



Regeneration!

Newsletter of the
Community Forestry Research Fellowship Program

Volume 4, no.1

Winter 2004

Editor's Introduction

All of us experience the environment differently. That difference occurs not only between individuals, but also on an individual level between our work and our play in the environment. Moreover, our past experience, our social positioning, our personal identities, and the way in which our experience with the environment is perceived and represented by others, shape each other through processes which simultaneously shape our current experience and our opportunities for further work or play in the environment.

This issue of *Regeneration!* illustrates many of the dimensions of these relationships. Carolyn Finney's "Focus" column introduces efforts in Florida to overcome the widely held belief that African Americans are not concerned about or involved with the environment. In a special feature interview, Iantha Gant-Wright describes how this belief affects opportunities for African Americans and other people of color to work in the environmental professions. She also discusses the impacts this assumption, as well as white privilege, have had on the environmental movement and efforts to diversify it, as well as on personal identity.

"Voices from the Field" takes a different approach, but nevertheless sheds light on the many relationships that shape our experience with the environment. It presents four different perspectives on experience with springs in the White Mountains of Arizona. It illustrates the diverse meanings community forestry activities have for those involved. It also shows how social positioning within the community – as an

"outside" scientist, as a tribal official, as a youth, as an elder -- as well as interaction with the environment itself shape that meaning.

Carl Wilmsen
Editor

In this issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| Focus: | 2 |
| <i>Black Faces, White Spaces:</i> <i>African-Americans and the Great Outdoors</i> Carolyn Finney | |
| Special Feature: | 4 |
| An Interview with Iantha Gant-Wright | |
| Voices from the Field: | 10 |
| Four Voices on the Significance of Community Forestry Research | |
| Where Are They Now? | 12 |
| Fellows News | 13 |
| Faculty News | 14 |
| Conferences and Workshops | 14 |
| Classes | 16 |
| Publications by CFRF Fellows, Community Partners and Faculty | 17 |
| Other Publications | 17 |

Focus



Black Faces, White Spaces: African-Americans and the Great Outdoors Carolyn Finney

I'm sitting in a canoe with Alison Austin, Director of Outreach and Communications for Audubon, South Florida, gliding slowly down the New River, a piece of the Everglades in Broward County. We are joined by Robert Butler, one of the original "Highway men" and two of his daughters.¹ We paddle past one hundred year-old cypress trees and exotics like Australian pine and Brazilian pepper. While the sight of the "last remaining stretch of the Everglades in Broward"² is amazing enough, equally astonishing is that this river runs through one of the oldest and poorest African-American neighborhoods in the United States.

Part of the New River, the North and the South Fork are surrounded by Broward County's 1.6 million residents. But while both forks are part of the same river, the South Fork runs through neighborhoods featuring million-dollar estates and fancy boats and has lost most of its wild beginnings. The North Fork has retained much of the raw nature that has characterized this waterway since the 1950's. Unfortunately, the North Fork has also suffered from neglect and misuse as a waste dump. Over the last few years, civic leaders pressed for inclusion of the North Fork in the \$7.8 billion Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. At the same time, a \$13 million African-American Cultural Center and Research Library recently opened in a county park along the riverbank.

¹ The Highwaymen are African-American painters (one woman among them) who, during the 1950's, '60's and '70's made a living by painting Florida landscapes.

Many of these artists sold their paintings from the back of their car, hence the moniker "highway men".

² Kloor, Kevin. 2001. A fork in the river. Audubon 103(4): 30

The synergy is not lost on African-American environmental educators and activists in the area. Audrey and Frank Peterman, who run Earthwise Productions, an organization that provides outreach and environmental education to African-American communities in South Florida, understand that ecological restoration and natural resource management cannot happen without addressing the concerns and needs of the residents. The Peterman's work to form partnerships between environmental organizations, such as Audubon and South Florida communities, to engage both ecological and human considerations.

During the two months I've spent in South Florida thus far, I've spoken with numerous African-American educators, activists, community workers and artists who have voiced similar sentiments. "It's a myth that black folks don't care about the environment" says Thaddeus Hamilton, coordinator and director of the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) South Florida Urban Community Assistance Program. He raises pertinent questions about institutionalized racism and whether or not black communities are experiencing any of the benefits from the billion-dollar Everglades restoration project. To investigate these issues, he has organized the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Council. As part of my research, we are going to work together to design workshops and questionnaires that explore the barriers to outreach within black communities. Mr. Hamilton hopes to take this information and pass it on to National Black Emphasis Programs (part of the NRCS) throughout the U.S.

Another angle community members in South Florida are taking to increase African-

American participation in natural resource management is to educate African-American residents and environmental organizations (including the National Park Service) on the historical importance of the African-American presence within “natural” environments. This includes getting certain spots placed on the Historical Preservation Registry and included in interpretive programs within the national parks.

Two projects that I have recently become involved with provide insight into untold environmental narratives that can influence environmental practices today. Biscayne National Park is home to the third largest coral reef in the world and forty-two islands. A few years ago, a local archeologist uncovered a site on Porgy Key (one of the islands) where Parson Jones, an African-American born in the 1800’s, had purchased two islands, totaling more than 250 acres, to farm, fish, and sponge. His family used unusual techniques to grow key lime trees and was so knowledgeable about the surrounding area that presidents from Harding to Nixon came to them for their fishing and sponging expertise. The last remaining member of the Jones family died a few years ago, but a project is underway to find out more about the family, their farming techniques, and their overall environmental impact on the area. Audrey Peterman has been one of the primary motivators in getting a plaque placed on the site and more importantly, getting the financial resources to make more research possible. I have been asked to continue researching this family and to write a report for the Historical Preservation Registry that can secure both protection and future funding for this site.

Virginia Key Beach was the only beach in Miami during the 1940’s where African-American’s could go. Home to exotic and indigenous tree species, nature trails and a sparkling coastline, this 82.5-acre park was about to fall under the ax of developers. But a concerned group of citizens banded together to

form the Virginia Key Beach Trust and had the site placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002. Guy Forchion, the Executive Director, talked to me about what this space represents to all residents in the South Florida region. As a primary part of the restoration process, over eighty oral histories will be collected from elderly residents who frequented the beach during it’s hey day. These stories will become part of an archive for all visitors to enjoy when the beach is reopened to the public.

