

WELCOME TO THE VERMONT FOREST FUTURE STRATEGIC ROADMAP PROJECT



Vermont Forest Future - Strategic Roadmap

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FPR) is embarking on a robust public engagement process through 2022/2023 to identify opportunities to help Vermont chart a path forward to protect the long-term viability of forest-based businesses – and the many benefits they provide to the state's environment, economy, and quality of life.

The outcome of this process will be the Vermont Forest Future Strategic Roadmap which will identify actionable strategies to strengthen, modernize, promote, and protect Vermont's forest products sector and the broader forest economy.



Vermont Forest Future Strategic Roadmap Development

STEP 1

Explore Perceptions

- Review research
- Industry Roundtables
- Stakeholder Survey #1
- Interviews

Current Conditions

November – February

STEP 2

Future Scenarios and Implications

- Future Think Tanks
- Agency Roundtables
- Engagement sessions
- Stakeholder survey #2
- Identify Preferred Future

Scenarios of the
Future

December - April

STEP 3

Develop Draft Strategic Roadmap

- Build strategic framework
- Identify key themes
- Focus Groups
- Draft Recommendations

Draft Recommendations

April – May

STEP 4

Forest Future Strategic Roadmap

- Future Summits

Final Roadmap

June - November





The key to effective future thinking...

Consider both **trajectory** (direction of change) and **velocity** (speed of change).

The Importance of Future Thinking

Key Drivers:

What key drivers do you think are most important for the future of the Vermont forest economy (and forest products sector)?

(Key drivers are events, trends, developments, catalysts or forces that actively influence or cause change.)



Key Drivers Identification

1. Forest conditions
2. Adaptations to climate change impact
3. Role of land use regulations
4. Consumer interest in wood products
5. Changes in workforce availability
6. Social environmental awareness
7. Generational shift in values
8. Changes in land ownership (& parcel size)
9. Cost of energy needed for production
10. Owner attitudes toward forest management
11. Outside pressures on Vermont
12. Supply chain dynamics and changes
13. Changes in forest economy transportation
14. Public investment in forest economy
15. Impact of emergent carbon markets
16. Vermont culture for community scale
17. Societal polarization
18. Industrial cross sector innovation
19. Departure of younger generation
20. Technical innovation
21. Global market pressures
22. Outdoor recreation



