

REGENERATION!

NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMUNITY FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

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Editor's Introduction

When I was a child, one of my favorite books was called *A Tree is Nice*. Through words and pictures, the book evoked a feeling of the goodness of trees. You can climb a tree, play in its branches, spend warm summer afternoons in the cool of its shade. Trees provide beauty, protection from the wind, shade, leaves to play in, shelter for wildlife, and silent companionship.

In this issue of *Regeneration!* Keith Tidball (dissertation fellow, 2008) writes about the ways in which trees are helping residents of New Orleans recover from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Still-standing trees helped people find the sites where their homes once stood. People are organizing and planting trees to replace those that didn't survive the storm. In so doing, they are rebuilding the city's ecosystems and their own communities.

Alex Kudryavtsev (predissertation fellow, 2008) underscores the importance of urban forests and community gardens in his "Voices from the Field" column. Alex is working with community-based organizations in the Bronx to enhance environmental education programs with a new model for engaging youth in the creation of community gardens and green spaces in the city. While actively building greenspace, the youth have fun while at the same learning principles of ecology and helping to strengthen their communities and enhance ecosystem resilience. As Alex and Keith make clear, a tree is nice indeed.

Carl Wilmsen
Editor



In this issue:

Focus:

Trees And Rebirth: Urban Community Forestry In Post-Katrina Resilience

By Keith G. Tidball 2

California Indian Fair for Partnerships in Research 5

Voices from the Field:

Urban Environmental Education: an Avenue towards Community-Based Conservation

By Alex Kudryavtsev 8

Earthscan Publishes CFERP Book 10

Fellow News 11

US Endowment for Forestry and Communities 12

Publications 14

Conferences 17

Research Opportunities 19

Focus



Trees And Rebirth: Urban Community Forestry In Post-Katrina Resilience

Keith G. Tidball
(dissertation fellow, 2008)

[Hurricane Katrina](#) made landfall in New Orleans on August 29TH, 2005. New Orleans endured weeks of inundation and devastation, and months of disorganized efforts to recover from the disaster. Shortly after the floods subsided in New Orleans, the [Association for Community Organizations for Reform Now](#) (ACORN) reached out to universities with planning and



Photo: Keith Tidball

Lower 9TH Ward, near levy breach, 3/06

other related expertise, including [Cornell University's Department of City and Regional Planning](#) (CRP), who created the [New Orleans Planning Initiative](#) (NOPI), a collaborative partnership between CRP and ACORN. I responded to a university wide call for involvement in NOPI and became the team leader for "Neighborhood

Ecology." Our team looked at environmental and open space issues in New Orleans' 9TH Ward using highly-participatory forms of resident-led planning, design, and development. I conducted rapid assessment work of destroyed community gardens, parks and open space, and other urban natural areas in the 9TH Ward, and led participatory round tables of residents discussing open space and environment issues in their neighborhood.

I was struck by how much interest there was among remaining 9TH Ward residents about the surviving trees. Residents were most eager to share stories about the previous landscape, the role that trees played in their lives, how they used trees as landmarks to find the place where their home once stood, and how the surviving trees gave them hope that they too would persist, would persevere, and would maintain their roots in the 9TH Ward. Though at that time my focus was not on trees, I realized that perhaps the role of the relationship between individuals or communities and trees is an important part of individual or community resilience after a disaster.

In contrast to media reports that portrayed the city as paralyzed and helpless, or even worse, descending into chaos, I observed ordinary citizens planting and caring for trees. For example, I interviewed volunteer community foresters working with [Parkway Partners](#) who have replanted over 3000 trees. I spent a day with Monique Pilié and

her grassroots organization [Hike for KaTREEna](#) who have planted 1300 trees, and opened communication with [Replant New Orleans](#) who have planted 204 trees. When I spoke informally with the leaders of these New Orleans community organizations, all of whom are continuing these tree planting efforts, they told of how trees mattered to people's ability to survive the storm, and how replanting trees has been important in bolstering people's resolve to



Monique Pilié
Photo: Keith Tidball

rebuild their lives and their city in the wake of the disaster.