A continuing theme throughout all my conversations with black residents in South Florida about natural resource management was the need for increased visibility of African-American concerns, histories and experiences, and environmental practices, both in environmental organizations and black communities. “The same people who were responsible for the Voting Rights Act were responsible for the Forest and Wilderness Act. But while blacks were asked to sign for the passing of the Voting act, they were not asked to sign for the Forest and Wilderness Act”, states a frustrated Audrey Peterman. She goes on to say how this adds to the myth that African Americans aren’t concerned about the environment. “We are reclaiming a legacy...but we need sustained resources for a sustained effort. Diversity programs are disposable in the eyes of some”. Others echo Ms. Peterman’s concern and point out how information about our natural resources are not “targeted to us”, indicating the black community. This includes forest and park users as well as black professionals who might work in natural resource management. It helps when you “see yourself reflected in the imagery or you see a park ranger that looks like you” says Carol Daniels, Cooperative EcoSystems Studies Coordinator.

For most of the people I’ve spoken with, building that sustained effort means making and nurturing strong connections between local organizations and individuals striving to increase the visibility of the black

environmental experience in South Florida. For my part, they have asked me to participate by offering my time, my writing skills and my energy to bring some of these issues to light through official reports, academic papers and community workshops. Though I am back in Massachusetts at the moment, I feel privileged to be a part of their efforts and look forward to further collaboration when I return to Florida in June. On Martin Luther King Day, I found

myself at an African-American Cultural Center in Miami. I was interviewing Gene Tinnie, a local historian, when a friend of his interrupted to say hello. Mr. Tinnie introduced us and told his friend, Renee about my research. "I'm leaving in a week" I said sadly, "but I'll be back!" Renee needed no convincing and smiled knowingly, saying she understood. "Florida presents the need to be here", she said as she winked and walked away. How right she is.

An Interview with Iantha Gant-Wright



Iantha Gant-Wright is an independent environmental consultant who worked for national environmental organizations for many years. She helped found the Environmental Diversity Working Group that assists national environmental organizations in working on diversity issues. One of her most recent engagements is facilitating meetings of the National Network of Forest Practitioner's Cultural Diversity Working Group. In early February, 2004, we spoke on the telephone. The following is an excerpt of that interview [the editor].

Carl Wilmsen: *Tell me about your professional background and the work you do.*

Iantha Gant-Wright: My professional background in the environmental movement goes back about 20 years as a direct result of a personal tragedy. I lost my sister and I became parent to her children for about six years. It was a life changing event for me. I was working as an account executive for radio stations and it didn't seem like it had any redeeming value or was helping anybody in any kind of way. I realized I wanted to do something that made a difference. I just happened to look in the paper and saw an ad looking for people, especially women and minorities, who were interested in doing activism work, to stop lead and asbestos

in Baltimore City homes and also to protect Chesapeake Bay. Lead and asbestos was a big issue in Baltimore City homes. Kids were actually being poisoned. At that time I was not as concerned about the Chesapeake Bay as I was with the issue of lead and asbestos. I started working for Clean Water Action.

During the entire eight years I was there there were very few people of color. For a good portion of my work we were out in communities going door-to-door. It was very challenging as a person of color because most of the communities we went to were white communities and many of them were upper class. We encountered a lot of racism. Very few people of color were working on environmental issues. I actually had people call me "stupid nigger" and other things. One man sent his dog after me. When I came back to the office that evening, I told my boss "I don't think I can do this any more." He asked why and I shared with him and I was in tears and he said "If you allow this to stop you from doing what you want to do, then you will allow people to stop you from doing what you want to do for the rest of your life because of the color of your skin." That hit me like a ton of bricks because it was real. It was like "He is so right about that."

That's why I continued to persevere no matter what. I canvassed all over the country. I was promoted after about a year to canvas director and ran canvases in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Austin, Texas, Houston, Texas, and California. After about six or seven years, I was promoted as a supervisor for programs on the East Coast.

It was about 1995 when I decided it was time for me to move on. One reason was, although I really, really loved what I was doing, there was not a lot of support for reaching communities that needed this information. Most of the communities that we canvassed were white and upper class. It dawned on me, at one of our national conferences, as I was sitting there in the Sierra Nevada Mountains overlooking this beautiful lake. I thought about all the young kids who would never get to see this or never have the opportunity to be involved because access just wasn't there.

CW: *Can you expand on that, "access just wasn't there"; what do you mean by that?*

IG-W: The access to information; I was going door-to-door, knocking on doors and explaining to people why they needed to get involved with the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act and Superfund legislation. I wasn't going into the communities that needed the information as much as the communities I was in. I realized that sitting looking out at this beautiful lake, I'm the only person of color here. What hit me was that it was my responsibility to begin to do a better job of getting this information to other people and specifically young people.

I decided at that point that I was going to move on but didn't know quite what I was going to do. I knew that I wanted to continue to do environmental work but also figure out how to build in issues of equity and equality. I applied

for a position with the national parks Conservation Association which I didn't get. But for some reason they were impressed with me, and wanted to figure out how they could get me to run a diversity program. At the time there was a congressman who was pushing a piece of legislation that would have created a politically appointed commission whose sole responsibility would have been to identify which national parks were worthy or unworthy of national status. The parks they were looking at closing down, privatizing or cutting back funding to were mostly national recreation areas which are usually in urban areas. So the need for a diversity program was pressing.

NPCA had never had a diversity program before. They didn't know what they wanted to do. I'd never run a diversity program before. One of the most interesting things about that position, though, was it did not start out being focused on the organization internally changing. It was focused on external action.

The goal initially was to build a broad, more diverse constituency for the national parks. I learned very quickly that the goal should have been to provide access to people who traditionally did not have access to the National Park Service and the units of the national park system. So my job was really about building partnerships and coalitions, locally and nationally, with people of color.

