

David R. Foster

David Foster is an ecologist, a faculty member in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard since 1983 and Director of the Harvard Forest, the University's 4000-acre ecological laboratory and classroom in central Massachusetts since 1990. David has a Ph.D. in ecology from the University of Minnesota and has conducted studies in the boreal forests of Labrador, Sweden and Norway and the forests of Puerto Rico, the Yucatan, and Patagonia in addition to his primary research on landscape dynamics in New England. His interests focus on understanding the changes in forest ecosystems that result from human and natural disturbance and applying these results to the conservation and management of natural and cultural landscapes. He serves on the boards of the Highstead Foundation, the Martha's Vineyard Museum, and the Edey Foundation. Beginning in 2005, David and colleagues developed [*Wildlands and Woodlands – A Vision for the New England Landscape*](#), which lays out an ambitious plan for the protection and conservation of forest and farmland across the region. David is also the author of [*Hemlock: A Forest Giant on the Edge*](#) (2014), and [*A Meeting of Land and Sea: Nature and the Future of Martha's Vineyard*](#) (2017).