Research in other cities has shown the significance of trees in disaster recovery as well. In a survey of 185 residents of Charleston SC following Hurricane Hugo, over 30% of respondents identified urban forests as the most significant feature that was damaged by the hurricane (Hull 1992). Of the numerous values associated with the urban forest following Hugo, positive emotions evoked by trees were most important, followed by the importance of trees in defining Charleston as a community or "place." A study conducted by Dwyer et al. in Chicago IL, supported these findings. According to these researchers, "urban trees are living, breathing organisms with which people feel a strong relationship, and in our planning and management we should not think of them just as air conditioners, providers of shade, and ornaments in the urban system. Failure to recognize the deep significance of trees to urbanites will most likely result in less effort being given to tree planting, care, and protection than the public desires" (Dwyer et al. 1991, p 9).

In spite of what is known from these studies, most disaster planning and recovery research focuses on the physical and

institutional infrastructure (e.g., housing, government relief). Those studies that have considered the role of natural resources in disaster generally have focused on the role of trees in: (1) reducing vulnerability (e.g., mangrove forests that protect coastal lands from storm surges, and hillside forests that stabilize soils reducing the likelihood or impact of landslides); and (2) providing food, fuel, and makeshift shelter to help people recover (Brown et al. 2006).

While the ecosystem services (i.e. food, water, climate control, air filtering, recreation, etc.) and material resources provided by trees are critical, in my research I hypothesize that natural resources, and trees in particular, may shape resilience before and following disaster in cities. By resilience I mean the ability of ecosystems to recover after a disturbance. A resilient ecosystem will not collapse into a different state when disturbed. It will retain its form (i.e. type of forest or other plant community), its links between different parts, and its production of plants, animals, and ecosystem services.



New Orleans Live Oak
Photo: Keith Tidball

The resilience of human societies and ecosystems are linked because the decisions and actions people take about the use and management of natural resources before and after a disaster affect how the ecosystem recovers (see figure 1). Of course, the recovery of the ecosystem affects human societies, but again the decisions and actions people take have a hand in social recovery as well. I contend that the active engagement of ordinary people with trees through such civic ecology practices as tree planting, monitoring tree health, and caring for damaged trees, plays a crucial, yet often unrecognized, role in resilience to disasters in cities.

Support for these contentions comes from my work in post-Katrina New Orleans where people’s relationships with trees was a strong factor in their recovery. The

resilience of ordinary citizens is manifest in their planting and caring for trees. Such community-based activities are often carried out in conjunction with city and other government urban forestry initiatives. Volunteer community foresters engaged in tree planting and similar activities are rebuilding the local ecosystem and the local community at the same time. They may create or join advocacy groups to conserve the trees and urban forests they have planted. Throughout this process, they may be learning adaptively from their forestry and advocacy activities. Through planting and caring for trees they are fostering multiple attributes of resilient social-ecological systems, including biological diversity, ecological services, self-organization of community members, multiple forms of governance, creating innovations, and adaptive learning.