CW: *What was it that made you realize that you had to focus on communities that traditionally did not have access to the national parks?*

IG-W: I had a sense of that going into the job. Because my job was supposed to be about building a constituency, I started immediately to build partnerships and networking. The first couple of years I really worked to build

credibility for the organization, an organization that had not in its past attempted to reach out at all to people from different communities. Part of building credibility was connecting and building relationships with organizations and institutions around the country, such as Howard University and the National Council of la Raza. I was everywhere!

I was very blessed to have a boss and his direct supervisor, the vice president of the organization, be very supportive of the work and understand that you do not have somebody from the DC office contact people from community groups and say, "Hey, you need to go visit national parks or you need to go work for the National Park Service." You need to have somebody able to go out there, build credibility and shake hands with people and say, "Yes, I am a person of color and this is something I care about", *You get the support, but not the full buy-in from people* and to find

people who were already engaged in this kind of work. It is interesting that people think, "Oh well, people of color don't do this." It's automatically assumed that African Americans, Latinos or others don't care about that or don't engage in it because we go to city parks. We found out something very different. We found out that there were people out there who really did care about national parks and were visiting them.

Through that work, through that net-working, being out there meeting people, shaking hands, going to conferences, doing those things, I was able to build a large constituency of people who connected with us, not just on caring about national parks but also worked with us when we worked legislatively to get certain laws passed to protect National parks. In the long run it was about providing access to information, an individual bringing information and saying this is what's going on, that's what's going on.

I was pretty blessed because I was able to work on the underground railroad movement project, through my work with NPCA. Congress had just completed a study of how to do the best job of interpreting or recognizing the Underground Railroad within the national park system. Our organization worked to build a coalition that was very diverse and made up of people who cared about the Underground Railroad. Those kinds of actions helped us to build that constituency.

CW: *It sounds like you had really good support within the National parks Conservation Association. How would you describe the way they reacted to the diversity efforts?*

IG-W: At NPCA from the very beginning I had a lot of support from the right people. With most diversity programs the only way to be successful is to have leadership that is interested in seeing it move. I was pretty blessed to have not just my supervisor but the executive vice president feel like this was a very important process or initiative. She was very, very supportive of the work. Early on it probably felt more like a novelty; "Oh, this is a really good thing for us to do." I think in the long term they realized how much depth and color and new energy the work I was doing was bringing to the organization.

If you are pulling together external partnerships across the country, it is impossible for you not to change internally. You have to. Slowly things changed. The calendar always showed national park sites like Yellowstone and Grand Canyon. They began to include pictures of the Frederick Douglass home or American Indian sites. Our magazine had never ever before had a picture of people of color on the cover; through my work it had a picture of Buffalo Soldiers, guys dressed up as Buffalo Soldiers, reenactors. The was the first time ever that

there was a picture of people of color on the front cover of the magazine.

When we were working on the under-ground railroad project, we featured on our website a young man, hired as an intern, who walked from Sandy Spring, Maryland, all the way up to Canada on an Underground Railroad route. We had people all around the country coming to our website to check on his progress.

One of the pivotal moments for NPCA was when, with several partners, we put together a national conference, the Mosaic Conference, the first conference ever to bring together the Park Service with people of color from around the country to look at the barriers to having people go to national parks – access and all those other things. We had 650 people show up; it was in San Francisco, California.

I would say it really changed the organization for the good. It also put a lot of pressure on the organization because it was seen as an environmental organization that was working on diversity issues. We held that conference for three years and they never had less than 500 people participate.

CW: *You said “Any diversity effort really depends on having the support of people”. Can you draw some lessons about what accounts for that? Why were these people supportive? Is it the luck of the draw or is there some way that other organizations can build that kind of support from within?*

IG-W: Quite honestly, I think it was just the luck of the draw. I had a boss, who knew me from Clean Water and who was very interested in grassroots advocacy. There was his direct boss, too. She just cared about this stuff. For me it was just luck, just pure luck, to run into those two people. However, I also think there were several other people in leadership who became very supportive of the work. They

realized the effect it could have on the long term protection of the national parks.

Our conservation policy department began to really engage with the diversity department on different projects. They realized it was important to get to the Congressional Black Caucus, to get to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

I do want to say this: There were major issues about feeling like we were taking on everything. There were five of us running the program, running a national conference, figuring out how to raise money, figuring out how to attract the media. Because of the way the program was started, it actually became the responsibility of the diversity department to do everything that had to do with diversity instead of having it integrated into the organization. The organization was very supportive. They cared. However, most of the program work having to do with diversity was our responsibility.

Finally, I got to the point where I realized I had to change that and get people to realize that this was not just about us doing all this; you guys have to do this, too. You get the support, but not the full buy-in from people because it's not their responsibility to do things because you've taken the responsibility on yourself.

CW: *How do you get that buy-in?*

IG-W: You start from the very beginning getting other people more engaged in the process, so your diversity program doesn't stand out as a program by itself, away from everything else. But it becomes very integrated into the organization.

CW: *Now, how did other environmental groups respond to all of this activity?*

IG-W: They all began to kind of go “Wow!”

(laughter)

After a couple of years, organizations were asking me to come talk to them about how to run diversity programs. There was great interest; most groups in the environmental community were saying “Can you come over and talk to us about how to do this; can you come out and speak at our conference?” It started just growing and people said, “Wow!” Especially when they came to the Mosaic Conference. They realized there were hundreds of people from communities all around the country that they had never thought to tap into. There was an assumption that these people just wouldn’t care about open space and the outdoors, national parks, wilderness. However, they came to realize that this was not true. People do care about this. As a result, the NPCA and the Wilderness Society supported efforts to start the Environmental Diversity Working Group.

CW: *How did you get that going?*

IG-W: I kept getting a lot of interest, including from funders. All the groups were really struggling with it—how to run a diversity program; how to get it off the ground.

We had a funder who financed NPCA’s diversity work and that funder was also interested in the same thing, “Is there a way you can figure out how to support some of these other groups and help them figure this out?” I went to the Wilderness Society and asked them to cosponsor a meeting of some of the people in top positions in other organizations. To come to a kick-off meeting to start a group within the environmental community that would help sustain ongoing conversations on diversity.

