



2023 Annual Conference

Forests as Solutions to Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Well-being

December 14, 2023

Agenda

8:00 – 8:45 am

In-person and virtual

Fireplace Lounge

Coffee and Registration

Arrival and check-in. Virtual participants will be able to log in to trouble-shoot any technical challenges and understand how to attend sessions throughout the day.

8:45 –9:15 am

In-person and virtual

Grand Maple Ballroom

Welcome and Introduction

FEMC Director Alison Adams and FEMC Steering Committee Chair Justin Perry will provide introductory remarks.

9:15 – 9:45 am

In-person and virtual

Grand Maple Ballroom

Plenary Presentation

Forests can be a powerful vehicle to address significant global challenges from climate change to biodiversity to human well-being. In monitoring and studying forests, we better understand the promise and limitations of what forests can provide and how forest management and community engagement can amplify those impacts. The 2023 FEMC Annual Conference will provide an opportunity to discuss how forests can contribute to climate mitigation and resiliency; biodiversity; and workforce development, economic opportunity, recreation, and other aspects related to human well-being.

Heather Furman, Appalachians Director at The Nature Conservancy, will lead a plenary session and facilitate a panel discussion.

9:45 – 10:45 am

In-person and virtual

Grand Maple Ballroom

Panel Discussion

We are excited to announce the members of the panel who will share their expertise on how forests can serve as solutions to climate change, biodiversity, and well-being. We welcome Dr. Ali Kosiba, UVM Extension Assistant Professor of Forestry; Dr. Michelle Kondo, USFS Research Social Scientist; and Tim Duclos, Vermont Audubon Healthy Forest Program Associate. A panel discussion will be facilitated by the plenary Speaker, Heather Furman



2023 Annual Conference

10:45 – 11:15 am

Wrap-up, Plan for Day, and Transition

In-person and virtual

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

Contributed Talks – Session 1

In-person and virtual

Parallel tracks of 20-minute presentations contributed by cooperators on various forest ecosystem research, monitoring, and outreach activities.

Jost Foundation, Chittenden Bank, Williams Family, and Silver Maple Ballrooms

Session topics include:

- Fire Adapted Forest Ecosystems
- Riparian Forest Management
- Winter Monitoring and Management
- Community and Citizen Science

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Lunch Break

In-person only

Buffet-style lunch

Sugar Maple Ballroom

1:00 – 2:35 pm

Contributed Talks – Session 1

In-person and virtual

Parallel tracks of 20-minute presentations contributed by cooperators on various forest ecosystem research, monitoring, and outreach activities.

Jost Foundation, Chittenden Bank, and Williams Family

Session topics include:

- Old Forests, Land use, & Planning
- Forest Management and Restoration
- Climate Adaptation
- Special Session – Northeastern States Research Cooperative

2:35 – 3:00 pm

Coffee Break

In-person only



2023 Annual Conference

3:00 – 4:30 pm

In-person and virtual

Jost Foundation, Chittenden Bank, and Williams Family rooms

Facilitated Sessions and Working Groups

Sessions led by partners to share resources and build connections across the network.

- Assessing the potential of a management toolbox for northeastern alpine ecosystems – Jordon Tourville, Appalachian Mountain Club
- Creating a rapid response tree rescue network – Elissa Schuett and Alison Adams, FEMC
- Implementing forest adaptation strategies for northern hardwood, mixedwood, and spruce-fir forests – Tony D’Amato, UVM
- Regional snow and mountain weather observation networks – Joshua Beneš, UVM

4:30 – 4:45 pm

In-person only

Silver Maple Ballroom

Regroup, Summary of the Day

4:45 – 6:00 pm

In-person only

Fireplace Lounge

Poster Session and Social Hour

Cash bar available.