

Panelists for USFS Concurrent Sessions

Schedule of Events (as listed in the printed program, to be handed out onsite)

Friday, May 30, 2008

<p>8:30a – 10:00</p>	<p>Concurrent Session 1</p> <p>Organizing Landscape Scale Projects Part 1</p> <p>Moderators: Ed Macie, Regional Urban Forester, US Forest Service Phillip Rodbell, Program Manager, Northeastern Area, US Forest Service</p> <p>Using Forest Canopy Cover Mapping to Plan the Community Network Jenny Gulick, Senior Urban Forester, Natural Resource Consulting, Davey Resource Group An innovative project was recently completed by the Northern Kentucky Urban and Forestry Council that mapped and assessed the forest canopy in three contiguous counties along the Ohio River adjacent to the Cincinnati metropolitan area. This project provides the first comprehensive, GIS-based, and scientifically documented forest canopy data in the region. Jenny Gulick will discuss how the information is currently used for cross jurisdictional studies, transportation planning, greenway and park analysis, and ecological preservation and restoration projects. She will show how this landscape scale information creates a framework for decision-making in local and regional development projects and identifies critical areas for forest protection and enhancement to maximize the benefits of forest resources for people.</p> <p>A Model for Large Scale Watershed Restoration and Stewardship Heather Montgomery, Conservation Program Associate, Potomac Conservancy The Potomac Watershed Partnership (PWP) is a collaborative effort among federal, state, and local partners to restore the health of the land and waters of the Potomac River Basin, thereby enhancing the quality of life and overall health of the Chesapeake Bay. Heather Montgomery will discuss the success of this partnership and share PWP's signature project, Growing Native a project where partners, students, and community volunteers enhance riparian buffers and increase schools' tree canopy.</p> <p>Acquisition and Use of Landcover Data to Enhance Urban Ecosystems in North Carolina Rick Roti, Chair, Charlotte - North Carolina Tree Board The Carolina Piedmont Green Initiative is a multiyear project in the Charlotte Region of North Carolina focused on preserving and enhancing environmental assets in the face of rapid urban growth. Rick Roti will discuss how natural asset data acquired from satellite imagery and aerial photography is being integrated with local land use data to enhance and protect the region's natural assets. He will show how this type of data is being used to preserve Mountain Island Lake which is the source of drinking water for over one million people in the region.</p>	<p>Boca 1</p>
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<p>10:30 a – 12:00 p</p>	<p>Concurrent Session 1</p> <p>Organizing Landscape Scale Projects Part 2 Moderators: Ed Macie, Regional Urban Forester, US Forest Service Phillip Rodbell, Program Manager, Northeastern Area, US Forest Service</p> <p>Decision Support Tools for Counties, Communities and Planners James Fox, National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center, University of North Carolina Asheville When communities face competing land use issues trying to balance environment, economy, and social well-being, local decision makers ask questions like: What is the sustainable level of development for our area? Are there limitations on safe drinking water? How are we going to plan for projected growth over the next 20 years? Considering these factors, what role do forests and the natural system play in our decision making process? This session explores using a Decision Theater for group decision making including using relevant, accurate and current data, visualizations, narrative and storytelling, and ways to increase shared knowledge.</p> <p>Landscape Conservation in the Northeast Mega-Region Robert Pirani, Director - Environmental Programs, Regional Plan Association NY Landscape conservation in the Northeast Mega-region, stretching from the northern suburbs of Boston to the southern suburbs of Washington, DC, can help sustain drinking water and other natural resources as the region adds 19 million people by 2050. Regional approaches developed for the Long Island Pine Barrens, New Jersey Highlands, and Long Island Sound can make a vital contribution to meeting the \$277 billion that EPA estimates is needed to repair and improve our water infrastructure. Rob Pirani will describe regional approaches to land and water conservation and recent advances in green design and engineering. He will also discuss navigating the complicated political and interagency partnerships required to meet regulations and ultimately to foster sustainable approaches to managing these landscapes and estuaries.</p> <p>The Green Seattle Partnership - Combining Human and Ecologically Systems For a City Wide Forest Restoration Program Mark Mead, Senior Urban Forester, Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation This session will introduce the Green Seattle Partnership (GSP), and its close ties with regional and national networks. This citywide volunteer-based program repairs the health of forested parklands. The GSP is also part of a larger citywide Urban Forest Management Plan that will help to build a more sustainable and livable city through the Seattle Climate Action NOW campaign which is tied into the US Mayor's Global Climate Initiative. The GSP is also integral to regional Cascade Land Conservancy's plan to protect the working agricultural and forest lands of the Puget Sound.</p>	<p>Boca 1</p>
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Speaker Biographies (as listed in the printed program, to be handed out onsite)

James F. Fox, Director, NEMAC, University of North Carolina Asheville

Jim Fox is the Director for NEMAC (National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center) at UNC Asheville. In that position, he serves as the team leader and principal investigator for two major collaborations that deal with utilizing large environmental databases, spatial visualizations and other high end technologies to create products for decision making in complex situations. One project is in partnership with the US Forest Service Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Analysis Center (EFETAC) and addresses threats to our nations' forests; the other is the local engagement site for RENCI, the Renaissance Computing Institute for North Carolina. RENCI @ UNC Asheville is an active partnership with many collaborators, including the National Climatic Data Center located in Asheville. He leads the Technology Cluster for the Asheville Hub (not an acronym, but a catalyst for growth). In addition, he is a director of the newly formed Community Climate Initiative called CECI (Centers for Environmental and Climatic Interaction). He holds undergraduate degrees in Geology/Geophysics and Communications and a Masters degree in Information Technology for Informal Education.

