

SESSIONS & SPEAKERS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Renewable Energy and Trust Lands

The enormous growth in wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources is showing no signs of slowing. Renewable energy's contribution to electricity generation in the United States is projected to double in the next 30 years, with thousands of major renewable projects anticipated to be built in coming decades – intensifying the competition for suitable sites.

With many private sites already in use, developers are likely to take a closer look at leasing state trust lands for their projects. This panel will highlight information and resources available to land managers, potential roadblocks and solutions, and include a Q+A with states that are navigating the new world of renewable energy leasing.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Ada C. Montague Stepleton, Attorney, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation.

Ada is an attorney for the DNRC focusing her practice on issues related to state trust lands, commercial leasing, easements, road access, and forestry-related matters. Ada has worked with the Montana State Trust Lands Division for four years and during that time has assisted in the negotiations and leasing of several wind leases and one potential solar lease. In the spring of 2020, Ada was proud to be part of the largest wind energy development on state trust lands in Montana to date.

Contact Ada: amontague@mt.gov; 406-599-1067 (cell) or 406-542-4238 (work).

Sam Panarella, Professor of Law & Director of the Max S. Baucus Institute, Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana.

Sam is a law professor with significant expertise and practical experience in contract law, corporate law, renewable energy development, climate change law, environmental law, and business

and transactional law, including the legal and business aspects of siting, permitting and operating renewable and fossil fuel energy projects. He has authored several papers and articles on energy and environmental topics and a frequent presenter to both legal and business audiences. As a practicing attorney, he was responsible for overseeing all legal aspects of development of over 4,000 megawatts of new renewable energy generation across the United States. Sam is also the director of the Max Baucus Institute. The Max Baucus Institute is an academic public policy center and research institute focused on continuing the public service legacy of former U.S. Senator and U.S. Ambassador to the Peoples Republic of China, Max Baucus. *Contact Sam: sampanarella@umontana.edu.*

Shawn Thomas, Trust Lands Division Administrator, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation. Shawn's natural resources career is rooted in Western Montana's forests; but as Division Administrator since 2011 it has broadened to include real estate, agriculture, grasslands, and minerals resources. Shawn has a passion for responsibly managing these lands for our trust beneficiaries. As someone who grew up enjoying all of the benefits that Trust Lands provides, the mission of the Division hits close to home. *Contact Shawn: stomas@mt.gov; 406-444-4978.*

Peter Yould, J.D. 2021 Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana. Peter is a recent graduate from Alexander Blewett III school of law at the University of Montana. Prior to law school, Peter worked in the environmental regulation compliance sector, including emissions testing for power plants and oil refineries. His work in this area sparked his interest in renewable energy as an alternative to traditional energy sources. During law school, he was a clinic student with DNRC where he helped rebuild its renewable energy lease templates along with his work on this paper.

Advocates for School Trust Lands

Matt Comisky of Advocates for School Trust Lands (ASTL) will provide an overview of ASTL and discuss how our organizations can work together to further the management of school trust lands across the West.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Matt Comisky, President, Advocates for School Trust Lands. Matt joined the Board of ASTL in the summer of 2015 and is currently the Washington Manager for the American Forest Resource Council. He has more than 20 years of experience as a forest engineer and forester working for a variety of landowners, including working on trust lands managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Matt also is a graduate of Class 31 of the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Leadership program. He puts this variety of experience to work at AFRC on efforts to promote and support sustainable management policies of public timberlands that benefit schools and other beneficiaries. *Contact Matt: mcomisky@amforest.org; 360-352-3910.*

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Managing a Mix of Assets to Benefit Students Forever

The presentation begins with an overview of a key investment concept known as “intergenerational equity.” Investors adopting this philosophy design investment strategies and spending policies that balance the need to support the spending needs of the current generation while simultaneously preserving the real value of the corpus to support the spending needs of future generations. The overview also details several distinct challenges for those who seek to provide intergenerational equity to school land trusts.

