

Trees to Tap: Forest Management and Drinking Water Virtual Conference

March 11 & 12, 2021

Speakers

Shreejita Basu, PhD. Water Scientist, Sustainable Northwest. Shreejita works across the Forest and Water programs at Sustainable Northwest, focusing on collecting and analyzing data in order to protect the water quantity and quality in different watersheds in Oregon. Shreejita works collaboratively with NGOs, state and federal agencies, researchers, and private landowners to find scientific solutions to complex place-based water management issues. Prior to joining Sustainable Northwest, she was a Fellow at the World Forest Institute, researching innovative funding models for natural resources nonprofits in the Pacific Northwest. She was born and raised in India, where she completed her PhD in Water Resources from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT, Delhi).

Jeff Behan, Senior Policy Research Analyst, Institute of Natural Resources. Jeff has over 20 years of experience working with state and federal agencies, universities and native tribes to acquire, synthesize and deliver natural resource science knowledge. Jeff's professional interests include science-based natural resource and water policy, science synthesis and knowledge transfer, sustainability, public land management, river management and outdoor recreation policy and management.

Jennifer Beath, Forester & Outreach Manager, Starker Forests, Inc. Jennifer Beathe has worked as a forester for 23 years at Starker Forests. She has a BS in Forest Engineering from Oregon State University. As a fifth-generation business, Starker Forests holds over 87,000 acres of forestland in Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, and Polk counties.

Marko Bey, Executive Director and Founder, Lomakatsi Restoration Project. Marko has worked in ecological forestry and watershed restoration for the past 34 years. Established in 1995, Lomakatsi is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to "restore ecosystems and the sustainability of communities, cultures and economies" (www.lomakatsi.org). Lomakatsi develops and implements forest and watershed restoration initiatives, programs and projects throughout Oregon and Northern California, working with federal and state agencies, tribal governments and indigenous communities, industry, and other nonprofit organizations.

Kevin Bladon, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Forest Hydrology in FERM. Kevin is interested in natural (wildfire, pests, pathogens) and human (conventional and salvage harvesting) disturbance effects on water quantity, water quality, and aquatic ecology. He has previously been involved with transdisciplinary teams, researching the implications of forest disturbance on drinking water treatability. This research examined source water supply and protections strategies to enable both forest and community resiliency to respond to disturbances. He has a Ph.D. in Forest Hydrology from the University of Alberta.

Chris Chambers, Forest Division Chief, City of Ashland/Ashland Fire & Rescue. An Ashland native, Chris has worked at Ashland Fire and Rescue since 2002. A graduate of the Oregon State University, Chris worked for the US Forest Service and BLM for 5 seasons in silviculture, fire, botany, and wildlife and fisheries biology. For Ashland Fire & Rescue, Chris coordinated National Fire Plan grants for 6 years with hundreds of private landowners, co-authored the 2004 Ashland Community Wildfire Protection Plan and 2005 Jackson County Integrated Fire Plan, and participated in the genesis and ongoing implementation of the Ashland Forest Resiliency Stewardship Project for over a decade. Chris started Ashland's Firewise Communities and Fire Adapted Communities programs and also coordinates management of Ashland's municipal forestlands, including an active prescribed burn program. Chris has worked nationally with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, serves on the board of the Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative, and served last year on the Governor's Wildfire Response Council here in Oregon.

Mike Cloughesy, Director of Forestry, Oregon Forest Resources Institute. Mike is responsible for developing and implementing OFRI's forestry education programs for landowners and the general public. Prior to joining OFRI in 2003, Mike was the director of outreach education at the Oregon State University College of Forestry and the assistant leader of the Forestry Extension Program and Professor of Forest Resources. Mike also spent 11 years as an extension forester for OSU in Douglas and Lane counties. He holds a bachelor's degree in forestry from Iowa State University and a master's degree in forest science from OSU.

Emily Jane Davis, Ph.D. Assistant Professor in the Forest Ecosystems and Society (FES) Department, and Specialist in the Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Program. Emily Jane's research and technical assistance focuses on natural resource social science, environmental governance, collaboration and partnerships, community development, wildfire response, and science delivery. She has a Ph.D. and M.A. in Human Geography from the University of British Columbia, and a B.A. in History from McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

Michelle Day, M.S., Courtesy Faculty at Oregon State University College of Forestry and Biological Scientist with the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Michelle is a biological scientist with the Fire, Fuels and Smoke Program at the US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. She helps to develop and test quantitative models to understand management tradeoffs at multiple scales, especially in the context of wildfire transmission to communities. Her background is in botany and plant ecology and she spent the majority of her career doing field-based research to understand understory vegetation responses to forest management.

Melaney Dunne, Executive Director, Coquille Watershed Association. As Executive Director, Mel works with staff to build partnerships and implement strategies to enhance watershed health in the Coquille Basin. This includes extensive partnerships with private landowners and land managers to accomplish win-win projects that provide benefits for working lands and natural resources. Mel earned degrees in Biology and Environmental Studies from Loyola University Chicago and earned an MS in Conservation Biology with a focus on Fisheries and Aquatic Biology from the University of Minnesota.

Lisa Gaines Ph.D. Director of the Institute for Natural Resources at OSU. Lisa provided convening and facilitation for the Trees To Tap Steering Committee. She has dual B.A. degrees in Economics and International Relations from the University of California, Davis, an M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics and a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from Oregon State University.

