



The 4th Biennial Community Forest Forum and Field Tour

May 9th-11th, 2018

Astoria, Oregon

The 4th biennial Community Forest Forum and Field Tour brings together over 100 community-based organizations, land trusts, private landowners, local government officials, and other important community forest players to learn and network. This event will open Wednesday evening with the Celebration of Community Forests at Fort George Brewery. Next, on Thursday there will be a day long forum discussing challenges and strategies covering all stages of community forest development. Finally, on Friday the event will wrap up with a field trip to Arch Cape where a new community forest is in the works.

Celebration of Community Forests

Wednesday, May 9th, 2018

Lovell Taproom at Fort George Brewery

Corner of Duane and 14th Street (enter on 14th)

6pm

Doors Open

Diverse buffet and no-host bar

7pm

Oregon Coast Community Forests and the Coastal Edge

Presented by Katie Voelke of the North Coast Conservancy. Event will conclude by 9pm.

Community Forest Forum

Thursday, May 10th, 2018

The Red Building Loft

20 Basin Street, Astoria, OR 97103

8:30am **Doors Open**
Coffee and light breakfast

9am **Welcome**
Jay McLaughlin, *Mt Adams Resource Stewards*
Andrew Spaeth, *Sustainable Northwest*

9:30am **Keynote and Panel: The Nisqually River Watershed: a forest for salmon, water, and recreation**

Keynote How Visualizing Ecosystem Land Management Assessments (VELMA) modeling quantifies co-benefits and tradeoffs in Community Forest management.
Presented by Dr. Bob McKane, *Environmental Protection Agency*

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Joe Kane, *Nisqually Land Trust*
Paula Swedeen, *Conservation Northwest*

Following the keynote address, community forest champions will share their stories about the creation of the Nisqually Community Forest. Among the most pressing questions addressed will be: **how can the community forest achieve a landscape-scale impact?**

10:30am **Break**
Coffee and light bites

11am **Panel: Northeastern Washington: how partnerships lead to success**
Ray Entz, *Kalispel Tribe*
Mike Lithgow, *Kalispel Tribe*
Stephanie Stroud, *National Park Service*
Moderator: Brent Davies, *Ecotrust*

Panelists will share their stories of collaboration around recreation and planning, and how stakeholder engagement informs project success. The Kalispel Tribe was one of the first recipients of the USFS Community Forest grant program and has an active research and education lens to their forest management plan. The National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program offers technical assistance grants to communities interested in support for planning and will share their experience in the region.

12pm **Networking Lunch**
Sandwich bar with salad and chips

1pm **Panel: Municipal Forest perspectives on management plan goals, objectives, and economics**

Jeff Harrington, *City of Astoria Public Works*
Gary Forner, *City of Ilwaco*
Josh Seeds, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality*
Matt Fehrenbacher, *Trout Mountain Forestry*
Moderator: Ben Hayes, *Springboard Forestry/Pinchot Institute*

This panel will explore a key tool for forest owners: **the forest management plan**. Municipalities will share their stories and describe how the forest supports critical public services. Panelists will further discuss the costs and benefits of forest management, while also touching on the risk management framework that informs water quality and quantity. In addition to this case study based on past experience, panelists will look to the future.

2pm **Breakout Sessions**

Experts around the room will host a focused discussion at their table and answer questions. Topics will include:

- USFS Community Forest Program: updates and success stories
- Planning for a Community Forest 101 with the National Park Service Rivers and Trails Technical Assistance program
- Real Estate Acquisition and Forestland diligence
- NW Community Forest Coalition 2018-2019 Strategy and Activities
- The NW Community Forest Resource Guide as a handbook for establishing new forests

3pm **Break**

Coffee and light bites

3:30pm **Panel: How to Structure Financing Opportunities**

Tom Tuchmann, *U.S. Forest Capital LLC*
Julius Pasay, *The Climate Trust*
Amrita Vatsal, *EFM Investments and Advisory*
Cherie Kearney, *Columbia Land Trust*
Max Webster, *Washington Environmental Council*
Moderator: Ben Rothfuss Dair, *Sustainable Northwest*

Practitioners consistently emphasize that funding forest projects and financing land acquisitions remains the most complex barrier to increasing the extent and scale of community forests in the Pacific Northwest. This super-panel focuses on the need to structure funding and financing using the full set of puzzle pieces to build a capital stack.

4:30pm **Wrap up and debrief**

2018 NW Community Forest Forum- **Draft Agenda**

After the day's activity, what have you learned? What lessons will you take home, and how will you apply them?

5pm

Leisure time

Hop the half mile over to the historic town center for a quick beer before dinner, or refresh in your hotel room. Maximize networking opportunities!

6:30

Networking Dinner

Dinner and no host bar, wrapping up at 8:30pm

Community Forest Field Tour

Friday, May 11th, 2018

Meeting at Cannon Beach 9:15am

Since our first event held at Skamania Lodge in 2014, the NW Community Forest Coalition has held a biennial Forum and yearly Field Tour in order to showcase examples of projects in the field, educate community members about forestry, and bring together conservation and economic development practitioners. Forested watersheds provide multiple benefits including providing timber and fiber, habitat, clean water, recreation, and cultural and spiritual values. The 2018 Field Tour of Arch Cape focuses on the interaction between conservation, sustainable forestry, and drinking water source protection on the Oregon Coast.

Guest speakers

Rainmar Bartl, *Cannon Beach City Planner (retired)*

Katie Voelke, *Executive Director of the North Coast Land Conservancy*

Phil Chick, *Manager of the Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District*

Amrita Vatsal, *EFM Investments and Advisory*

9:15am Meet in Cannon Beach

Meet at Tolovana Park in Cannon Beach, Oregon. Cannon Beach is about a 50 minute drive south of Astoria on the 101. We will be boarding shared vehicles which will depart at **9:30** sharp.

10:30am Tour of the lower watershed in Arch Cape Forest

Tour will take place both by vehicle and on foot. Please contact soflynn@sustainablenorthwest if you have concerns regarding accessibility.

12pm Lunch in the field

Bag lunches will be provided

2:00pm Conclude field tour in Arch Cape

Return to Tolovana Park in Cannon Beach by 2:30pm

2018 NW Community Forest Forum- **Draft Agenda**

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