

Speaker Biographies for the MGA Maximizing Forestry Resources in the Midwest

Keynote Address: The Forest Products Laboratory and the Expanding Economic Growth in the Forestry Industry

Tony L. Ferguson became the Station Director, Northern Research Station and Forest Product Laboratory in September 2016. Ferguson has been with the Forest Service since February 2006. Most recently, he served as the director of the Forest Service's Northeastern Area – State and Private Forestry. Prior to his selection as Area Director, he was the Director of Minerals and Geology Management in the Forest Service's Washington, D.C. office. He has also served as the Acting Director of Lands and Realty as well as the Deputy Regional Forester for the Alaska Region. Additionally, he has more than 21 years of experience with the Bureau of Land Management serving in Washington, D.C., New Mexico, Wyoming, and Mississippi. While in the BLM headquarters office, he held positions as Chief of Staff for the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Land and Minerals, Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary, and Deputy Group Manager for Solid Minerals. Tony was born in Rockwood, Tennessee, and raised in Tennessee and Alabama. After graduation from the University of Tennessee, where he received both a B.A. and M.S. in Geology, he worked for Shell Oil Company in Houston, Texas. He started his federal career in 1984.

Guest Speaker: Building with Wood – How Wood is making a Comeback in the Building Industry

Steve Cavanaugh has built his 30-year career designing complex, technically-challenging architectural building projects including office buildings, hotels, mixed-use developments, civic, educational, and transportation facilities. His projects share a common thread of planning clarity, functionality, materiality, and value. Steve's international experience has broadened his design perspective, elevated his approach to the art of construction and furthered his passion for sustainable design solutions.

Steve's large-scale design experience was developed during his ten year tenure at Jahn, and his skill was subsequently put to good use for 7 years at Goettsch Partners, where he served as Project Designer for numerous award-winning tower projects such as the 24-story JW Marriott Hotel in Grand Rapids, MI, and the 52-story 111 South Wacker Tower in Chicago.

Since 2006, Steve has been DLR Group's North Central Region Design Leader, where he has effectively applied his craft across various project types. Through his participation at the firm's national Design Forum, Steve helps chart the course for the firm's design leadership. This includes measurable progress toward sustainable goals such as DLR Group's official adoption of the 2030 challenge, where projects are modeled for energy use as part of the design process and tracked post-occupancy for energy performance. Steve's hands-on approach and attention to detail has benefitted many clients and resulted in many award-winning projects.

Panel Discussion: The Future of Wood - How Technology is Creating New Uses for Midwestern Forests

Tim Baye is a Professor of Business Development/Energy Finance & State Energy Specialist, University of Wisconsin-Extension. His research & educational programs serve renewable energy executives, professionals & policy leaders. He has over 30 years' experience in industrial renewable energy projects and policy, in both executive & advisory capacities. Baye holds a senior position with ReCon Associates, an energy & project development consultancy. ReCon's clients include: renewable energy, agri-business & manufacturing companies, the Open Society Institute, U.S.DOE, USDA, U.S.AID & World Bank. ReCon's practice experience includes biorefinery, wind, solar & biomass projects in 45 countries.

Jennifer Cover is the President and CEO of WoodWorks – Wood Products Council, a U.S. national nonprofit program providing technical support as well as education and resources related to the code-compliant design of non-residential and multi-family wood buildings. WoodWorks field teams have expertise in a wide range of building types—from schools and mid-rise/multi-family, to commercial and public and well as tall wood buildings. The objective of the program is to make it easier to design, engineer and construct wood buildings that deliver high performance for less cost than alternative materials. WoodWorks is the industry leader in CLT and mass timber education and project support. The team annually influences and converts approximately 900 projects to wood construction throughout the United States and conducts over 300 educational events each year reaching over 30,000 designers annually.

WoodWorks is a partner with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Softwood Lumber Board and British Columbia's Forestry Innovation Investment Program to promote and educate on innovative wood solutions that will increase the use of wood products, thereby improving the economic health of rural communities as well as the health of U.S. forestland. Creating a

high value end use market for small diameter, low value materials through the use of CLT and mass timber is a key focus of the WoodWorks program.