We did that in July of 2001; we had extremely good participation. I think we had about thirty organizations there at the first meeting. And the group has continued to evolve over time. We now have a mission statement; the main intent is to support that ongoing dialogue and actions

that help people within the environmental community to learn that there are people out here that aren’t from traditional communities, that are excited and interested in doing this work and help them to learn how to model different kinds of behavior, because, in the environmental community, there always tends to be an assumption about who cares and who doesn’t.

Part of that comes from the concept of privilege. When you feel that you are privileged and you come from this group and this group cares about things, then a lot of times there’s an automatic assumption that other people don’t. If you’ve been able to have access to places through that privilege and other people haven’t, then you automatically assume, “Well, I know those people don’t go because, you know, they don’t care about this.”

It’s really helping organizations to understand how to change the way they think. It’s helping those staff people who attend the meetings to be better allies for diversity within their organizations and be the champions. It’s happening, because most of the CEOs of the environmental organizations who participate have been very supportive of our work.

CW: *You mentioned white privilege and how that leads to an assumption that people of color just don’t care about the environment. Are there other things about white privilege that you’ve observed that you would want to talk about, the effect they have on the environmental movement?*

IG-W: Within the Environmental Diversity Working Group, we have a series of dialogues that we do now. One of the dialogues was specifically about the concept of elitism, how environmentalism, is just for people from elite communities. That also gets back to the concept of privilege.

You have to remember the national parks were founded by people from elite communities who wanted to get away from the urban centers, to be away from people. To some very large degree over the years that idea, that perception, continued to flourish, that these places are places for us and not places for other people. There's the whole concept of how you're expected to behave as an environmentalist. You're supposed to be kind of crunchy granola; you recycle all the time; you don't wear certain kinds of clothes. Built into all that is privilege.

CW: *Yes, those social boundary maintaining mechanisms.*

IG-W: A lot of those things some people can't do because they can't afford them. You can't dress a certain way, or you can't buy a

It's the privileges that you were born into that have shaped the world I was born into, and that has affected who I am.

Prius, because you can't afford it. On the other hand, you might just choose not to do those things. It creates this assumption of privilege.

Most people don't even realize that within that community there is an informal network of people who hire from within. For instance, you go to an environmental organization and you apply for a job and you're a person of color. In most cases that community already has a club of people they know. There's always this assumption that this person, because he or she is a person of color, doesn't know as much and will not be able to get up to speed as quickly as an individual who's been part of our informal network for so long. So it's very hard even getting a job that actually entails meaningful involvement in environmental issues.

Part of the elitism, the privilege of the environmental community is if you are white, then you have more of opportunities to work for these groups, because people will not look at your background as much as at who you are.

CW: *What are some lessons learned in dealing with white privilege: the assumptions, the old boys' club, "they don't look like us, they don't act like us; they don't have the same level of understanding that we have about the environment", and that kind of thing? What do you think works to change that in your experience?*

IG-W: I think just constant education and calling people on their actions. You have to say to people, "This is what you're doing." People always duck and run away from training and things like that but I think it is so important for people to be able to look at themselves for what they really are. It doesn't mean that you're a bad person because you come from a place of privilege. It doesn't mean that you've done anything to hold me back as an individual; it just means that that's the place you think from. It's not

because you did anything wrong. It's just because that's what's happened in our country. It's helping people to understand what that is and what it means.

A lot of people think about elitism and they get angry. "Well, what do you mean we're privileged? Everybody else has the same rights that we have; this is America." Yeah, but if I walk down the street as opposed to you walking down the same street in a community, there's certain things that automatically will be open to you that will not be open to me.

I had a discussion with one of my bosses about a really challenging situation we had when one of our staff made a comment about a Latina woman. He did not understand why I was so angry about it. I said to him "Because you don't wake up every day in my skin, you don't get up in the morning black and go get a job in a world where, especially in the environmental community, being black is not really the thing to be if you want to get jobs. Or you don't have

to be black and walk into an upscale store on Rodeo Drive or anywhere else and have people follow you around even though you have money in your pocket and credit cards.” He understood.

I think it’s just helping people because they can never get to the place where they can feel that, unless they have to live it. But you can help people to understand it. We just need to be honest about it; we need to talk about it.

The thing that bothers me about our country is that we’re so afraid to talk about stuff like this. And that’s why we haven’t gotten anywhere. Everybody wonders why we still have this big issue that sits in the middle of the room, called race. And the reason is that we won’t talk about

it. And if you can’t get past this, then everything else really doesn’t matter because it still sits in the center of the room. We’re threatened by it because we don’t understand it because we don’t talk about it.

For me it’s facing it, looking at it, addressing it; accepting it. If you are a white person, accepting that you have certain privileges. If you are a person of color, accepting that to some very large degree you respond to whatever that privilege is. I believe that’s the only way we get past that to come together and look at each other and talk to each other and be real with each other. It’s the privileges that you were born into that have shaped the world I was born into, and that has affected who I am.

Voices from the Field



Four Voices on the Significance of Community Forestry Research

“Mae Burnette uses her ability to intimately know the lands of her Reservation as she leads a project to restore dozens of springs and wetlands that were damaged after recent severe wildfires. I have had the pleasure to work closely with Mae for many years, as a coworker, student researcher, and now coresearcher. Mae has taught me to see springs as fountains of life for plants, animals, and people.



Mae examines the plants at one of her study sites.

Photo by J. Long

Despite their great ecological and cultural significance, springs have received relatively little attention in ecological studies and in post-wildfire rehabilitation plans. For these reasons, our research together focuses on restoring these places. Small, remote springs seem insignificant compared to a large river with great runs of salmon, but for many of these places, we know that we have made a difference. They have demonstrated their vitality to us and to others in the community.”

–Jonathan Long, former CFRF fellow

“Springs have life. Some of our springs have been damaged. When I go to them, they talk to me. We work to help them breathe again. If you

have faith in them, they will show you that they have life within them.