The second half of the session will focus on the global macroeconomic environment and how these translate to specific challenges and opportunities for state land offices. Bill Costigan of Guggenheim Investments will provide his insights on the economy, including his firm’s out-of-consensus views on the path forward for the Fed and the direction of interest rates. Mark Buntz of BOK

Financial will discuss the current energy transition given current climate change initiatives and the implications for traditional energy markets.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Mark Buntz, Director of Alternative Investments, BOK Financial. Mark is responsible for the overall direction and leadership of the Alternative Investments team at BOK Financial. Prior to his joining the bank, he was responsible for investing over \$1.9 billion of assets for his previous employer, which included approximately \$650 million of alternative investments. Prior to his investment role, Mark was a partner in an international accounting firm with approximately fifteen years of experience. Mark received his Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Oklahoma and is a Certified Public Accountant. *Contact Mark: mbuntz@bokf.com.*

Bill Costigan, Managing Director, Guggenheim Investments. Mr. Costigan serves as a senior member of Guggenheim’s Portfolio Management team focused on active fixed income strategies, specifically core plus, multi-asset and short duration mandates. Bill is a regular speaker at national investment conferences and has been with the firm since 2013. *Contact Bill: William.Costigan@guggenheimpartners.com.*

Mark Higgins, CFA, CFP®, Senior Consultant, RVK, Inc. Mark is a Senior Consultant with more than 12 years of experience serving large institutional investors. Mark serves as the lead consultant to the Commissioners of the Land Office of Oklahoma, which oversees the State’s School Land Trust. In his spare time, Mark is an avid student of U.S. financial history. *Contact Mark: mark.higgins@rvkinc.com; 503-974-9064 or 971-373-2515 (cell).*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Carbon Sequestration on School Trust Lands

The presentations in this session will offer:

- *An update on ongoing work by the Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands and partners to develop and test models for identifying carbon project opportunity areas, and to explore national potential for carbon storage on state trust lands*
- *Perspectives on the potential opportunities and challenges of carbon projects*
- *A “Carbon Project 101” overview and discussion of how state trust land managers can complete feasibility and move to sale of credits*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Ashley McFarland, Executive Director, Dovetail

Partners. With expertise in natural resources research, and management, Ashley has nearly 15 years of experience across multiple states and understands first-hand the importance of delivering research to support informed decision-making. She received her B.A. in Political Science and Environmental Studies from Central College and an M.S. in Environmental Science, Water Resources from Iowa State University.

Tom Tuchmann, President, US Forest Capital. Mr. Tuchmann is President of US Forest Capital, LLC, a forest advisory company based in Portland, OR. US Forest Capital helps clients: identify, manage, and finance natural resource transactions; create and improve governance structures; and resolve public policy and communication challenges. In this role,

Tom has helped raise \$280 million in conservation, carb and ecosystem service funding that has conserved 165,000 acres of private working forestland.

Prior to founding US Forest Capital, Tom was Western Director and Special Assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. During his tenure, he directed negotiations and implementation of the \$480 million Headwaters Forest Agreement and he was charged with designing and managing President Clinton’s Forum that resulted in the \$50

million conservation management plan for Lake Tahoe. Tom also served as the Director of the U.S. Office of Forestry and Economic Development.

He has also served as lead staff for the Senate Agriculture Committee where numerous statutes -- including the Forest Legacy, Stewardship Contracting, Forest Stewardship, Northern Forest and Lake Champlain programs -- that he developed on behalf of the Chairman were signed into law. Tom also served as Policy Director for Society of American Foresters.

Tom graduated with forestry degrees from Northern Arizona University and Pennsylvania State University and has served as Adjunct Professor at the Lewis and Clark School of Law. Tom speaks regularly on an array of natural resource topics, has served as Board Chair for Sustainable Northwest and currently serves on Northern Arizona University’s School of Forestry Advisory Board. *Contact Tom: tuchmann@usforestcapital.com; 503-220-8103.*

Aaron Vande Linde, School Trust Lands Director, Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands. Aaron graduated with a BA in History and Political Science from Old Dominion University (VA) and received his Juris Doctorate from William Mitchell College of Law (MN).