Ms. Cover has been with the WoodWorks program since it was established ten years ago and took on the role of leading the program five years ago. She is a California licensed professional engineer and started her career in structural design and construction management. She has taught Timber Design at the University of California, San Diego for eight years and also worked for APA – The Engineered Wood Association. Her experience includes business development, market analysis, project management and structural design, all with an emphasis on wood construction. Ms. Cover has a MS in Civil Engineering (emphasis in Construction Management) from the University of California, Berkeley and a BS in Structural Engineering from the University of California, San Diego.

Alan Rudie is the Assistant Director, Wood Fiber and Composites Research Division at the USDA, Forest Products Laboratory in Madison Wisconsin. Dr. Rudie received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1973 from Wartburg College with majors in Chemistry and Mathematics and a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry in 1978 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1978, he took a job with International Paper Company at the Corporate Research Center in Sterling Forest, NY. The research focus of this group was development projects in both kraft and mechanical pulping and bleaching. In 1989 he accepted an appointment as Associate Professors at the Institute of Paper Science and Technology in Atlanta, Georgia where he focused on research in mechanical pulping and trace metals management in pulp mill bleach plants. While at IPST, Dr. Rudie served as the Faculty Chair from 1998 to 2002 and chaired the Reaccreditation Self-Study Committee from 1999 to 2002. Alan accepted a position as a Project Leader at the Forest Products Laboratory in 2003 and supervised the Fiber and Chemical Sciences Research Work Unit. At FPL he continued research on bleach plant metals management, biorefinery, and most recently, cellulose nanomaterials. In September 2016, he accepted his current position as Assistant Director for the research units working in chemistry, biology, and wood and fiber composite sciences.

Brian Brashaw is the Program Manager for the Forest Products Marketing Unit (FPMU), at the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) in Madison, Wisconsin. Their mission is to work collaboratively and strategically with Forest Service and external partners to advance high-value, high-volume markets for woody biomass. FPMU focuses on utilization and marketing opportunities for products and residues from forest timber harvest, land restoration activities, hazardous fuels reduction, natural disaster recovery, and urban forestry. Utilization and marketing emphasis areas include lumber, engineered wood materials, mass timber, biochemicals and biofuels, and cellulosic nanomaterials. Brian earned a B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point, a Master of Science Degree in Wood Products from Washington State University and a PhD. in Forest Resources from Mississippi State University.

Guest Speaker: Growing Our Existing Forestry Industries and Markets

Troy Brown is the president of Kretz Lumber Co., Inc. Kretz Lumber is an employee-owned company. They have a hardwood sawmill and dry kiln facility in Antigo, WI. Troy started working for Kretz in 1986 as a laborer piling lumber on the “green chain.” Attending night school, he worked his way up the company ladder and became the controller in 1995. Soon after that, he was named the general manager and vice president of operations. In December 2000, Troy led the employees in acquiring the company from Dan Kretz. Soon after the formation of the ESOP, he was appointed the president of Kretz Lumber. In addition to his duties at Kretz Lumber, Troy is a member of the Wisconsin Council on Forestry as the lumber industry representative. He is the secretary/treasurer of the Great Lakes Timber Professional’s Association and the incoming vice president of the Hardwood Manufacturer’s Association. Troy supports forest industry education as an adjunct instructor at Northcentral Technical College in their Wood Science program. Since assuming the duties of president at Kretz Lumber, Troy has maintained that Kretz Lumber can be the “best in the world” at balancing raw material procurement and forest stewardship. Troy holds a B.S. in Accounting and an MBA with an emphasis on Quality Management.

