



NORTHWEST INNOVATIVE FORESTRY SUMMIT

University of Washington, Pack Forest, Eatonville, WA

2022 SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, September 30, 2022

Sense of Place Exercise (*Pavilion*) - 5 to 6pm

Colleen Robinson (*Forest Stewards Guild*)

Foresters and other natural resource professionals know and care about forests and natural areas. We spend time with them, and sometimes teach others about them. How often do we slow down enough to let the forest teach us? Not about biology or climate resilience, but about what it means to be human? Nature inspires creativity, courage, confidence, compassion, and a healthy "letting go." There are scores of physical and mental health benefits to mindful time in nature - without a destination or agenda other than to "be" and allow. During this session we will slow down, explore this space where we will settle for the weekend's events through sensory awareness, and engage in a gratitude practice that grounds us in a sense of place.

Walk in the Woods (*Pavilion*) - 6 to 7pm

Stacey Dixon (*Snohomish Conservation District*)

Pack Forest was established as a "Show Window" forest in 1926. We have established a diverse set of forest demonstration sites over 4300 acres. A hike through several forest stands will start with forest history and several research sites on a 1-mile loop.

Informal Meet and Greet (*Pack Hall*) - 5 to 7pm

All Welcome

Meet other attendees and share your forest story! Snacks available to keep you energized.

Campfire (*outside*)

All Welcome! After dinner and weather permitting, participants will be invited to gather for an informal evening of s'more making and socializing.

Greetings & Welcome!



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Saturday, October 1, 2022

Welcome and Opening Remarks (*Scott Hall*)

Rowan Braybrook (*Northwest Natural Resource Group*)
Dan Brown (*University of Washington*)

Welcome to the Northwest Innovative Forestry Summit! We're glad to be able to gather in person to discuss the past, present, and future of forestry innovation in our region.

Blessing and Keynote: Tribal Perspective on Planning for the Future (*Scott Hall*)

Don Motanic (*Umatilla Tribe*)
Phil Rigdon (*Yakima Nation*)

Tribal working forest lands are unique in that they provide a balanced approach to sustainability by combining social, economic, and ecological considerations for people who have lived and continue to live on their respective lands. Tribal people have a vision, commitment, and capability to provide that stewardship.

Summit Discussion: What change are we seeing and what are we already doing? (*Scott Hall*)

Klaus Puettmann (*Oregon State University- OSU*)

How do we act to anticipate inevitable change?

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Growth of Community Forests (*Pack Hall*)

Kaola Swanson (*The Conservancy Fund*)
Additional speakers to be announced.

Community Forests, what are they and where are they going? Community forests have been around longer than its more recent trend, making them a real option and model for forest conservation. Yet, community forests are still considered a grassroots endeavor and there is still a lack of consensus on what is or is not a community forest. Hear from some experienced community forest leaders on their take and explore your own ideas or projects creating a space for questions, discussion, and brainstorming.

Data for Public Engagement and Project Implementation (*Scott Hall*)

Stacey Dixon (*Snohomish Conservation District*)
Joey Hulbert (*Washington State University - WSU*)
Sara Loreno (*Ecotrust*)

What data and tools are we using for our land management? And how are these being used to communicate with the public?

Our presenters will discuss newer, innovative data tools related to citizen science and forest mapping, and how these can also provide a tool for communication with landowners and the public.

Walk in the Woods (*Pavilion*)

Greg Ettl (*University of Washington*)

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1:00 PM - 2:45 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Lightning Talks: Exciting Projects (Pack Hall)

Alex Dolk (Northwest Natural Resource Group)

We invite professionals and students to share, in 5 minutes and using only one slide, a project they're working on or a part of. It's fast-paced but lighthearted, and we're aiming for at least 12 presenters (Contact Alex@nnrg.org to sign up).

- Who are you? Where's your project? What is your project/research?
- Why are you excited about this project/research?
- What's new/innovative about this project/research?
- How can people get involved?

Invasives: Innovate or Yield? (Scott Hall)

Brandy Saffell (Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District)

Christine Buhl (Oregon Department Forestry)

Megan Garvey (The Wetlands Conservancy)

TBD (Ash Creek Forest Management)

Invasive pests and plants are at the root of most restoration efforts, providing challenges socially, seasonally, over different phases of recovery, and over the decades. Planning for these challenges is often done after unwanted species have presented themselves, with some anticipation of what to expect in the next 3 to 10 years. However, counties and states are threatened with the movement and presence of new invasive species all the time. With occurrences like the inevitable arrival of [Emerald Ash Borer \(EAB\) to Oregon](#); where's the practice of restoration going? How are practitioners planning for the known and unknown? Is there any room for innovation anymore?

Field Tour of Pack Forest (Pavilion)

Greg Ettl (University of Washington)

Stacey Dixon (Snohomish SWCD)

Note: This Session is from 1pm to 4pm (space limited - sign up upon arrival).