To work with Mother Nature, you listen, feel, smell, and respect with your heart. Listen to the spring as it is seeping from the ground. Feel the spring as it flows to see if it is cold or hot. Smell the spring to see if it is safe to



Jonathan estimates the height of a nickpoint at one study site.

Photo by M. Burnette

drink. As an experienced fire fighter, I have learned that fire and water have much in common. They both have signs of life, and they both can destroy land, plants, animals, and people.

Work-ing with Jonathan has taught me about nature. If the land has a big cut, you do not need a band aid to fix it; you can restore it with its own kind—rocks and vegetation. I look forward to learning more with Jonathan in the future.”

—Mae Burnette, White Mountain Apache Tribe, has worked with two fellows supported by the CFRF Program (Jonathan Long 1999 and Candy Lupe 2001) and participated in two workshops sponsored by the Program.

One of the ways that we share our research with others in the community is through the

drink. Respect the spring so it will nourish you back with respect. These lessons I learned from working on these projects. I have learned from my mistakes, and I now have more respect for

annual youth ecological camps sponsored by the Tribe’s Watershed Program and organized by Candy Lupe, another former CFRF fellow. We work with the participants to restore some of the springs using native materials and techniques inspired by traditional erosion control practices. These are the words of one participant and his grandfather:

“I went to camp this summer to learn about plants and water. We saw a lot of different places, including Soldier Spring. That place was special because there was a lot of water in a little stream. It was fun to help out. Some of the plants that I remember are buttercup, iris, strawberries, onion, pine, mullein, rush, and duckweed. I want to go to camp again next year to learn more.”

—Darius Q. Albert, a participant in the Tribe’s annual youth ecological camp

“Maybe he’ll remember what he did that day. He was really shocked to see a river flow from underneath the ground. Things like that he questioned—where does this water come from? Why are we saving these plants? In his photo album, he will look at his pictures and remember.”

—Wilbert Albert, Darius’ grandfather, reflecting on what his grandson took home from the camp



Soldier Spring

Photo by D. Albert

Where Are They Now?



Stefan Bergman (Predissertation Fellow 2000)
Legislative liaison/Policy Analyst
Northwest Association of State Foresters
Madison, Wisconsin

Alec Brownlow (Dissertation Fellow 2000)
Assistant Professor
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Eliza Darling (Dissertation Fellow 1999)
Yolanda Moses Visiting Scholar at the Colin
Powell Center for Policy Studies
City College/CUNY
New York, New York

William Elemendorf (Dissertation Fellow 1997)
Assistant Professor
Urban and Community Forestry
Extension Specialist and Program Coordinator
Extension Urban Forestry Program
Penn State School of Forest Resources
University Park, Pennsylvania

Andrew O. Finley (Masters Fellow 2001)
Research Assistant
Department of Forest Resources
University of Minnesota at Twin Cities
St. Paul; Minnesota

James V. Hamilton (Predissertation Fellow
2001)
Extension Agent
Agriculture—Christmas Trees and Community
Horticulture
Boone, North Carolina

Mary Hobbs (Dissertation Fellow 1997)
US AID, Environmental NEP,
REDSO/ESA/FS
Nairobi, Kenya

Jake Kosek (Dissertation Fellow 1998)
Lecturer
Department of Anthropology
Stanford University
Post Doctoral Fellow
Institute of International Relations
University of California, Berkeley

Jonathan London (Dissertation Fellow 1997)
Co-Director
Youth in Focus
Davis, California

Jonathan Long (Dissertation Fellow 1999)
Research Scientist
Rocky Mountain Research Station
Flagstaff, Arizona

Candy Lupe (Masters Fellow 2001)
Water Resources Department
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Whiteriver, Arizona

Geoff Mann (Predissertation Fellow 2000)
Post Doctoral Fellow—Geography
University of British Columbia
121-1984 West Mall
Vancouver, British Columbia

Thomas McCoy (Masters Fellow 2001)
Soil Conservationist
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Littlefield, Texas

Jennifer Sokolove (Dissertation Fellow 1999)
Compton Foundation, Inc.
Menlo Park, California

Sissel Waage (Dissertation Fellow 1997)
Director, Sustainability Research Group
The Natural Step
San Francisco, California
415-318-8170

Laurie Young (Dissertation Fellow 2000) received her Ph.D. from the University of Montana in July, 2003, and is now the proud parent of an 11 month old boy. Laurie remains

involved with her partner community through meetings with the Rocky Mountain Front Advisory Committee.

Fellows News

CFRF Fellow-Organized Field Trip to Community Forestry Projects in the Southwest

Current US Community Forestry Fellow, Mary Adelzadeh, organized a field trip to Northern Arizona and New Mexico that highlighted community research sponsored by the US Community Forestry Fellowship. The trip complemented a graduate seminar, “Indian Tribes and Natural Resource Management,” that Mary facilitated at the University of Michigan. The trip, included visits to former and ongoing CFRF-supported research projects in the Southwest.

One of the stops was the White Mountain Apache Reservation in Arizona where two former fellows, Jonathan Long (1999) and Candy Lupe (2001) have engaged in collaborative research on wetland restoration (See special feature on page 10 of this issue). The students visited sites where tribal staff and community members are implementing restoration efforts following devastating forest fires in the past two years.

At Zuni Pueblo, the students learned about incorporating indigenous knowledge into sustainable agriculture and woodland management. They visited an eagle aviary

managed by the Pueblo. The aviary recently received Harvard University’s Honoring Nations Award, which recognizes “exemplary tribal programs” that “encourage effective problem solving.”

Current Predissertation Fellow Sharon Hausam from the University of Wisconsin highlighted her community work with the Sandia Pueblo, which provided an example of Indian participation in collaborative forest planning. The students also visited other organizations including the Black Mesa Trust and Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining.

The field trip provided valuable insight into tribal concerns and efforts to protect and restore the environment. When the students returned, they shared their findings with other participants in the seminar. The goal of both the seminar and field trip was to help graduate students better understand how to promote community-based initiatives in natural resources, particularly among groups that have often been marginalized.