The Minnesota legislature created the School Trust Lands Director in 2012 in conjunction with its reorganization of the Permanent School Fund Commission. The Director has three core functions: 1) serve in an advisory role to the executive and legislative branches; 2) work directly with the legislature on initiatives to improve school trust assets; and 3) develops long-range strategic plans to ensure the optimal management of school trust resources.

Prior to his appointment by Governor Dayton as Minnesota’s first School Trust Lands Director in September 2015, Aaron held two positions within the Department of Natural Resources as its School Trust Land Administrator and as the Manager of the Mineral & Real Estate Transactions Unit. *Contact Aaron: Aaron.vande-linde@state.mn.us; 651-279-2393 (c)*

River Tour of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Oregon is home to one of the largest federal Superfund sites in the United States. Cleanup of Portland Harbor, a ten-mile stretch of the Willamette River in the heart of downtown Portland, is an especially challenging endeavor. The site includes both water and land contaminated with multiple hazardous substances, many potentially responsible parties, and major public interest in cleanup of a river that's essential for commerce, industry, recreation, fish habitat, and of great importance as a Tribal natural and cultural resource.

Representatives from the Office of Governor Kate Brown, the Oregon Department of State Lands, CalPortland, and the Human Access Project will provide insights on the history and future of Portland Harbor, including the innovative strategies and partnerships that have jumpstarted cleanup efforts and encouraged river recreation.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Mike Faha, Human Access Project Board Member and founding principal of GreenWorks, an award-winning landscape architecture firm from Portland Oregon. Mike is a pioneer of sustainable landscape architecture and stormwater management in the Pacific Northwest. GreenWorks has received national recognition for leading multi-disciplinary teams to integrate public recreation, habitat enhancement and stormwater management efforts. *Contact Mike: Mikef@greenworkspc.com.*

Willie Levenson, Ringleader, Human Access Project. Willie Levenson is the Founder and Ringleader of the not-for-profit organization, Human Access Project (HAP). HAP spearheaded the opening of two downtown beaches and the conversion of an underutilized dock to a swimming dock. HAP programs include The Big Float, River Hugger Swim Team, Mayoral Swim and Valentine's dip. *Contact Willie: will@humanaccessproject.com.*

Tom Lowry, Senior Manager for Permitting and Sustainability, CalPortland Company. Tom has over 35 years' experience in the Building Materials industry. Tom is a registered geologist with a BS from the University of California, Riverside

and is also a Mining engineer with his Master's from the University of Missouri, Rolla. Tom is currently a Director on the Board of the Arizona Mining Association, the Chairman of the Arizona Rock Products Association Government Affairs Committee, and an affiliate member of the National Association of State Trust Lands (NASTL).

CalPortland is the largest building materials company on the west coast of the United States. We have operations in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, and Arizona as well as in British Columbia and Alberta. We have 3 cement plants, 10 cement terminals, 15 aggregate plants, 78 ready mix plants, 2 asphalt plants, and over 2,500 ready mix trucks. CalPortland has operations in many states on lands managed by NASTL members.

Contact Tom: tlowry@calportland.com.

Jim McKenna, Policy Analyst, Natural Resources Policy Office, Office of Governor Kate Brown.

Jim has over 30 years of experience as an environmental scientist and policy advisor, including coordinating with and advising multi-member stakeholder groups comprised of public and private entities.