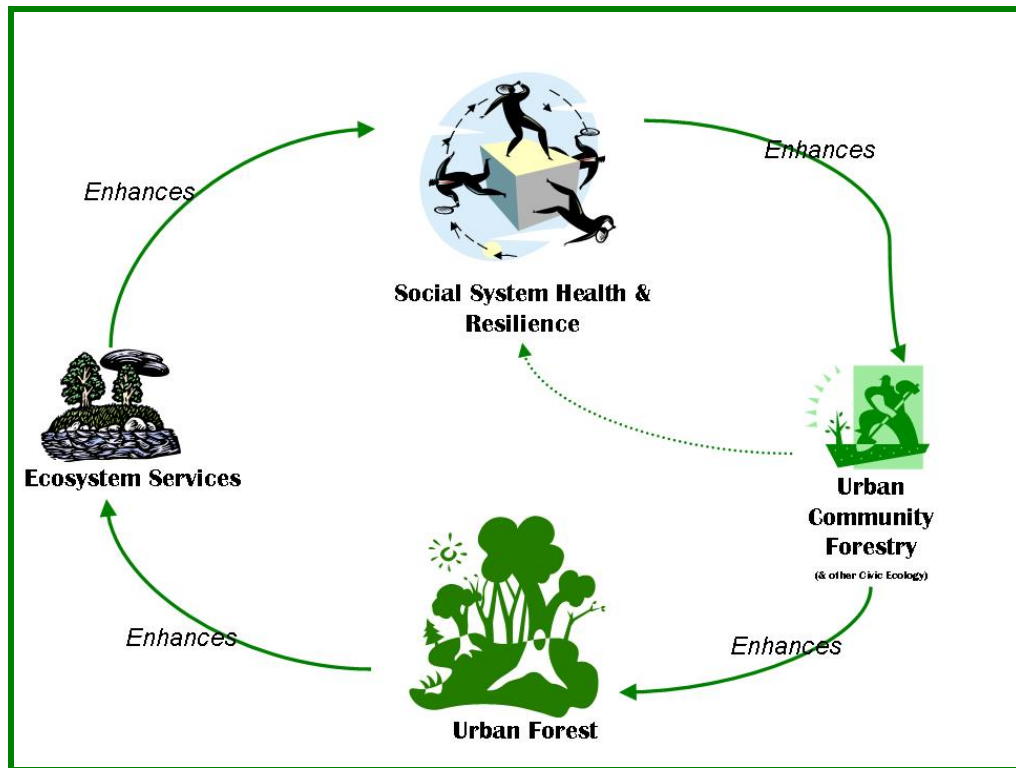


Fig. 1 Resilience Enhancing Feedback Loop in Urban Social-Ecological System

Whereas a number of researchers and government agencies are attempting to develop measures of resilience, these efforts are still in the formative stage. Most existing measures focus on either social or ecosystem resilience. The relatively few attempts to integrate social and ecosystem measures generally make separate lists, one for social measures and the other for ecosystem measures. What is lacking are resilience measures that reflect the interactions or feedback loops between people and nature (Figure 1). Further, existing measures of socio-ecosystem resilience generally focus on community-level variables and ignore what is important to individual humans in the resilience or recovery process.

Understanding how humans, as one among many organisms in a socio-ecosystem, experience recovery is an important aspect of understanding overall system resilience. This is the focus of my research.

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CERP Convenes California Indian Fair for Partnerships in Research

Traditional approaches to scientific research in Native American communities are often criticized for extracting knowledge and having little benefit for the community. While participatory research is intended to alleviate that problem, current educational and research practices actually discourage the kind of dialogue between communities and university- and agency-based researchers needed to initiate sound participatory research projects. To encourage such dialogue, CERP partnered with the Mechoopda Indians of Chico Rancheria, California State University, Chico, the Cooperative Extension Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, UC Davis, and the California Indian Forest and Fire Management Council

to convene the California Indian Fair for Partnerships in Research.

Held at CSU, Chico, on November 1st and 2nd, 2008, the fair brought together about 70 California Native American community members, graduate students, faculty, agency officials, and non-profit organizations to discuss issues in participatory research and natural resource management. The Native community members drove the agenda. Plenary sessions focused on ethical research practice, nurturing collaborative relationships, environmental justice and participatory research. Break out panel sessions consisted of presentations by tribal community members on natural and cultural resource issues their communities are facing.

Debra Harry (Northern Paiute), Executive Director of the Indigenous People's Council on Biocolonialism opened the fair with a keynote speech on "Exercising Tribal Sovereignty Over Research." Harry

explained how scientific research extracted knowledge from native communities and furthered the aims of colonialism. She discussed elements of ethical research and proposed that equitable partnerships in research respect indigenous methodology, promote, respect and protect tribal sovereignty, encourage accurate communication (i.e. they do not water down uncomfortable histories), are based on trust, respect and transparency, and recognize and value indigenous contributions, expertise and knowledge.



