ABSTRACT.—Achieving increased forest productivity requires choices to control forest growth through silvicultural systems. Growing more timber faster takes both skill and added silvicultural investments applied to each acre. The payoffs for exercising this control and making investments in more intensive forestry are higher yields and greater profits.

This presentation has three parts:
1. It identifies promising strategies to increase forest productivity in the Lake States region. Enhanced productivity can be achieved by focusing resources on those stands with the greatest potential for increased growth.
2. It reveals opportunities to enhance productivity by focusing on those cases where chances for growth and profits are missed. Forest productivity can be increased by fine-tuning silvicultural systems to reduce the factors and conditions that limit timber growth.
3. It identifies the barriers that act to prevent increased productivity and offers some strategies for overcoming these limitations. Forest productivity can be increased by overcoming those factors that constrain more intensive management.