Jim currently works for Governor Kate Brown in her Natural Resource Office, with a portfolio focused on Columbia Basin issues, including Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Columbia River Treaty Renewal, and Columbia River Operating System EIS. Previous positions include Environmental Program Manager and policy advisor at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Superfund Program Manager for the Port of Portland, and private consultant. He has worked on large, complex cleanup sites in California, Oregon and Washington. He has provided senior environmental and natural resource consultant services for clients associated with federal Superfund Sites, state-lead cleanup sites, and environmental management systems. *Contact Jim: jim.j.mckenna@oregon.gov.*

Bill Ryan, Deputy Director, Operations Division, Oregon Department of State Lands. Bill Ryan leads DSL's Operations Division, which is responsible for managing Common School Fund trust lands and the State's navigable waterways as well as

implementation of Oregon's Removal-Fill and Wetlands Conservation Laws. Bill has served the State of Oregon for 25 years both at DSL and at the Oregon Department of Transportation. Bill started his professional career in Southern California providing environmental planning and habitat restoration expertise for various planning and engineering firms. Bill has made a career of finding streamlined solutions to land management and environmental challenges and facilitating sustainable development practices. *Contact Bill: bill.ryan@state.or.us.*

Perspectives on the Cleanup of Abandoned Mine Lands

This session will explore issues and opportunities related to the cleanup of historic mine lands and liabilities, with a trio of presentations offering perspectives on:

- *Partnering to improve legacy mining sites. We'll hear from Trout Unlimited, as one of the only national nonprofits that has successfully used current tools under current regulations to collaboratively restore sites.*
- *Industry working to achieve multiple positive outcomes. Mining company Freeport McMoRan has conducted many cleanup projects, with an emphasis on partnership, building support and consensus, and community-supported reclamation results.*
- *Legislative background and current situation. Western governors have called on Congress to protect voluntary cleanup of abandoned mines from potential liability under federal law. NASTL membership will be considering a resolution on abandoned hardrock mine cleanups during the business meeting immediately following this session.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Lauren Duncan, AML Project Manager, Trout Unlimited Inc. Lauren Duncan is the Abandoned Mine Restoration Project Manager for Trout Unlimited based in the Front Range of Colorado. Lauren joined Trout Unlimited in October 2016, and focuses on restoration of mining impacted areas, in-stream enhancement, soil and water chemistry, project management and oversight at various sites

across Colorado and Wyoming. *Contact Lauren: lduncan@tu.org.*

Allen D. Freemyer, President, Freemyer & Associates. Mr. Freemyer established himself as a nationally recognized expert in legislation, public lands, mining, appropriations, natural resources, parks, recreation, water, energy, Native American, and environment matters while serving as senior staff for nine years on the Committee on Resources in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Freemyer constituted his current practice in February 2002 after serving as the Chief of Staff of the committee under the direction of Chairman James V. Hansen (Utah).

Prior to becoming Chief of Staff, he was Staff Director and Counsel to the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands under the Chairmanship of Don Young (AK). During the 103rd Congress, Allen served as Counsel to the Subcommittee under the Chairmanship of George Miller (CA). Prior to working in Congress, he was in a private law practice. *Contact Allen: allen@adfpc.com.*

Francis McAllister, Vice President Liability Management and Land & Water, Freeport McMoRan. Francis has been in the mining industry for 28 years and involved in every stage of mining from development to operations to closure. His primary work with the company is how we can transfer our water supplies to renewable supplies and manage our lands to put land back to productive use. Francis also oversees all of Freeport McMoRan's discontinued operations with the goal to remediate/reclaim the land and water resources so that they can be enjoyed by society and communities. *Contact Francis: fmcallis@fmi.com.*

Jason Willis, CO AML Program Manager, Trout Unlimited Inc. Jason Willis, PE, is the manager of TU's AML program in Colorado. Jason has been working in the abandoned mine land field for the past 10 years in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho, and has completed over 40 phases of construction on various projects. *Contact Jason: jason.willis@tu.org.*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Perspectives on State-Tribal Relations

Oregon was the first state in the nation to pass a state-tribal government-to-government relations law, which emphasizes the critical importance of establishing and maintaining a variety of ways to learn, share information, and build relationships.