Future-splitting clusters of drivers

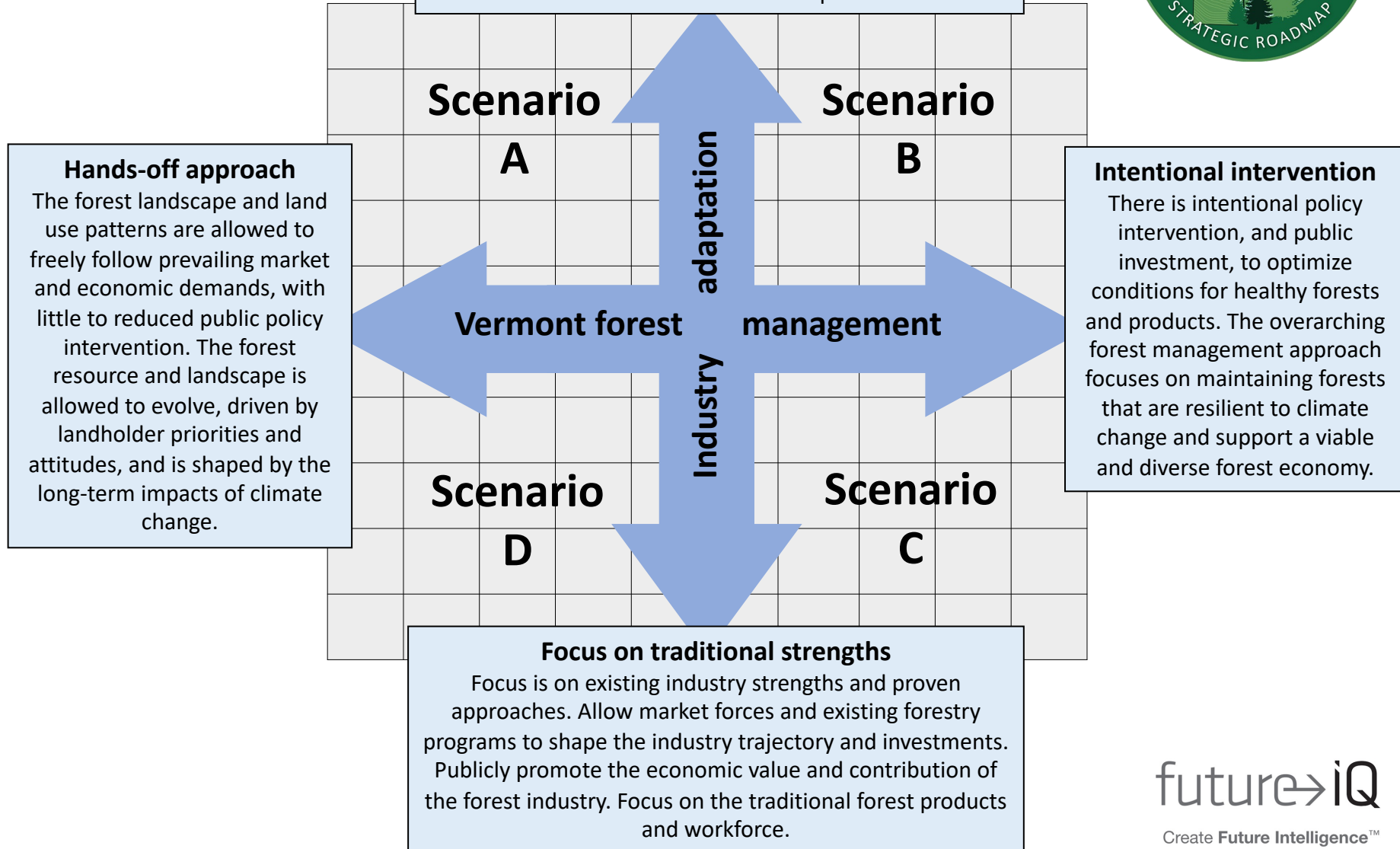
VERMONT FOREST MANAGEMENT

- **Forest conditions**
- Technical innovation
- Role of land use regulation
- Adaptations to climate change
- Owner attitudes toward forest management
- Changes in land ownership (& parcel size)

INDUSTRY ADAPTATION

- **Technical innovation**
- **Consumer interest in wood products**
- Industrial cross-sector innovation
- Public investment in forest economy
- Supply chain dynamics and changes
- Global market pressures
- Social environmental awareness

Plausible Scenario Matrix 2035

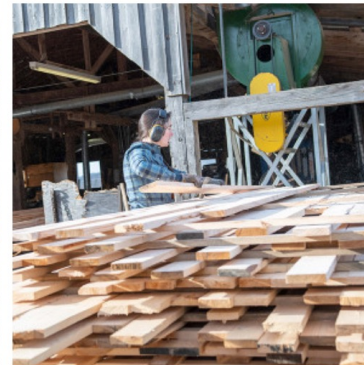


Survey will
include profile
questions



VISION SURVEY AND SCENARIO HEAT MAPS

Expected and Preferred Futures



Vermont Forest Future

Expected, Preferred and Least Desirable Futures Scenario Survey



Expected, Preferred and Least Desirables of the Future – What do you think?

1. **LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE** - The Least Desirable Future is the future that you think will be most undesirable (or least optimal or least desired) future in 2035.
2. **EXPECTED FUTURE:** The Expected Future is the future you expect most likely to eventuate by 2035, if existing trends and trajectory persists.
3. **PREFERRED FUTURE:** The Preferred Future is the future you think is optimal and creates the best outcome for Vermont forest economy in 2035.

Invest in proactive adaptation



Vermont Forest
Future

- LEAST
DESIRABLE
FUTURE (L)
- EXPECTED
FUTURE (E)
- PREFERRED
FUTURE (P)