The challenge of partial cutting and restoration treatments is both establishing suitable vegetation, facilitating sapling release, and tree growth. This tour will examine several stands highlighting silviculture approaches to establish and evaluate mixed species plantations. A combination of planting patterns, spacing, stocking, and response to browse protection will highlight the relative performance of the following species: Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western redcedar, grand fir, and red alder in response to varying cutting regimes, light and water availability.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Professional Q&A (Pack Hall)

Malloree Weinheimer (Chickadee Forestry)

Roslyn Henricks (WA-DNR)

Joey Hulbert (WSU/ Forest Health Watch)

Colleen Robinson (Guild)

Panelists from different parts of the forestry sector will start with a personal introduction and then discuss professional paths and career trends in the sector, research gaps, hiring processes, and how the workforce is changing. The audience is welcome and encouraged to ask questions during the discussion.



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How to Grow Older Trees *(Scott Hall)*

Kate Anderson *(Sightline Institute)*

Panelists: Steve Rigdon
(Yakama Nation)

Court Stanley *(Port Blakely)*

Jason Dorn *(Port Blakely)*

Derek Churchill *(Washington DNR)*

As Northwesterners focus on opportunities for our region to contribute to climate solutions, harnessing the unrealized potential for our forests to catch and hold carbon stands out as our unique superpower. Realizing that potential depends on finding ways to incentivize the growing of older trees and forests, which also improve water quality and wildlife habitat. This interactive session will explore the importance, challenges, and strategies for growing older trees and forests in our region. We encourage participants to this session to read and consider this four-part introduction to the topic - [Farms & Forests](#).

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Building a Diverse Future of NR Professionals: Barriers and Solutions *(Pack Hall)*

Cristina Eisenberg *(Oregon State University)*

Don Motanic *(Umatilla Tribe)*

Maura Olivos *(Forest Stewards Guild)*

Klaus Puettmann *(Oregon State University)*

The forestry and greater natural resource (NR) field continues to be confronted with changing social, environmental, and economic needs. In response, diversity is a well-accepted and pursued condition ecologically, yet it is not as well reflected within the NR workforce. This session will begin to address and share on the barriers to diversity within the NR profession as well as open discussion to solutions in fostering a diverse future. This is a fitting discussion for newer NR recruits and those recruiting. We encourage participants to this session to read and consider these articles for discussion: [Safe Field Strategies](#) and [Why racial disparities in...funding persist](#).

Climate-Smarter Forestry: Check-in and Ongoing Regional Discussion *(Scott Hall)*

Brian Morris *(American Forests)*

Peter Hayes *(Hyla Woods)*

Rowan Braybrook *(NNRG)*

We'll begin with an overview of the most recent and interesting efforts underway in climate-smarter forestry in both OR and WA. Participants will then break out into groups to discuss 1) what they're already doing, 2) what progress will look like in 5 years, and 3) the top efforts and projects related to their work that will have an impact. We'll then come back together to share the top strategies discussed.

Status Update on Oregon Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Response Plan *(TBD)*

Christine Buhl *(Oregon Department of Forestry)*

[Oregon EAB response plan](#) update follows the first west coast detection in Forest Grove, Oregon June 30, 2022. Emerald ash borer is an invasive exotic woodboring beetle from Asia that was first detected in the U.S. in Michigan in 2002. Since then, it has spread to 33 states and killed over 100 million ash trees. On average, when emerald ash borer is detected in a county, over 99% of the ash are killed. There have been no successful eradications of this pest following many attempts; the goal for Oregon is to slow the spread of this insect and protection of some pockets of ash in natural areas. An update on our interagency response thus far and direction forward will be provided.



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7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Campfire (*Outside*)

All Welcome! Weather permitting, participants will be invited to gather around Pack Forest's outdoor pavilion for a campfire, s'mores, and forest stories. Musical instruments encouraged.

Sunday, October 2, 2022

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (Concurrent Sessions)

Human Dimensions of Forestry: Forest Values (*Scott Hall*)

Klaus Puettmann (*OSU*)
Cristina Eisenberg (*OSU*)

Values are what you feel is very important in your work and life. In this session participants will identify their values with regard to forestry, and how their work, organizational affiliation, and personal background (e.g., socio-cultural identity, race, ethnicity) have shaped their principles and standards of behavior. In an open-ended conversation we will explore who we are and the diverse ways we connect with and relate to forest lands and our work.

Forestry for the Birds - The Making of the Guide for Western Oregon (*Pavilion*)

Brandy Saffell (*Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District*)
Maura Olivos (*Forest Stewards Guild*)

From the east coast to the west coast, this new publication was created to be used as a communication tool between landowners and foresters. The guide seeks to bring greater interest in managing forest health with the allure of some charismatic habitat indicators, birds. We will share the process in how the guide was created for Western Oregon, and the supporting resources from *Foresters for the Birds* across the country. This session will also go through some of the key features of the guide and how workshops have been developed so far, with open discussions on how we could continue to build off these learning opportunities.

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Closing Remarks (*Scott Hall*)

Cristina Eisenberg (*OSU*) and Greg Ettl (*UW*) will share: after all these discussions, what's next?

Thank you!