This session highlights the perspectives of Tribes, with Vice-Chairman Bud Lane from the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians offering insights in a recorded interview with DSL Director Vicki Walker, and members of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians opening the session with a welcome and joining in the live panel conversation. The live panel also includes speakers from the Oregon Legislature, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and the State Historic Preservation Office, and will focus on the Oregon model for State-Tribal relations and how we all have worked to improve partnerships and outcomes.

About the Speakers

Patrick Flanagan, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Indian Services. Patrick is relatively new to the role of Executive Director, arriving at the Commission on Indian Services in June of 2021. Previously, he was a Senior Assistant Attorney General at the Oregon Department of Justice, where he supervised the Environmental and Cultural Resources Enforcement Unit, a program dedicated to the prosecution on environmental and cultural resource-based crimes. *Contact Patrick: Patrick.Flanagan@oregonlegislature.gov.*

Dennis Griffin, Archaeologist and Land-Use Historian, Cultural Horizons. Dennis is a professional archaeologist and land-use historian who has worked throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska for over 42 years. Having obtained a PhD. from the University of Oregon and an MA degree from Oregon State University, during his career he has been able to work for and with multiple federal, state and tribal governments, and private archaeological consulting firms. For the past 18 years, Dennis served as the State Archaeologist with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, and now works as a private consultant in his firm,

Cultural Horizons. *Contact Dennis: grifd@peak.org.*

Carolyn Patricia Holthoff, Oregon Department of Transportation Tribal Relations Manager. Carolyn has been working in the field of cultural resources management for twenty-five years. Much of that time has been spent working with Tribes, coordinating projects, negotiating agreements and mitigation, and building relationships. She has a BA in History from UNC Asheville and an MA in Applied Anthropology from Oregon State University. Prior to joining ODOT in 2005, she worked for the Bureau of Land Management in Washington and as a consulting archaeologist in the Pacific Northwest and southeastern United States. *Contact Carolyn: Carolyn.p.holthoff@odot.state.or.us; 503-302-7294.*

Alfred (Bud) Lane III, Vice-Chairman of Siletz Tribal Council, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

Lane has served on the Tribal Council since 2004 and previously served from 1984 to 1990. In this capacity, he oversees tribal business, legal, financial and social matters and represents the tribe on a regional and national level.

For many years, Lane and his family have focused on strengthening Siletz cultural activities through basket making, teaching the Athabaskan language and helping build the Siletz Dance House and restore its ceremonial activities. He and his family are all enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. *Contact Vice-Chairman Lane: BudL@ctsi.nsn.us.*

Arnie Roblan, Retired Oregon State Senator and current Coos Bay School Board member. Senator Roblan served 16 years in Oregon Legislature, with eight years in the House and eight years in the Senate, serving as Speaker of the House for one term. Senator Roblan served as a member of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services for 16 years. *Contact Arnie: 541-297-2414.*

Vicki Walker, Director, Oregon Department of State Lands. Vicki has served as the DSL director since 2018. She previously served as the Oregon State Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development from November 2009 to January 2017, overseeing the investment of \$4.8 billion for more than 24,000 projects

that helped rural Oregonians. Before her work at the USDA, Vicki served for ten years in the Oregon Legislature (2003 to 2009) where she was a member of the Ways and Means Committee, overseeing budgets for natural resource and public safety agencies. *Contact Vicki: vicki.walker@dsl.state.or.us.*

Environmental and Social Justice for Natural Resources

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Jason Miner, Natural Resources Policy Director, Office of Governor Kate Brown. Jason Miner serves as the Natural Resources Policy Director for Oregon Governor Kate Brown's Office. He holds a Bachelor's in Biology from Amherst College, a Masters of Environmental Management, and a law degree from Duke University. Mr. Miner has previously served as Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Oregon, a Landscape Director for The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Director for Oregon Trout, and as an environmental attorney at Ball Janik LLP.