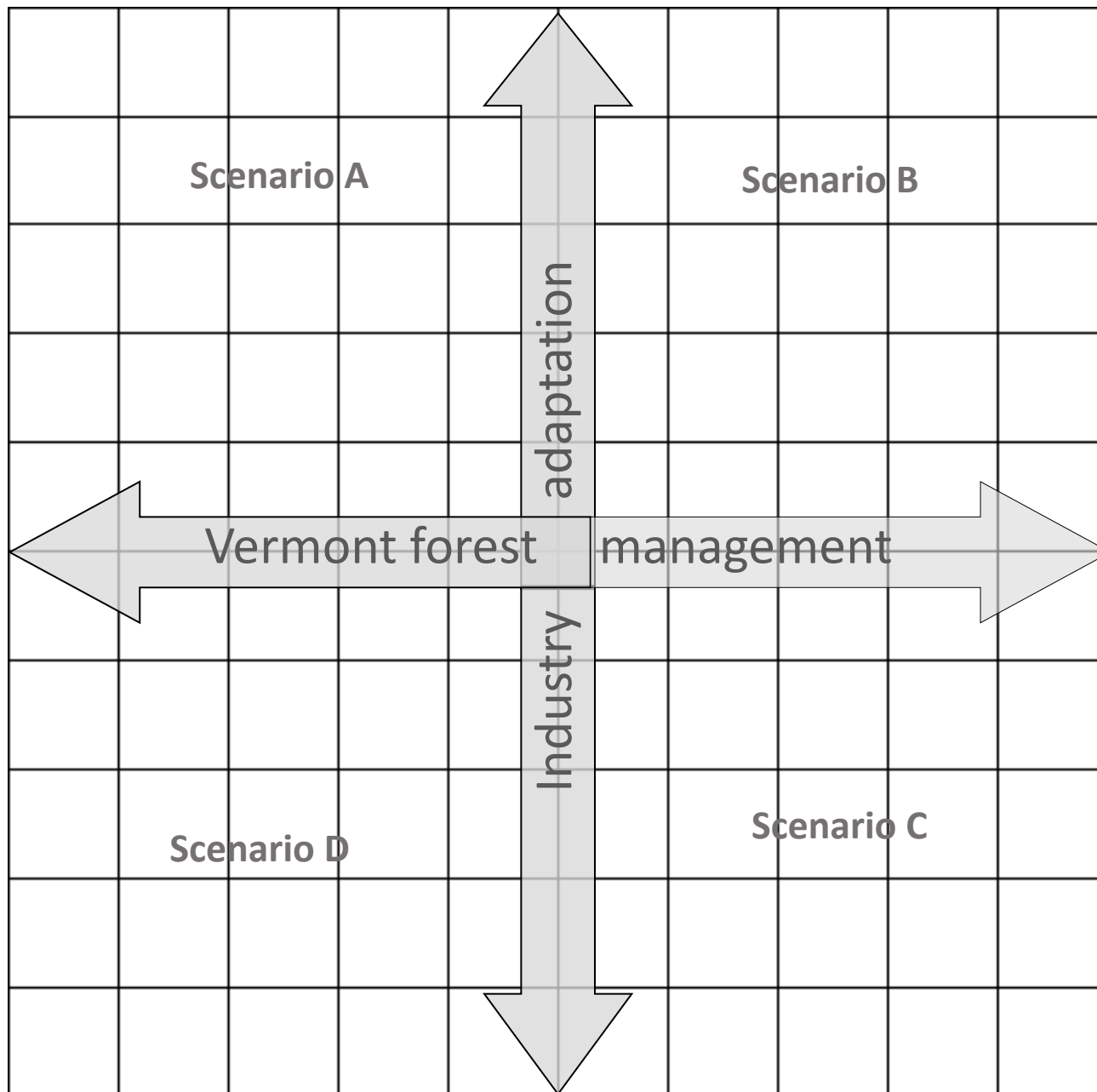
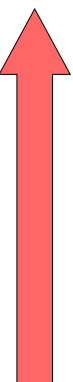
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Y AXIS

