

CONTINENTAL FOREST DIALOGUE ON NON-NATIVE FOREST INSECTS & DISEASES

SEVENTH DIALOGUE MEETING

October 5-6, 2011
Boulder, CO

Speaker Biographies

Wendy Brown, Executive Coordinator, Washington Invasive Species Council. Wendy is the Executive Coordinator of the Washington Invasive Species Council and has been with the council since July 2009. Before that she worked for the Washington Department of Natural Resources on invasive species management and policy projects. Specific projects included spartina eradication (over 10,000 acres) in Willapa Bay, tunicate response in Hood Canal, and management of Phragmites in eastern Washington. Before her work in state government, she worked in the private sector on environmental management projects for the U.S. Army. Ms. Brown received a bachelor of science degree in biology from Bucknell University, a master of science degree in restoration ecology from the University of Washington, and a master of environmental management in conservation biology from Duke University.

Whitney Cranshaw, Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management, Colorado State University. Whitney has broad research interests related to Integrated Pest Management of all arthropods affecting horticultural commodities in Colorado, particularly vegetables, shade trees, turfgrass and specialty crops. This includes: development of management methods for insect/mite pests of landscape plants and vegetable crops, particularly those that minimize non-target impacts and/or are compatible with organic production; development of action thresholds for insect pests of vegetables and incorporation of host plant resistance; and evaluation of non-target effects of pesticide applications to landscape plants and vegetables. Research efforts also are designed to be flexible enough to respond to new insect/mite problems that do affect horticultural crops or cause nuisance problems in Colorado.

Evan DeLucia, Professor of Biology, University of Illinois. Evan is the G. William Arends Professor of Biology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; he was the founding Director of the Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology, served as Head of the Department of Plant Biology, and currently he is the director of the School of Integrative Biology. He joined the faculty at Illinois in 1986. Among his awards, DeLucia was recognized as a University Scholar at the University of Illinois, a Bullard Fellow at Harvard University, a Fulbright Fellow at Landcare Research and an Erskine Fellow at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. He became a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2005. Evan holds a PhD in plant ecology and physiology from Duke University.

Marla Downing, Invasive Species Information Manager, US Forest Service. As part of the USFS Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, she develops technologies and builds knowledge databases for the purpose of addressing invasive insects and diseases of forest species. She holds a Master's degree in Landscape Ecology from the University of Kansas, with additional training in Remote Sensing, GIS and Spatial Statistics for modeling techniques. In her capacity as a Biological Scientist for the USDA Forest

Service (1999-present) as well as for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (1993-1999), she has produced a variety of ecological and pest risk assessments. She has recently led the development of susceptibility maps for invasive forest pests of concern including: *Agrilus auroguttatus*, *Agrilus biguttatus*, *Agrilus sulcicollis*, *Anaplophora glabripennis*, *Ips typographus*, *Orthotomicus erosus*, *Phytophthora alni ssp alni*, and *Sirex noctilio*. She is currently developing a suite of risk assessment products for the Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*), which will ultimately lead to a knowledge based sampling design for trapping EAB throughout the US.

Phil Garcia, Regional Director, APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine's Western Region. Phil is located in Fort Collins, Colorado and oversees plant protection activities in 23 western states. Phil is a native Coloradoan, graduating from the University of Southern Colorado (now CSU-Pueblo) in 1975. He has been with PPQ since 1979 and now leads a great Western Region team in pest exclusion, detection, management and eradication programs around the country. Phil and his wife Debbie reside in Livermore, Colorado.

Juli Gould, Entomologist, USDA APHIS PPQ. Juli is an entomologist with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, conducting research on the biological control of the emerald ash borer. She has spent her career working on biocontrol projects including gypsy moth, ash whitefly, silverleaf whitefly, Russian wheat aphid, and salt cedar."

Leigh Greenwood, Forest Health Program Coalitions and Networks Manager, The Nature Conservancy. Leigh Greenwood is a member of The Nature Conservancy's Forest Health Protection Program. Her primary responsibility is being the manager of the Don't Move Firewood campaign, which she helped launch in 2008. She lives in Missoula Montana and enjoys skiing, hiking, and birdwatching. Leigh is also proud to note that she ran her first ever half marathon this past spring!

Bill Jacobi, Professor of Forest and Shade Tree Pathology, Colorado State University. Bill is interested in the biology and management of diseases and insects of forest and shade trees. He has particular interests in the spatial occurrence of forest diseases and insects and their relationships to environmental factors including meteorological conditions. His graduate students research such diverse topics as environmental relationships and occurrence of cankers, root diseases, and rusts, and the impacts of bark beetles on fire and fuels, pathway analysis of firewood and exotics, and the impact of dust control chemicals.