Lunch Speaker: Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Secretary of State Shemia Fagan is mom to two young children and a proud lifelong Oregonian. Secretary Fagan was raised by her dad and two older brothers in small towns in Wasco county. Secretary Fagan has always been open with Oregonians about the challenges her family overcame—Fagan's dad struggled as a single parent and her mom battled addiction and homelessness during Fagan's childhood. But Secretary Fagan was encouraged by loving members of her community and the dedicated educators who would not give up on her.

After graduating from The Dalles High School in 1999, Fagan earned a scholarship to play soccer for Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa,

Idaho where she earned her B.A. in Philosophy and Religion. Following college, Fagan worked to save money before attending law school at Willamette University College of Law and earning her J.D. at Lewis and Clark Law School. While working as an attorney at Ater Wynne LLP and later at HKM Employment Attorneys LLP, Fagan received training on campaigning for public office from the Emerge Oregon program.

Fagan first entered public service in 2011 when she was elected to the David Douglas School Board. Later, Secretary Fagan served in the Oregon House and Senate before she was elected Oregon's 28th Secretary of State in 2020.

Challenges with Increased Use of School Trust and other State Lands

Whether it's wild horses roaming, long-term camping, target shooting, recreation, or abandoned and derelict vessels, use of school and state lands is increasing. Existing and emerging uses all put pressure on the lands and waterways under our stewardship – and make for complex management challenges. Panelists will discuss their unique experiences with increased use, financial and management impacts, and what steps have been taken to ensure lands and waters thrive for schools and the public in perpetuity.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Chris Parkins, Bend Field Office Manager, Oregon Department of State Lands. Chris is a recent addition to the Oregon Department of State Lands, having just recently transferred from a twenty-one year tenure with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. He is excited to lead a very capable and elite team of natural resource and real property specialists across the state. *Contact Chris: chris.b.parkins@dsl.state.or.us.*

Jacob Taylor, Outreach & Compliance Coordinator, Oregon Department of State Lands. Jacob Taylor joined the Oregon Department of State Lands in 2019 as a Proprietary Coordinator, where he frequently received complaints about long-term camping on state lands. Since then, he has moved into the role of Outreach and Compliance

Coordinator, where he has a more active role interacting with the houseless communities that exist on state lands. Outside work, Jacob enjoys hiking, biking, and camping in Oregon's diverse landscapes. *Contact Jacob: Jacob.taylor@state.or.us.*

Stephanie Rawson, Community Stewardship Manager, Waste Prevention and Environmental Services, Metro. Stephanie currently manages Metro's Community Stewardship Program which tackles the problem of dumped garbage on public property in the greater Portland area and provides other cleanup services through its workforce transition program that offers job opportunities to people experiencing employment barriers, focusing on those impacted by incarceration. She has 18 years of public sector experience at the state and local level working primarily on garbage and recycling regulation, enforcement, management, disposal, and identifying and reducing barriers to garbage services. *Contact Stephanie: stephanie.rawson@oregonmetro.gov.*

David Ure, Director, Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. David Ure, appointed in January 2016, serves as director of the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, SITLA, which is an independent agency managing the state's 4.5 million acres of surface and mineral estate on behalf of the public education system and other state institutions.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Ure served 14 years in the Utah Legislature, seven years on the Summit County Council, and six years on the SITLA Board of Trustees. He has served and continues to serve in leadership roles and as a board member for several important associations, committees, and boards, including the Weber Basin Water Conservation District, Park City Chamber of Commerce, and Intermountain Healthcare Board of Trustees for the Heber Valley Hospital.

