kiln-certification activities from APHIS.
- States indicated that they had between 1 and 18 kilns that would require certification (4.9 ± 1.2 (SEM)).
- States expressed a need for assistance from APHIS, including:
 - Training (~60% saw this as a need)
 - Equipment / monitoring probes to calibrate kilns (~60% saw this as a need)
 - Personnel (~30% saw this as a need)

Best Management Practices:

Goal: Recommend firewood best management practices that can be **used for commercial firewood** to reduce the risk of spreading pests.

Review, summarize, and compile best management practices from states, research, and Canada.

In process.



Photo: PY Siegert, NH DAMF

Outreach Techniques:

Goal: Change firewood transportation behaviors **by recreational firewood users** like campers and outdoor enthusiasts. Develop recommendations for states on effective outreach strategies.

Develop a toolkit that states can use to assist in outreach.

In process.

PY Siegert, NH Dept.



NH State Park: NH Parks and Recreation

Outreach Toolkit:

Step 1: Develop a core outreach statement.

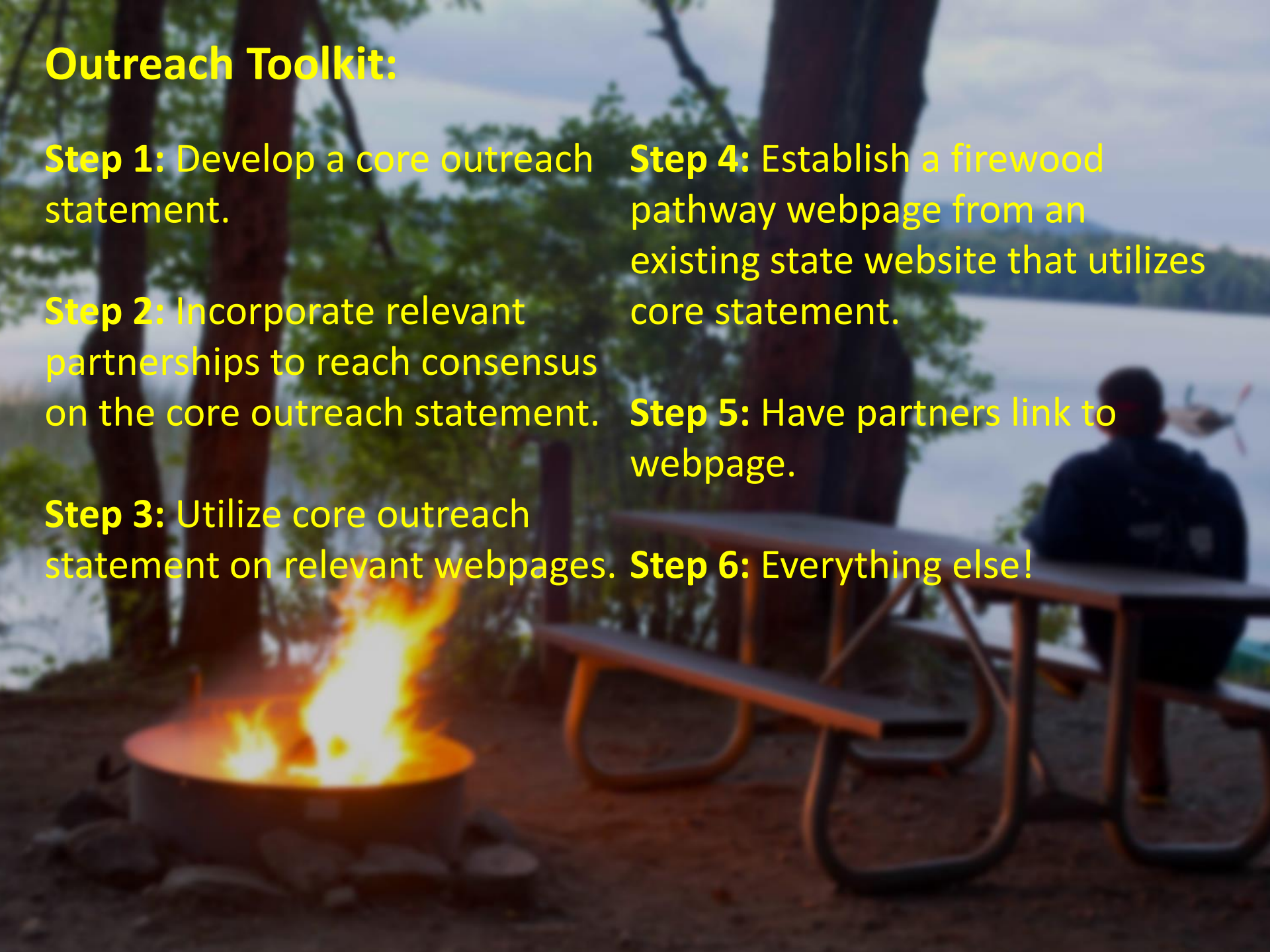
Step 2: Incorporate relevant partnerships to reach consensus on the core outreach statement.

Step 3: Utilize core outreach statement on relevant webpages.

Step 4: Establish a firewood pathway webpage from an existing state website that utilizes core statement.

Step 5: Have partners link to webpage.

Step 6: Everything else!



Outreach Toolkit: Everything else guidance to...

- Target messaging for specific audiences.
- Determine how to best deploy limited outreach dollars.
- Use Don't Move Firewood-designed materials and expertise to encourage consistency of messaging between states.
- Develop and manage an on-line list of firewood vendors with a program like Firewood Scout.





Thank you!

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Questions?