Les Koch, Forest Health Specialist, Wyoming State Forestry Division. Les has been the Wyoming State Forestry Division's Forest Health Specialist since 1999. He delivers site-specific forest health management advice and plans to State personnel, private forest landowners, and local government officials. He also oversees the agency's Forest Health Aviation program and has seen up front the vast acreages of bark beetle tree-mortality throughout the state. Prior to employment in Wyoming, he was the Community Forester for the City of Idaho Falls, Idaho. His educational achievements include a Master of Public Administration from the University of Wyoming and a M.S. in Forest Genetics from the University of Idaho. He is well connected to Cheyenne by serving as a mentor for area youth via the City's Youth Alternatives Program and is a Board Member and youth recreation coach for the Cheyenne Soccer Club. His personal interests include biking, camping, hiking, fishing, hanging out with his dog, and keeping up with his seven-year-old daughter.

Rob Mangold, Director, Forest Health Protection, US Forest Service. Rob has held the position of Director of Forest Health protection with the US Forest Service for the past twelve years. Prior to that, he spent twenty-three years in other posts within the USFS. Rob has a PhD in forest genetics from Oregon State University, and an MS from the University of California Berkely in forest ecology.

Ken Rauscher, Michigan Department of Agriculture, retired. Ken is recently retired from the Michigan Department of Agriculture, where he served as the Director of the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division since 1995. He also served as the president of the National Plant Board from 2005-2007. He currently sits on the Continental Dialogue Steering Committee.

Diana Tomback, Professor, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Colorado Denver. Diana's primary research interests include : 1) Seed dispersal and ecology of five-needle white pines; 2) Conservation of whitebark pine and related five-needle white pines. She works at the plant-animal interface, studying both the behavior and ecology of the seed dispersers and the ecology and population biology of the pines that they disperse, and more recently the potential decline of the whitebark pine-nutcracker interaction. Along with several colleagues, she started the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation (<http://www.whitebarkfound.org>) in 2001, based in Missoula, MT, which is dedicated to the restoration of whitebark pine ecosystems and educating the public and resource management agencies about the importance of this pine. She has been the volunteer Director of this organization since its inception.

Bill Toomey, Forest Health Director, The Nature Conservancy. Bill started as the Forest Health Director in the summer of 2011, and has been fast getting up to speed on the Continental Dialogue and its activities. Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy, he was the Director at Highstead, a sanctuary for the study and appreciation of woodland plants and habitats. Bill has also worked for The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts and Connecticut where he initiated the Quinebaug Highlands program in Northeastern Connecticut and the Westfield River Highlands program in western Massachusetts. In his position as landscape project director, Bill built effective partnerships with local communities and organizations, protected hundreds of acres of land and initiated local and regional conservation initiatives. Most recently, Bill worked as a Sr. Associate Director of Philanthropy for The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts where he contributed to the chapter's major gift fundraising efforts. Bill also managed the residential recycling program in San Jose, California and has worked for two environmental consulting firms. Bill holds a B.S. degree in Biology from Fairfield University and a M.S. in Soil Science from North Carolina State University.

Rob Venette, Research Biologist, USFS Northern Research Station. Dr. Robert C. Venette is a Research Biologist with the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of Minnesota. He specializes in the areas of invasion biology and pest risk assessment. His research primarily focuses on the development and application of methods to predict the potential geographic distribution and impact of nonnative organisms that are not yet known to occur in the United States or are present but of limited distribution. Recent work has focused on emerald ash borer, goldspotted oak borer, Mediterranean pine engraver, light brown apple moth, reed canary grass, and the causal agent of sudden oak death. Dr. Venette received his PhD in 1997 in Ecology from the University of California, Davis.

Troy Weldy, Director of Ecological Management, The Nature Conservancy. Troy Weldy is currently the Director of Ecological Management for The Nature Conservancy of New York, a Research Associate for the New York State Museum and Adjunct Faculty for the Institute of Wetland Environmental Education and Research. He is author of over 75 articles and other publications including the New York Flora Atlas (<http://newyork.plantatlas.org/>) and a chapter on invasive species management within Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands (<http://www.dodbiodiversity.org/ch7/index.html>). Troy's role includes lobbying on behalf various forest health issues including deer management, invasive species, wildland fire uses, and atmospheric deposition. His previous roles include acting North American Director of Forest Health for The Nature Conservancy, Director of US Network Operations for NatureServe, Director of the New York Flora Association, Botanist for the New York Natural Heritage Program, and Faculty Research Associate for Vassar College. He received his bachelor's degree from Butler University and master's degree from the College of William & Mary. He, his wife and their two children reside in Ballston Lake, NY – a small community located midway between Albany and the Adirondack Mountains.