Roundtable Discussion: Top Issues Facing Midwestern Foresters

Larry E. Biles is the third of five children from a crop and livestock farm family in east-central Missouri. His collegiate work includes a BS in Forestry, University of Missouri and an MS in Ornamental Horticulture, Kansas State University. His work experience includes two years with the U.S. Army; seven early career years with the Department of State and Extension Forestry, Kansas State University; 7 years with the U.S. Forest Service’s Southern Regional office in Atlanta, GA with responsibilities for Urban and Community Forestry and Multiple Use Forestry; four years with a Real Estate Company in Lawrenceville, GA; 13 years as National Program Leader – Forest Management with USDA’s Extension Service, Washington, DC; 3 years directing the Southern Forest Research Partnership, Athens, GA; and nearly 10 years as

State Forester, Kansas Forest Service, Manhattan, KS. Biles is a SAF Certified Forester, a Georgia Registered Forester, and a Fellow - Society of American Forester

Robert Boyles, known as Bob by everyone in Ohio, serves as both an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Deputy Director and State Forester. Bob has been a pillar of strength and a voice for professional forestry throughout his 35-year career with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. His skills as a leader, negotiator, and manager are highlighted by his dual responsibilities as Deputy Director with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Chief of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry.

As Deputy Director, Bob oversees the Division of Forestry, Office of Real Estate and Land Management, and the Division of Mineral Resources Management. He is responsible for providing direction that ensures these divisions are efficiently accomplishing their legislated missions. Bob works directly with legislators on budgetary issues, management issues, and constituent responses. He is required to work directly with the Governor's office on a multitude of high profile issues.

As the Division of Forestry Chief, he is responsible for managing the State Forest system, Service and Urban Forestry Programs, Fire Program, Forest Health, and Forestry Education efforts. Bob successfully guided the Division of Forestry through the economic recession and a series of high profile retirements. In addition, he has been directing the forestry staff to revamp Ohio's Forest Tax Law to make the program more attractive to Ohio's forest landowners to ensure working forests remain sustainable on Ohio's landscape.

Bob holds both a Bachelor of Science in Forestry in Forest Resource Management and a Master of Science in Forestry in Forest Management from West Virginia University (WVU) and is a Society of American Foresters-Certified Forester and a Certified Public Manager.

Bob is a Past-president of the Ohio Forestry Association, has been a member of the Ohio Forestry Association's Board of Directors for three terms, and served two terms as Chairman of the Ohio Society of American Foresters.

Bob is dedicated to promoting sustainable forestry through demonstration and education. He has co-authored a number of research articles and has published a number of educational articles in various magazines, newsletters, and brochures. He has served as a volunteer silviculture and ecology instructor for the Ohio Forestry Association's High School Student Forestry Camp for more than seven years. In 2016, Bob was named Fellow by the Society of American Foresters. Most recently, Bob was awarded the 2017 Outstanding Alumni award at the WVU School of Natural Resources. He is a certified Best Management Practice instructor and a Project Learning Tree instructor. He has received the outstanding member of the Ohio Society of American Foresters award, received the Directors award from the Ohio Forestry Association, and received the Ohio Forestry Association's award for outstanding forester contributing to Ohio Forestry Association programs.

Fred Souba, Jr. has been involved in the forest industry for over 40 years. Prior to joining the Department of Natural Resources in November of 2016 as the Division Forestry Administrator, he was the owner and Senior Consultant of ProVision Forestry LLC. Prior to starting his consulting firm he served as Vice President of Wood Supply and Sustainability for NewPage Corporation who operated pulp and paper mills in Kentucky, Nova Scotia, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Souba began his forestry career with Nekoosa Papers Inc. in central Wisconsin (currently Domtar) as a private landowner assistance forester. This was followed with opportunities to serve in a variety of leadership positions in forest management, forest product manufacturing operations, and administration. In addition, he has an international perspective having visited forest and manufacturing operations in Finland, Sweden, Brazil and Portugal as Vice President of Wood Supply U.S. for Stora Enso North America. Souba served as chair of the Wisconsin Governor's Council on Forestry for seven years. He has also been a recipient of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 'Friend of Forestry' Award and University of Wisconsin Stevens Point College of Natural Resources Paper Industry Leadership Award.

Kristen Miller - Policy and Communications Director for the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF). She holds a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and a master's degree in forestry from Mississippi State University. At NAASF she coordinates with 20 states in the Midwest and Northeast and 8 subject matter committees centered around forestry issues. Prior to joining NAASF she worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in their fire program where she managed the statewide incident management teams. She has extensive experience as a Public Information Officer in the wildland fire and all-hazard arena.