For more information contact Mary Adelzadeh at madelzad@umich.edu.

Faculty News

Dr. Maria Fernandez-Gimenez joined the Dept. of Forest, Rangeland, and Watershed Stewardship at Colorado State University in fall 2003. Current and past projects have addressed the following: community-based and collaborative natural resource management; traditional and local ecological knowledge;

pastoralism and pastoral development; participatory research; effects of livestock grazing and other disturbances on the structure and function of rangeland ecosystems. Her recent work includes participatory rangeland management planning with the Tohono O'odham Nation in southern Arizona.

Conferences and Workshops

May 18-21, 2004

Creating Solutions for Using Small Trees

Sacramento, California, USA

The objective of this conference is to provide state-of-the-art information on small tree utilization and to foster peer-to-peer learning. SMALLWOOD 2004 will feature two full days (Wednesday and Thursday) of technical and poster presentations, discussions, and tabletop exhibits on: Community Partnerships, Forest Health Restoration, Supply and Availability, Harvesting Systems Processing and Manufacturing, Markets for Products, Energy from Woody Biomass, Workforce Training.

It will also include post-conference field trips. For more information on the conference, please complete the form at <http://www.forestprod.org/smallwood04info.html> and submit it to the Forest Products Society.

June 2-5, 2004

International Symposium on Society and Resource Management

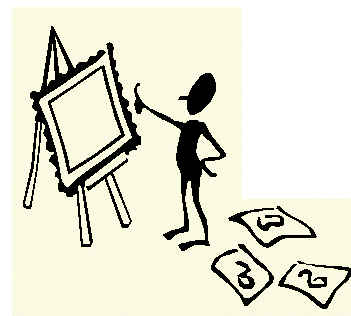
convened by the International Association for Society and Natural Resources

Keystone, Colorado

The 2004 ISSRM will be organized by subject themes that have appeared on a recurring basis during previous ISSRM meetings. To highlight each topic area, the symposium organizers have invited summary-of-knowledge papers from

past symposia participants. These papers will be published as an edited book that will be distributed at the symposium. Furthermore, presentations of these papers will be presented at various times during the symposium. The agenda includes a panel discussion on participatory research in community forestry.

For information and registration <http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/2004ISSRM/index.html>.



June 10-13, 2004

Crossroads: Critical Issues in Community-Based Research Partnerships

Hartford, CT

The Institute for Community Research (ICR) in Hartford, CT is sponsoring a national conference that will critically explore issues related to community-based research partnerships, methodology, and methods of dissemination. Recognizing that community-based collaborative research (CBCR) is a growing field, the conference is aimed at developing a critical analysis of current approaches that move us to the next level in improving our relationships and methods. The conference will explore and critique core dimensions of CBCR in the fol-

lowing areas: Theory, Ethics, Skills, Methods, Use of Research Results and Topical Issues. See <http://www.incommunityresearch.org/news/crossroads.htm> for more information about the conference and for registration information.

August 12-15, 2004

Rural Sociological Society's 67th Annual Meeting

Sacramento, California

Building on the theme "Strengthening Partnerships: New Paths to Rural Prosperity" the meeting will expand opportunities to showcase applications and practices in rural contexts. In addition to the traditional paper and panel sessions that will highlight a variety of contemporary innovative scholarly work on rural issues, participants will have additional avenues for taking an active part in the 2004 meeting. Sessions will include: research papers, workshops/professional development, panel and poster sessions, sessions on applications and practices, pre-organized sessions, and roundtables.

For more information on the meeting content, contact the annual meeting program chair: Mimmo Parisi at rss2004@ssrc.msstate.edu.

For information on meeting participation, contact the RSS business office at: ruralsoc@missouri.edu or the RSS website at: www.ruralsociology.org.

September 23-25, 2004

Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement: An ASLE/UAS Symposium

Tucson, AZ

The 2004 Symposium on Globalization and the Environmental Justice Movement invites academics, activists, artists, scientists, graduate students, and government and industry representatives to submit proposals for papers, panels, posters, performances, workshops, roundtables, and readings. The symposium, sponsored by the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE) and the University of Arizona South (UAS), will focus

on environmental justice, urban nature, native lands, and grassroots activism that is raising questions about the effects of globalism, corporate capitalism, and the selective/disproportionate distribution of toxic sites at native sacred sites and in the environments of low-income and people of color communities. The goal of the symposium will be specifically to push our conversations about environmental challenges beyond a focus on environmental racism and toxics and towards the proactive partnerships, successful community activism, and emerging conversations between government, industry, science, the academy, activist organizations, and local communities that are giving a new generation ideas for sustainable alternatives and hope for the future.

Scheduled keynote/plenary speakers include literary critic Annette Kolodny (*The Lay of the Land, The Land Before Her, Failing the Future*), writer and activist Demetria Martinez (*Breathing Between the Lines, Mother Tongue, The Devil's Workshop, Three Times a Woman*), and environmental historian Angus Wright (*To Inherit the Earth, The Death of Ramón González*).

The symposium will include a tour of a "colonia" (small squatter villages built to house maquila workers) as well as one or more of the more progressive maquilas that are attempting to address environmental problems. It will be guided by Teresa Leal of Comadres, a binational, multi-cultural group of women that is fighting the toxic effects resulting from the location of over 80 maquilas (transnational corporations located on the Mexican side of the U.S./Mexico border since 1965)

For more information and to register, contact Joni Adamson, Associate Professor and Head English Program, University of Arizona, South 1140 N. Colombo, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650 520.458.8278 x.2136 jadamson@u.arizona.edu

Tina Gianquitto, Assistant Professor, Colorado School of Mines, 1005 14th Street, Stratton Hall, Suite 305, Golden, CO 80401

tinagian@mines.edu

Deadline for submissions: May 31, 2004

Send one page submissions to both Joni Adamson and Tina Gianquitto

***Note:** Conference organizers will make every effort to keep housing costs low and/or potentially free for activists and graduate students. Spanish translation will be provided. Activists and graduate students should note their individual housing and/or language needs on their proposal submissions.