Dave is a proud Aggie, holding a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural science from Utah State University. He is a fourth-generation dairy farmer in the Kamas Valley, and his wife Mae, is a schoolteacher at South Summit Elementary School. *Contact Dave: dure@utah.gov.*

Elliott State Forest – Managing Lands through a Social and Political Lens

Join us for a look at the political, legal, and cultural complexities of the past – and future – of Oregon's first state forest. Like many high-profile publicly owned lands, the Elliott State Forest inspires diverse passions that are often at odds. Panelists will provide context on the forest's history and background, then explore the Department of State Lands and Oregon State University's current efforts to create an Elliott State Research Forest. Their discussion will touch on groundbreaking work to engage very different stakeholders, opportunities and challenges of creating a publicly owned research forest, and lessons for managers of controversial lands.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Peter Harkema, Oregon Consensus Director, National Policy Consensus Center, Portland State University. As Oregon Consensus Director, Peter oversees conflict resolution services, program development, and staff. He leads consensus-seeking projects that help groups resolve complex policy issues. He also teaches collaborative governance to students and professionals.

Peter previously worked as a senior project manager for Oregon Consensus, and before that, as a senior associate for Kearns and West mediation firm in Portland. He served in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, as program developer for the Association for a More Just Society and taught at the International School. Peter has a master's degree in international development from Tulane University in New Orleans and a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and international development with a minor in Spanish from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. *Contact Peter: pharkema@pdx.edu.*

Geoff Huntington, Elliott State Forest Project Advisor, Oregon Department of State Lands. Geoff is the project manager for the ongoing process to create the Elliott State Research Forest. His 30-year career has included time as Assistant Attorney General litigating environmental actions, and in leadership positions in different Oregon natural resource agencies including as the Executive Director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement

Board. Immediately prior to joining the Elliott team, Geoff worked as the Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry. *Contact Geoff: geoffrey.huntington@state.or.us.*

Dmitri Palmateer, Chief of Staff, Oregon State Treasury. Dmitri Palmateer grew up in Roseburg, Oregon and attended Willamette University. After receiving his degree from Willamette, majoring in political science and history, Dmitri worked on a few political campaigns in Oregon before heading off to graduate school. He earned his PhD in History from the State University of New York in Binghamton, with a focus on American labor history. Upon completing his doctorate, Dmitri and his family returned to Oregon, and he gravitated back to public policy and politics. He has worked as Legislative Director for then House Speaker Jeff Merkley, as the chief of staff for the Oregon House Democratic Caucus, and as Legislative Director and Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor's John Kitzhaber and Kate Brown. He had a short stint in working for a private consulting firm before he returned to state service to work as newly elected Treasurer Tobias Read's chief of staff. He lives in Salem, with his wife who is a history professor at OSU, and their two boys. *Contact Dmitri: Dmitri.Palmateer@state.or.us.*

Jim Paul, Assistant Director of Administrative Services, Oregon Department of Corrections. Jim Paul began his public service career in 1996 with the Oregon Department of Forestry's Monitoring Program. He went on to serve as the Hydrologist for the agency in 1999, was appointed State Forests Division Chief in 2006, and then Private Forests Division Chief in 2008. In 2010 he took on the role of Assistant Director for the Land Management Division with the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL), and in 2016 was appointed Agency Director for DSL.

During his tenure at DSL he oversaw a number of agency initiatives, including the 2012 Real Estate Asset Management Plan and the initial phases of the Elliott State Forest project. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Whitman College and a Master of Science in Forest Hydrology from the University of Washington College of Forest Resources. Jim currently serves as the Assistant Director of Administrative Services at the Oregon Department of Corrections. *Contact Jim: Jim.T.Paul@doc.state.or.us.*

OUR THANKS TO THE CONFERENCE TEAM

Planning and putting on a national conference is never a small feat. During a global pandemic, everything changes. The team for the Portland conference rose mightily to the challenge, with help and support from many.

ABUNDANT THANKS TO

**Lani Ahmadian | Ted Bright | Andrea Celentano
Patricia Fox | Linda Fisher | Richard Fitzgerald
Meliah Masiba | Denise Nechvatal | Liane O'Neill
Bill Ryan | Ali Ryan Hansen | Lisa Schneider | Arin Smith
Jean Straight | Robert Underwood | Aaron Vande Linde | Vicki Walker**