Jennifer L. Gulick, M.A., Senior Urban Forester, Natural Resource Consulting, Davey Resource Group
Jennifer Gulick is a senior urban forester and project manager responsible for assisting governments, businesses, utilities, and non-profit organizations with various project development and implementation plans specializing in urban forestry, park management, and land development programs. Ms. Gulick has over 25 years of experience and joined Davey Resource Group in 1999 after a successful career in municipal government. She is an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist (OH-0069) and Municipal Specialist, and is a Certified Forester as recognized by the Society of American Foresters. Ms. Gulick is also a Past-President of the Ohio Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, President of the Greater Cincinnati Branch of the Professional Grounds Management Society, and is a board member of the Kentucky Division of Forestry's Urban Forestry Advisory Council, the Northern Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council, and the Boone County Urban Forestry Commission. Ms. Gulick received a Bachelor of Science degree in forest resource management from West Virginia University and a Master of Arts degree in public administration from the University of Cincinnati.

Mark Mead, Senior Urban Forester, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Mark Mead has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry with graduate coursework in Urban Forestry and is a Certified Arborist. Mr. Mead has over 20 years of experience working on forestry and park issues for local, state and federal agencies. As Senior Urban Forester for the Seattle Parks Urban Forestry Program for the last seven years he has been a lead in the development of the science, funding and community outreach program which has become the Green Seattle Partnership. Mr. Mead also is the principal contact for tree related issues for Parks and is a contributor to recently approved citywide Urban Forest Management Plan for Seattle.

Heather Montgomery, Conservation Program Associate, Potomac Conservancy

Ms. Montgomery joined the Conservancy in September of 2005. She serves as a central point of contact for the Potomac Watershed Partnership (PWP), a public-private partnership dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Potomac River watershed. She also leads projects to increase tree canopy on school sites; coordinates program events and workshops; and represents PWP and the Conservancy at public events. Prior to joining the Conservancy, Ms. Montgomery worked in environmental education and outreach at the Audubon Naturalist Society and the National Wildlife Visitor Center (Patuxent Research Refuge). She holds a BA in Environmental Sciences from the University of Virginia.

Robert Pirani, Director - Environmental Programs, Regional Plan Association NY

Robert Pirani is Regional Plan Association's Director of Environmental Programs and Executive Director of the Governors Island Alliance. His responsibilities include developing and directing programs in parks and open space advocacy, land use planning, water quality protection, and the reuse of abandoned industrial sites. He has been invited to testify before the United States Congress, the states of New York and New Jersey, the City of New York, and other public bodies on a variety of open space and land use issues. Mr. Pirani received the 2003 Advocate Award from Environmental Advocates of New York and the 2003 President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation/National Trust for Historic Preservation Joint Award for Federal Partnerships in Historic Preservation. Mr. Pirani has been a founding board member of several non profit organizations and coalitions. Mr. Pirani holds a Masters Degree in Regional Planning from Cornell University and a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Studies from Hampshire College.

Richard Roti, Attorney, Richard E Roti, Attorney at Law

Rick Roti is an attorney and environmentalist currently serving as a consultant to American Forests for the Carolina Piedmont Green Initiative. This initiative quantifies change to tree canopy, open space and impervious cover in the NC piedmont region during the past 20 years, and the impacts of these changes to air quality, water quality and storm water management. He recently worked as the project consultant to produce the Voices & Choices State of the Region Report which was a detailed study of the 15 county Charlotte Region that published data on the region's health in six topic areas: Economy, Transportation, Air Quality, Land Use, Water Quality, and Municipal Solid Waste. Active for many years in the Charlotte Region on environmental matters, Mr. Roti was Conservation Chair for the Sierra Club, Central Piedmont Group and has served on numerous community stakeholder groups representing the environmental community. He chaired the Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission for six years and now chairs the Charlotte Public Tree Fund. He was the Executive Director of the Catawba River Foundation in 2002. Mr. Roti's legal background includes working as a solo practitioner and with a large law firm as a corporate lawyer focusing on business issues and intellectual property. Rick holds a Bachelor of Science Degree with honors from Florida Atlantic University and a Juris Doctor Degree cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law. He is a member of the Florida, North Carolina

and Mecklenburg County Bar Associations and is a frequent writer and speaker on environmental and sustainable growth issues.

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