October 28-31, 2004

Land Trust Alliance Rally 2004

Providence, Rhode Island

Join more than 1,700 of America's conservation leaders at the world's premier gathering of land trust professionals, volunteers, board members, public agency staff, attorneys and others devoted to land conservation.

Check <http://www.lta.org/training/rally.htm> for more information and periodic updates.

January 8-13, 2005

Fourth International Conference of Critical Geography

Mexico City

Following three successful conferences between 1997 and 2002, the Fourth International Conference of Critical Geography will be held in Mexico City, Mexico. The aim of the conference is to stimulate debate among critical geographers from around the world and to promote the development of critical geography. The conference will feature the following nine themes:

Poverty and migration; peoples' geographies; natures and environment; geopolitics and geopolitical economy, state, power and the reorganization of national territories; gender and spaces of difference; political economies of development: regional problems and international economies; urban and rural issues; history of geographical practice and thought; socialist geographies and the geography of socialisms: what role is left for geographers?

For more information and registration

Contact: Branca R. Ramirez at

blama@cableonline.com.mx

[http://egongeog.misc.hit-](http://egongeog.misc.hit-u.ac.jp/icgg/int_mtgs/mexico/index.html)

[u.ac.jp/icgg/int_mtgs/mexico/index.html](http://egongeog.misc.hit-u.ac.jp/icgg/int_mtgs/mexico/index.html)

Deadline for abstract submissions: May 10, 2004

Classes

September 13-28, 2004

Participatory Action Research for Community Based Natural Resource Management

Bangkok, Thailand

This international course is geared to senior decision-makers working on community-based natural resource management (CBNRM). Participants will have the opportunity to reflect upon and share experiences of CBNRM, explore principles of participatory action research (PAR), experiment with a range of tools for examining different perspectives relevant to CBNRM with stakeholders in the field, critically analyze the PAR approach in

relation to CBNRM, and document their insights to add to the discourse on PAR for CBNRM. Emphasis will be placed on providing a stimulating learning environment for sharing of ideas among participants, facilitators and other resource people. Proficiency in English is highly recommended.

This course is a joint undertaking by the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) www.iirr.org, the Regional Community Forestry Training Center (RECOFTC, Thailand) www.recoftc.org and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada) www.idrc.ca.

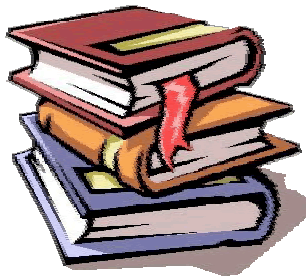
The course fee of US\$2,650 includes course materials, field trip, accommodation, health insurance, and daily allowance that covers expenses for food and other essential items in Thailand. For more information please contact: contact@recoftc.org
Registration Deadline: August 13, 2004

RECOFTC and IIRR also provide a customized PAR for CBNRM course in any appropriate requested location. When requesting such a course, a three-month's notice to either IIRR or RECOFTC would be appreciated. The costs for the customized course will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Publications by CFRF Fellows, Community Partners and Faculty

Long, J. W., B. M. Burnette, and C. S. Lupe. 2003. "Fire and springs: Reestablishing the balance on the White Mountain Apache Reservation" *Proceedings of the 7th Biennial Conference of Research on the Colorado Plateau*. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Long, J. W., A. Teclé, and B. M. Burnette. 2003. "Marsh development at restoration sites on the White Mountain Apache Reservation" *Journal of the American Water Resources Association* 39:1345-1359.



Cheng, A.S. and S.E. Daniels. 2003. "Examining the interaction between geographic scale and ways of knowing in ecosystem management: a case study of place-based collaborative planning" *Forest Science* 49(6): 841-854.

Cheng, A.S., L.E. Kruger, and S.E. Daniels. 2003. "Place as an integrating concept in natural resource politics: propositions for a social science research agenda" *Society and Natural Resources* 16:87-104. 2003

A copy of Marshall Murphree's keynote address to the 2004 Breslauer Graduate Student Symposium, entitled "Communal Approaches to Natural Resource Management in Africa: From Whence and to Where", is now available on the symposium website: <http://ias.berkeley.edu/africa/events/breslauer/index.html>.

Other Publications

Weed Identification, Biology and Management

Antonio DiTommaso and Alan Watson
Weed Identification, Biology and Management was originally developed for use by students in

the Weed Biology and Control under-graduate course at McGill University to assist them to

gain knowledge of, and to recognize important agricultural, environmental and urban weeds. Over 100 weed species are treated in this two-

volume set CD. These CDs are designed to complement living plant material, herbarium specimens and lecture notes. Information on nomenclature, distribution, habitats, life history, morphology, biology, and management options are provided for each weed species.

Order by FAX: (514) 398-7966 or by EMAIL: bookstore@macdonald.mcgill.ca, Please identify the subject as "Weed CD" in the Email or fax. Price Canadian-\$49.95 plus taxes, shipping and handling

Making History In The Northern Forest

It is nearly impossible to overstate the importance of the past 15 years in the history of the Northern Forest. It has been both a period of tremendous change and magnificent accomplishment. In "Making History in the Northern Forest", read about the progress made towards creating a vibrant future for this great region, as well as strategies for how we can work together to fulfill the promise of the Northern Forest.

<http://www.northernforestalliance.org/index.htm>

National Community Forestry Center, Northern Forest Region (NCFCNFR)

Engaging Residents in Planning for Municipal Forests: A Case Study of Lincoln, Vermont

A new report from the NCFCNFR demonstrates how a small, rural town can engage its residents in planning for town-owned forests. This case study of Lincoln, Vermont illustrates the steps that can be taken to involve local residents in an effort to determine appropriate priorities for use of town forests. You can download it from the NCFCNFR website at www.ncfcnfr.net.

