



Board of Forestry Public Meeting

13. Oregon State University College of Forestry Panel

This item serves as an opportunity for the Board of Forestry's to hear from the Oregon State University's College of Forestry.

This is an information item.



12/18/2024

Dr. John Bailey, Professor

John Bailey is the Professor of Silviculture and Fire Management in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University (OSU). He obtained his BS and MF degrees from Virginia Tech (as a native Virginian), where he was a squad boss with the Virginia Department of Forestry and USDA Forest Service. After graduation, he worked for 6+ years with the Environmental Protection Agency on several forest stressors. He completed his PhD at OSU and joined the faculty at Northern Arizona University in 1996, where he worked in ponderosa pine silviculture, fuels management and ecological restoration. He returned to OSU in 2006 to rebuild a wildland fire curriculum and continue research on fuels/fire management and sustainable forest management in fire-prone forest types, including multi-story management and prescribed fire in mixed forest types for broad conservation objectives. His recent research and outreach focus on landscape-scale wildfire risk and how to use active forest and fire management to minimize the adverse impacts of future wildfire.

Dr. Matthew G. Betts, Professor & Ruth Spaniol Chair

Dr. Matthew Betts is a professor and Ruth Spaniol Chair of Natural Resources Conservation in the Dept. of Forest Ecosystems and Society in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University, where he has taught both undergraduates and graduates about forest biodiversity and management for 18 years. Dr. Betts completed his undergraduate degree and PhD in the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management at the University of New Brunswick and conducted his postdoctoral research at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire where he centered his research on population and landscape ecology.

Dr. Betts's research focuses on plant and animal responses to forest management activities at local, landscape, and global scales. He is the lead investigator for the Oregon Intensive Forest Management project, and the Lead Investigator for the HJ Andrews Long-term Ecological Research Program (<https://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu>). Dr. Betts also serves as a lead author on the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services monitoring assessment. He is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications (including in the journals Science and Nature, Nature Ecology and Evolution, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences), and his work has been profiled in the New York Times, Washington Post, National Public Radio, CBC, National Geographic, and Scientific American. His work is primarily funded by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Emily Jane (“EJ”) Davis, Director of the Extension Fire Program

Dr. Emily Jane (“EJ”) Davis is the Director of the Extension Fire Program at Oregon State University and Principal Investigator of the Northwest Fire Science Consortium, a regional fire science exchange sponsored by the Joint Fire Science Program. She supports a team of six regional fire specialists and a fire program manager who provide wildland fire outreach and education across the state, as well as the Northwest Fire Science Consortium coordinator. She is also part of a coalition of partners conducting applied research and Extension programming about equity in the forestry and fire workforce, and supervises the OSU Extension natural resources workforce coordinator. EJ spends a smaller portion of her time as an applied social scientist and analyst who is focused broadly on collective action in wildfire adaptation. In plain language, this is about how diverse entities can work together to live with wildfire, and how social science can meaningfully enrich those processes. Her background is in community-based natural resource management, program evaluation, and qualitative research methods.

Dr. Thomas H. DeLuca, Cheryl Ramberg-Ford and Allyn C. Ford Dean

Thomas H. DeLuca is the Dean of the College of Forestry, Director of the Oregon Forest Research Laboratory, and Professor of Forest Soils at Oregon State University. Professor DeLuca has also served as a professor and Dean at the University of Montana, professor and Director of the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences at the University of Washington, and professor and NERC Chair at Bangor University, UK. As the Dean of a leading college of forestry, Professor DeLuca’s efforts are focused on sustainable land management, innovation in forest products, and ecosystem resilience in a changing climate. During the past 30 years, Professor DeLuca has conducted research in a variety of topics across temperate, boreal, maritime and Arctic settings. Primary research interests include the influence of disturbance on N and C cycling in forest, prairie and tundra ecosystems, the fire ecology of temperate and boreal forests, biological N₂ fixation in forest ecosystems, sustainable forest management and forest restoration and is the author of over 130 papers in refereed journals. Professor DeLuca received his Ph.D. from Iowa State University in Soil Biology and Biochemistry; M.S. from Montana State University in soils; B.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Soil Science.

Dr. Meg Krawchuk, Associate Professor

Dr. Meg Krawchuk leads the Landscape Fire and Conservation Science Research Group at OSU’s Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society in the College of Forestry. Meg is a co-director of the College of Forestry Tree Ring Lab, is currently the Fischer Family Faculty Fellow at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, and a member of the Northwest Forest Plan Federal Advisory Committee. Meg’s research focuses on fire ecology, forest ecology, landscape ecology, and conservation science, with specific interest in applied work co-

produced with managers, practitioners, and community. Work in the lab group includes desktop and field ecology, working at scales from local to global, addressing the causes and effects of ecological disturbances, with a particular interest in landscape fire. Meg and her lab group recognize and respect the importance of cultural burning, Indigenous Knowledges, Practices, and Belief Systems, and the impact of colonization on Indigenous peoples and their stewardship of their homelands, and strive to build reciprocal and relevant relationships with Tribes and Indigenous peoples in the work they do as scientists, students, and a community.

Dr. Mark E. Swanson, Associate Professor & Interim Director of the Research Forests

Mark E. Swanson, PhD, is a forester and forest ecologist who is both a scientist and a resource management practitioner. His research interests include forest stand development, response of understory vegetation to forest management, disturbance ecology, and microsite influences on survival and growth of woody plants. As a consultant, Dr. Swanson has assisted private landowners in adopting management approaches rooted in ecological silviculture. He obtained his B.S. in Forest Management (1999) and PhD in Forest Ecosystem Analysis (2007) from the College of Forest Resources, University of Washington. From 2007 to 2023, he served on the faculty at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, eventually leading the Forestry program in the School of the Environment. In December 2023, Dr. Swanson joined the faculty of the College of Forestry as the new Starker Chair in Private and Family Forestry. As of January 2025, he will begin a two-year role as interim director of the Research Forest system in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.