Hands-off approach



Intentional intervention

Focus on traditional strengths

X AXIS

Invest in proactive adaptation



Vermont Forest Future

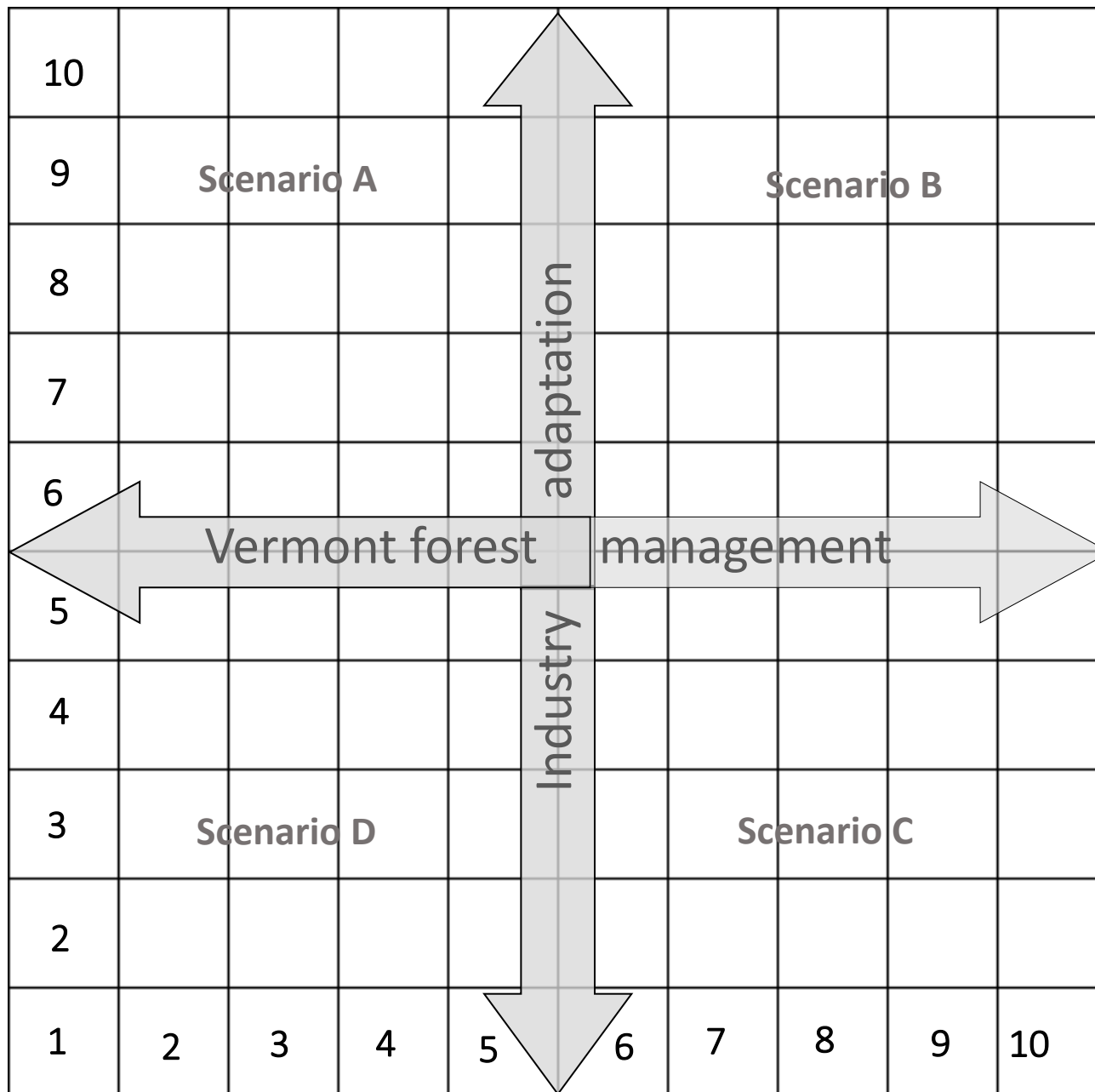
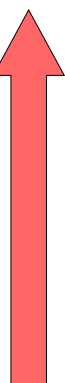
- LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE (L)
- EXPECTED FUTURE (E)
- PREFERRED FUTURE (P)