Whitney Henneman, Forester, C&D Lumber. Whitney is a third-generation forester. She works for Silver Butte Timber Company based in Riddle, Oregon (Silver Butte is the timber company associated with C&D Lumber). Whitney manages reforestation to harvest, and everything in between on 45,000 acres of timberland in Coos, Douglas and Jackson counties.

Donna Mickley, Siskiyou Mountains District Ranger, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. Donna Mickley is the Siskiyou Mountains District Ranger, on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National. She has been a line officer on the Rogue River-Siskiyou since 2010 and has worked for the Forest Service for 33 years, starting her career as an engineering geologist.

Karl Morgenstern, Watershed Restoration Program Manager, Eugene Water & Electric Board. Karl is currently leading the Watershed Recovery Task Force as part of Lane County Emergency Operations in response to the Holiday Farm Fire. Previously he was the Source Protection & Water Quality Supervisor for EWEB and managed EWEB's Watershed Protection, Water Quality Laboratory, and Water Quality Compliance groups. He has spent twenty years at EWEB developing and implementing a drinking water source protection program to safeguard Eugene's sole source of drinking water - the McKenzie River. Prior to EWEB, Karl spent 10 years at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and seven years as an environmental consultant managing high priority cleanups at abandoned hazardous waste sites and responding to hazardous material spills. Karl is on the Board of Directors of the East Lane Forest Protection Association, Carpe Diem West, and the McKenzie Watershed Council and represents EWEB on the EPA Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group. Karl is on the Board of Directors of the East Lane Forest Protection Association, Carpe Diem West, and the McKenzie Watershed Council and represents EWEB on the EPA Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group.

Shannon Murray, Continuing & Professional Education Program Coordinator, Oregon State University College of Forestry. Shannon works with faculty, researchers, and external partners to provide professional development opportunities and resources for forestry and natural resource professionals in the Pacific Northwest. Currently, she is also program coordinator for the Northwest Fire Science Consortium and a Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Associate. She has dual B.A. degrees in Biology and English from the University of Connecticut, and a master's degree from the Yale School of the Environment.

Paul Newman, Commissioner, Oceanside Water District. Paul R. Newman received his PhD in Physics from Michigan State University in 1975. Following a 2 year Post Doctoral Program at the University of Pennsylvania, he spent the next 25 years in high tech industry working for companies such as Rockwell International (Thousand Oaks, CA), JBL Professional (Northridge CA), and Electro Scientific Industries (Beaverton, OR). Dr Newman, in 1992, retired from Industry and became a consultant for technology driven businesses, and he also taught at the graduate level for various universities (OGI, OHSU, PSU and Willamette Univ), as well as teaching overseas in Vietnam, Korea and China. He is currently retired and a Commissioner on the Oceanside Water District Board of Commissioners.

Chris Ringo, M.S., Senior Faculty Research Assistant in the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Oregon State University. Chris is a Senior Faculty Research Assistant in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. He has been a spatial analyst, programmer, and manager for thirty years in a variety of natural resource applications, including mapping of groundwater hazards, fish & wildlife data systems, forest ecology, soils, potential vegetation modeling, and most recently, wildland fire and even industrial hemp.

Stephanie Reid, City Engineer, City of Lincoln City. Stephanie Reid has 30 years of experience working in municipal engineering. She's worked for consulting firms and Public sector and has been the City Engineer for the City of Lincoln City for the last 16 years. She has a wide range of experience including solid waste, transportation, sewer, stormwater and water; lately has been focused on water resources including developing a Water Source Protection Plan and updating the City's Water Master Plans.

Josh Seeds, Technical Assistance Coordinator at Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Drinking Water Protection Program. Josh assesses risks and hazards to drinking water sources and works with water systems, landowners, and other stakeholders to reduce risks collaboratively whenever possible. His professional/personal background is in ecology, biochemistry, forest management, and Christmas trees.

Jon A. Souder, Ph.D. Assistant Professor in the Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management (FERM) Department; and, Forest Watershed Specialist in the Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Program, and the concluding director of the Watersheds Research Cooperative (WRC). From 2000 until joining OSU, he was Executive Director of the Coos Watershed Association in Charleston, OR, managing their water quality assessment, restoration, and monitoring programs. He has a Ph.D. and M.S. in Wildland Resources Science from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.S. in biology (limnology) from Marlboro College, VT.

Jay Walters, Forest Practices Field Coordinator, Oregon Department of Forestry. Jay Walters is a forest practices field coordinator in the Private Forests Division of the Oregon Department of Forestry in Salem. In this support role, Jay provides technical assistance to ODF's stewardship foresters in the field, and works on policy topics at the state level. Jay was previously a stewardship forester in Roseburg and, prior to joining ODF in 2013, held various forestry, GIS, and natural resource positions in western Oregon and southwest Washington.

Jon Wehage, Coast Unit Manager, Stimson Lumber. Jon is a graduate of Oregon State University with a degree in Forest Engineering, and he has worked for Stimson Lumber Company for 26 years. His career started on the Grand Ronde Tree Farm as a road and harvest layout forester and contract administration which then transitioned into silviculture. In 2003, he moved to Tillamook to manage Stimson's newly acquired 30,000 acre Cape Lookout Tree Farm. Jon's management roll was being a "jack of all trades" managing the harvesting and silviculture activities of the property. To date the Coast tree farm has grown to 75,000 acres, where Jon is the Coast Unit Manager with 3 other foresters.