Soon to be released: two new reports based on participatory research conducted by the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) and its New Hampshire Timber Harvesting Council (NHTHC). They studied how changing land ownership is affecting timber harvesting communities in Vermont's

Northeast Kingdom and New Hampshire's Nash Stream area. The results of this research offer an interesting glimpse into some of the changes that are occurring and provide further support for what many in the forestry community have observed in recent years. One report discusses the research question and the answer to that question. The second report tells the story of how the research came to be, how participatory research was dealt with, the experiences of the participants, and the experience of using participatory research to answer questions. Look for these reports on the National Community Forestry Center, Northern Forest Region website at www.ncfcnfr.net soon.

The Nature Conservancy's Forest Operations Manual

The Nature Conservancy has created a Forest Operations Manual to guide its on-the-ground forestry work. Specifically designed to address the challenges of performing sustainable forest management in this mountainous region of northeastern Tennessee and southwestern Virginia, the manual's valuable framework also can be applied in many other settings.

<http://nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/virginia/misc/art8139.html>

Writing Forest Stewardship Plans: Tools, Techniques, and Training Manual

These manuals have been distributed to the Extension Foresters who attended the Northeast Forest Resources Extension Council (NEFREC) meeting held at Grey Towers in early December, 2003. Additional copies will be mailed to all Extension Foresters and State Agency Foresters in the 20 state northeast area by the end of December. A very limited number of hard copies are available from Diana Bryant (dlt5@cornell.edu), otherwise it is download-able off the stewardship website:

<http://www.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/stewardship>

Balancing Ecology and Economics: A Start-up Guide for Forest Owner Cooperation, 2nd Edition

To help address some of the challenges faced by private woodland owners, the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives (UWCC), Cooperative Development Services (CDS) and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy's Community Forestry Resource Center (CFRC) have published a second edition of the 160-page guide which is intended to show how private landowners, working together, can improve the ecological conditions of their lands while at the same time improving their own economic well-being and that of the communities in which their forest land is located.

The guide draws upon the experiences of several established or forming sustainable forestry co-ops, as well as the experience of CDS, UWCC, and CFRC. Intended primarily for landowners and resource managers, the guide provides essential information on all aspects of establishing a forest owner cooperative, including:

- forest management,
- marketing,
- business planning,
- co-op governance,
- cooperative structures,
- non-timber forest products,
- sustainable certification,

developing member education programs,

The cost of the manual is \$13, plus sales tax for Minnesota residents.

For more information about Sustainable Forestry Cooperatives, or to order a copy of the guide, please visit:

<http://www.forestrycenter.org>

Running Pure: Protecting forests can provide cities with cleaner, cheaper water

From the World Bank Group at <http://www.worldbank.org/>

An Alliance study shows that protecting forest areas can provide a cost-effective means of supplying many of the world's biggest cities

with high quality drinking water, providing significant health and economic benefits to urban populations.

To view the full report of 114 pages click:

<http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/envext.nsf/80ByDocName/RunningPureTheimpor>

Compensation for Environmental Services and Rural Communities

Herman Rosa, Susan Kandel, and Leopoldo Dimas from PRISMA, a Salvadoran NGO

Environmentalists have come to recognize that to get rural people to manage their natural resources well, they often have to compensate them. Environmentalists have created strategies to reward resource managers for conserving biodiversity, providing carbon sinks, protecting watersheds, and maintaining scenic beauty.

To request a free electronic copy of this paper in English or Spanish in PDF format you can write Leonor Gonzalez at

prisma@prisma.org.sv

Local People's Priorities for Biodiversity: Examples from for Forests of Indonesian Borneo

This paper provides an example of this from the district of Malinau. There the team worked closely with the families from seven communities to map out which species are most important to them, where they are located, and what needs to be done to protect them.

To request a free electronic copy of this paper you can write Indah Susilanasari at:

isusilanasari@cgiar.org

Illegal Logging, Collusive Corruption, and Fragmented Governments in Kalimantan, Indonesia

J. Smith, K. Obidzinski, Subarudi, and I Suramenggala

During the Suharto regime in Indonesia forestry companies had to pay huge bribes just to do business; and even then they usually still

had to follow most laws. Officials often turned a blind eye when loggers broke rules about managing forests sustainably, but they were relatively serious about collecting taxes and insisting that companies only logged forests assigned to them. The regime was strong enough to look out for its interests. After the regime collapsed, government became more decentralized and so did corruption.

To request a free electronic copy of this paper in a PDF or to send comments or queries to the author, Joyotee Smith, contact her at: joysmith@loxinfo.co.th

Current status of village-level cooperation among Finnish forest owners

A. Koistinen, *Tyotehoseuran Metsatiedote* (1996) No. 567, 4 pp. Tyotehoseuran Metsatiedote, Melkonkatu 16A, PL 28, 00211 Helsinki, FINLAND

Information was collected on the cooperation among forest owners from areas covered by 33 local forest management associations and 14 forest centers in Finland. The creation of forestry cooperation areas in the 1960s has improved cooperation, particularly in the area of roundwood sales. The purpose is to promote self-reliance and self-initiative among forest owners and to improve the profitability of non-industrial private forestry. Cooperation in silvicultural and harvesting work is also discussed.

Southern Rural Sociology

Those interested in social forestry in the South will be interested in obtaining the latest volume of *Southern Rural Sociology*. Volume 19(1) contains six articles on forestry as well as several other articles. Contact editors Robert Zabawa and Ntam Baharanyi zabawar@tuskegee.edu, for information.

The six articles are:

- *Historical Analysis of Timber Dependency in Alabama*, Howze, Glenn R., Laura J. Robinson, and Joni F. Norton
- *Regional Comparisons of Timber Dependency: The Northwest and the Southeast*, Norton, Joni F., Glenn Howze, and Laura Robinson
- *New Opportunities for Social Research on Forest Landowners in the South*, Schelhas, John, Robert Zabawa and Joe Molnar
- *One Engineer and a Dog: Technological Change and Social Restructuring in Alabama's Pulp and Paper Industry*, Sinclair, Peter R., Conner Bailey, and Mark Dubois
- *One Step Further: Women's Access to and Control Over Farm and Forest Resources in the U.S. South*, Warren, Sarah T.
- *Public Interests in Private Property: Conflicts Over Wood Chip Mills in North Carolina*, Warren, Sarah T.