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Y AXIS

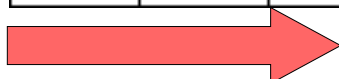
Hands-off approach



Intentional intervention

Focus on traditional strengths

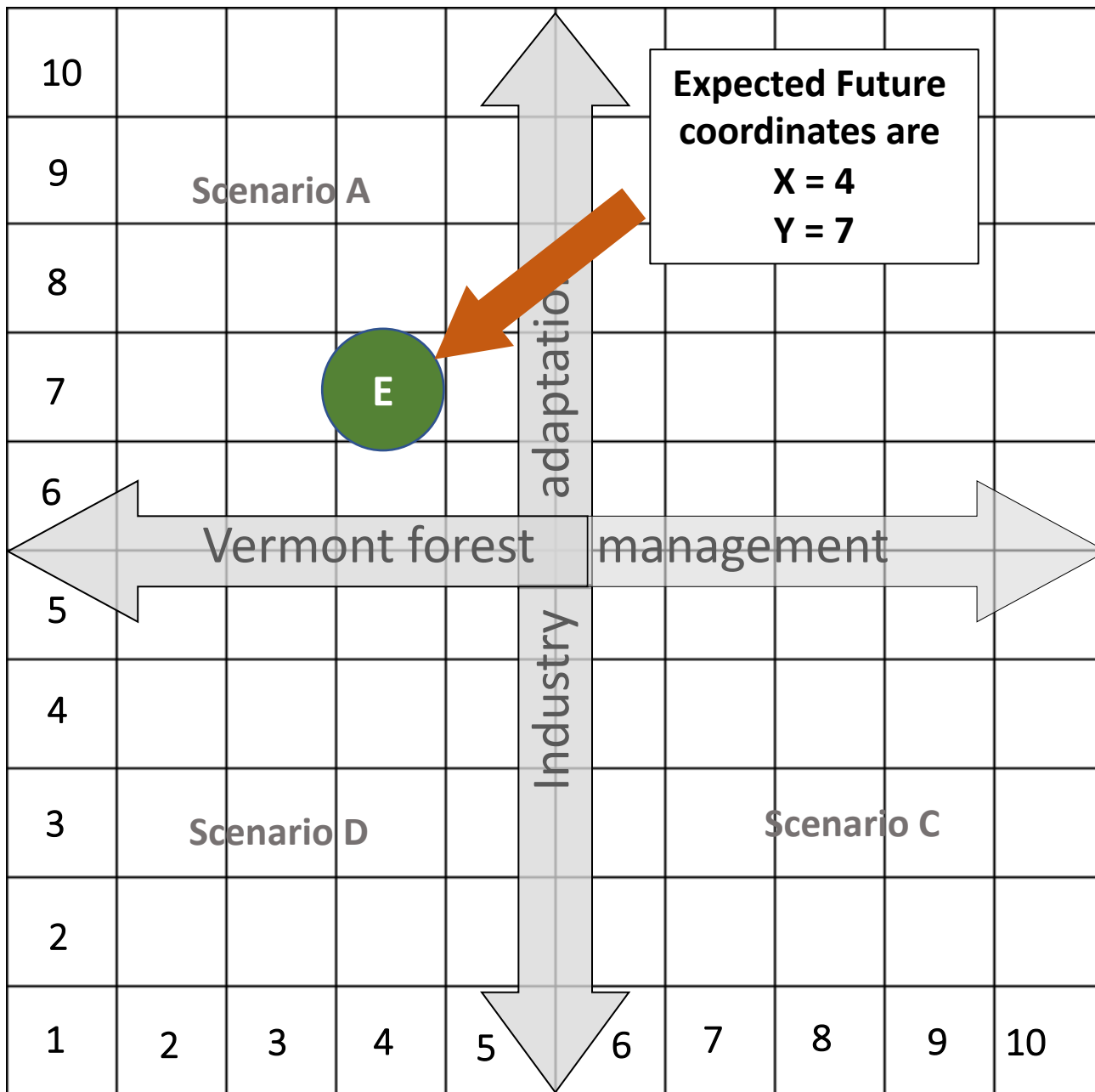
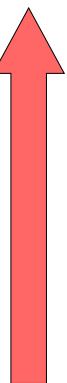
X AXIS



Invest in proactive adaptation

Y AXIS

Hands-off approach



Focus on traditional strengths

X AXIS

Intentional intervention



Vermont Forest Future

- LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE (L)
- EXPECTED FUTURE (E)
- PREFERRED FUTURE (P)

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Vermont Forest Future

Expected, Preferred and Least Desirable Future Scenario Survey

7. LEAST Desirable Future (least optimal or desired future in 2035)

X-Axis (Horizontal)

Y-Axis (Vertical)

LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE -

The Least Desirable Future is the future that you think will be most undesirable (or least optimal or least desired) future in 2035.

8. EXPECTED Future (assume current trajectory until 2035) 0

X-Axis (Horizontal)

Y-Axis (Vertical)

EXPECTED FUTURE: The Expected Future is the future you expect most likely to eventuate by 2035, if existing trends and trajectory persists.


9. Most PREFERRED Future (most optimal or desired in 2035) 0


X-Axis (Horizontal)

Y-Axis (Vertical)

PREFERRED FUTURE: The Preferred Future is the future you think is optimal and creates the best outcome for Vermont forest economy in 2035.



10. YOUR PICTURE of the PREFERRED FUTURE. Please describe the Vermont forest economy in 2035, based on your preferred future. What benefits or advantages do you think it has?  0

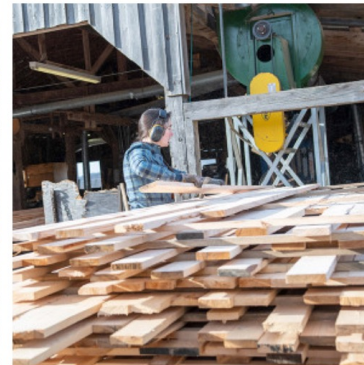
11. WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN? What do you think needs to happen in order to make this future a reality?  0

**What do you
think?**



Take survey:

<https://www.research.net/r/VFFSurvey2Online>



Next steps

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March – May

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Final Roadmap

June - November

Look for e-newsletter update of survey data and reports – posted to portal