2022 ESFPA/ARC Fall Forestry Roundtable

Adirondack Community College, Northwest Bay Conference Center, Queensbury, NY
Thursday, November 3, 2022, 8:30-4:30
SAF Continuing Forestry Education Credits: Cat 1: 5/New York Logger Training Credit: 1

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:15 a.m. Opening Remarks:

Session 1: 9:30- 10:30 a.m.

- **Viability of the Logger Corp**
  - The economic viability of logging businesses is critical to successful forest management. Rising expectations, inexperience in oversight, negative market trends, rising startup, maintenance and operating costs and labor shortages are all contributing to the current logger crisis. This presentation will examine factors influencing logger profitability across a variable forested landscape, including production, prices, risk and opportunity costs. We will tap past studies that used throughput accounting to calculate operating expenses, profit margin, and return on investment (ROI) of individual jobs.
  - **Presenters** – Dr. Rene Germain, SUNY ESF; Dr. Steven Bick, Northeast Forests LLC; Dr. Kris Brown, Watershed Agricultural Council Forestry Program.

Break: 10:30 – 10:45

Session 2: 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

- **Bat activity and forest characteristics in managed Adirondack forests**
  - Insectivorous bats play important roles in forest ecosystems and their protection is critical. However, bat populations in North America have declined rapidly and are threatened due to white-nose syndrome (WNS) and habitat degradation. Apart from mitigating WNS, we can also assist the recovery of imperiled bats by incorporating forest management strategies that improve summer roosting and foraging success. We present two studies where we monitored bat species at forest management sites in and around SUNY-ESF Huntington Wildlife Forest in the Adirondack Park to determine the link between bat habitat use and forest structural characteristics. Both studies show that forest variables such as canopy cover and sapling clutter affect probability of bat habitat use. We will discuss future outcomes of these projects that potentially impact forest management decision-making.
  - **Presenters -** Dr. Vanessa Rojas, SUNY ESF; Julia Rizzo, SUNY ESF.

Lunch 11:45 a.m.

Session 3: Keynote 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. (Via ZOOM)

- **Latest on Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA) and FIA and Forest Soils (Via ZOOM)**
  - Dr. Grant Domke's team at the Forest Inventory Analysis Northeast Research Station is responsible for reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals in the forest land category as part of the United States' commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This involves working with a team of scientists and staff to compile estimates of carbon stocks and stock changes in forest ecosystems for national and international reporting instruments. It also requires working with scientists from other land use categories to ensure transparency, consistency, completeness, comparability, and accuracy in GHG reporting. Dr. Domke will also share some of his latest work on forest soils and their role in sequestering carbon and how FIA research may aide in monitoring and reporting on forest soils.
  - **Presenter -** Dr. Grant Domke, US Forest Service, Team Leader, Research Forester FIA
  - https://www.fs.usda.gov/research/about/people/gmdomke

Session 4: 2:15 - 3:00

- **NY Climate Smart Commodity Project**
  - On Sept. 20, state officials announced that the "NYS Connects: Climate Smart Farms and Forests Project" has been awarded a $60 million grant under the first-ever Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The project was one of 70 selected nationally from 450 submitted proposals. USDA's total investment in these grants is $2.8 billion. Julie Suarez and Bob Malmsheimer will highlight major components of this 5-year project and intended commodity outcomes and climate benefits to be generated.
  - **Presenters -** Julie Suarez, Cornell CALS; Robert Malmsheimer SUNY ESF.

Break 3:00 – 3:15

Session 4: 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

- **The Future of Adirondack Forestry**
  - The practice of forestry is certain to change between now and 2050, but how? The tools we use to manage forests, the products and amenities demanded by society from our forests, and the very structure and composition of the forest itself will all be different from what we know today. Some of these changes are already locked in while others will depend on the management and policy decisions we make. This discussion will identify the major technological, economic, and ecological trends likely to drive changes in Adirondack forestry in the decades to come, and will explore the role of foresters, researchers, advocates, and educators in steering that change.
  - **Presenter -** John Foppert, Paul Smiths College.

Wrap-up 4:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Many thanks to our Roundtable Sponsors!

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