Panel Discussion: Midwestern Forestry Management- Public, Private and Urban Lands

Paul DeLong is the Senior Vice President for the American Tree Farm System & Conservation at the American Forest Foundation (AFF). He leads a talented team of conservationists working with partners to administer the 20 million acre Tree Farm program, and implement projects on family-owned forest lands designed to protect drinking water supplies, at-risk wildlife and sustainably produced wood across the country.

Prior to joining the AFF team in 2016, Paul was for 13 years Wisconsin's Chief State Forester and Administrator of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry, part of his 24 year investment serving the people of Wisconsin. Previous to his work in Wisconsin, Paul worked as a mediator for the RESOLVE Center for Environmental Dispute Resolution, and subsequently as a senior program officer for World Wildlife Fund, both in Washington, D.C. Paul received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and a master's degree in natural resource policy from the University of Michigan. A Certified Forester, Paul completed a term as President of the National Association of State Foresters in 2016.

John Lough is senior city forester for the City of Chicago, Department of Streets and Sanitation, Bureau of Forestry. Chicago has approximately 586,000 street trees and generates over 25,000 tons of wood by-products annually. John is an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist, and earned his Master's degree in Forestry at the University of Illinois, in Urbana. He has worked as an urban Forester for the City of Chicago for the last 21 years and in the arboricultural field for 31 years. John spent time managing the urban forest for St. Louis County Forestry, New York City's Department of Parks and Recreation, and finally returned to Illinois to join the City of Chicago's urban forestry team. Lough currently focuses his attention on integrated pest management, employee training, wood utilization, and volunteer programs. He has a particular interest in the use of biocontrols to reduce the severity of insect pests. Lough is Chicago Forestry's emerald ash borer (EAB) project manager, involved with the State Pest Analysis of Risk Committee, as well as a member of the Illinois EAB Wood Utilization Team. As an avid amateur urban-wood woodworker, John promotes the use of urban felled trees which continue to be an under-utilized resource.

Marshall Pecore has worked as the Forest Manager for Menominee Tribal Enterprise since 1975. The Menominee Tribal Enterprise is one of the oldest manage tract of forestland in the United States. He received a Bachelor's of Science in Forest Management from Michigan Tech. University. Marshall Pecore has also served on many Native American and professional committees through the years.

Jane Severt is a graduate of UWSP's College of Natural Resources. She has Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management with a minor in Forest Recreation. Jane's professional forestry work experiences include; supervisor of Wisconsin's Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program, county forester in Ashland County, County Forest Administrator in Ashland County, County Forest Administrator in Lincoln County and her current position as Executive Director for Wisconsin County Forests Association.

Jane is a member of Society of American Foresters, Forest History Association of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Woodland Owners. She currently serves as Vice-Chair of Wisconsin's Council on Forestry, on the Board of Directors for Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association, UWSP's College of Natural Resources Forestry Faculty Advisory Committee, SFI's State Implementation Committee, Wisconsin's Forestry Hall of Fame Selection Committee, Board of Directors for Sustainable Resources Institute, and Board of Directors for Trees for Tomorrow. Jane represents forestry interests on a number of statewide advisory committees related to natural resource management. She is a private woodland owner of 80 acres in Lincoln County.

Mark Rickenbach is a professor, an extension specialist, and chair in Forest and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research and extension program focus on on Wisconsin forest policy and its connection to practice. Current projects include an assessment of the logging sector in Wisconsin and the Lake States and silvopasture as a tool to maintain ecological integrity and improve livestock welfare. He also provides leadership to the nationally and internationally recognized F&W Ecology's research, teaching, and extension/outreach that emphasize ecology, remote sensing, and human systems. Mark is originally from Pennsylvania, was an Air Force Russian linguist, and lives in Madison with his wife, two kids, three cats, and one tortoise. He has degrees from Penn State, UMass-Amherst, and Oregon State.