Debra Harry

Many of Harry's themes resonated throughout the panel discussions, plenary sessions and informal networking during the rest of the fair. Speakers identified numerous ways in which researchers and agencies can incorporate indigenous perspectives into their inquiries and decision-making processes. Warren Gorbet, of the Mountain Maidu, for example, noted that researchers should ask Native people, "What can you tell us that will help us make a good decision [for management of natural resources]?" Lynda Shoshone (Hung a lel ti Band of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California) elaborated that "We don't want to be just checked off as part of a public input process; we want our input recorded and followed up on. We want inclusion in

processes such as commissions at general, state, and local levels."

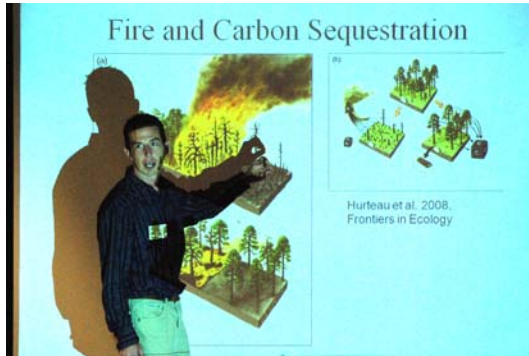


Donna Miranda-Begay

Donna Miranda-Begay (Chairwoman of the Tubatulabals of Kern County) had specific recommendations for including tribes in natural resource management. In her talk, she outlined the damage done to Native cultures and lifeways by non-consultation on the building of dams, diversion of waterways, and modification of watersheds. She urged government agencies to work directly with tribes on water issues, and advocated revising the section of the California state government code that governs state agency cooperation with tribes to include non-federally recognized tribes. Mark Franco (Headman of the Winnemem Wintu) carried these ideas further, calling for full recognition of sovereignty.

The relationship between traditional environmental knowledge and Western scientific knowledge was also ardently discussed during the fair. Frank Lake (Karuk, Seneca, Cherokee, Mexican-American) and Don Hankins (Plains Miwok) discussed their research—in which they each use Western scientific methods in their respective studies—on traditional uses of fire as a landscape management tool. Hankins pointed out that Native Californians burned year-round, and that fire suppression

has led to a change in fire patterns in which most burning now occurs during the dry season. Findings of his research indicate, among other things, that fall burns favor native species and grassland systems, and that there are more native species and native dominance in areas of high intensity burns.



Don Hankins discusses traditional uses of fire

Lake noted that when we think about biodiversity, many ecologists and scientists think that natives had a light touch or were randomly collecting. He observed that it is often difficult to convince them that actually Native peoples were deliberately managed the landscape in specific ways. Lake suggested that to learn the effects of different management systems, we need to have different models and treatments: an indigenous model, a federal model, and a control. He suggested that this is ultimately an environmental justice issue because traditional environmental knowledge is integral to Native cultures and keeping it alive depends on interacting with the land.

In a similar vein, Richard Bugbee (Luiseño) talked about the relationships between people and plants. He noted that when the Native peoples ate a traditional diet, they were healthier. Wild meat was high in protein and low in fat, and acorns provided the necessary fat in the diet. He also observed that Native people's have been interacting with plants—managing with many tools such as fire, cutting and thinning—and that when this interaction was

interrupted the landscape changed. There is now more chaparral in the area around San Diego than there used to be.

Open discussion of the relationship between Western science and traditional knowledge followed the formal presentations. One participant questioned whether Western science was needed if people spoke their native language and were able to learn directly from the elders. Others took a more collaborative approach proposing that teachers can be from a tribe or family or a different culture, but what is crucial is that they help us understand where we live and how to live there sustainably.



Richard Bugbee and Beth Rose Middleton

The final afternoon of the research fair included a facilitated session that identified possible partnerships for research and/or addressing specific issues. These included projects on protection of sacred sites, protection of native species, and water and cultural issues. The fair closed with a workshop on participatory research that explained basic concepts and addressed ongoing issues.

The CFERP staff would like to thank the fair's planning committee, the presenters, the volunteer facilitators and conference helpers, and all the participants who put so much effort into making the fair informative and richly worthwhile. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Rumsey Community Fund, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Cooperative Extension

Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Ford Foundation, CSU Chico, and Chico Bags for their generous support of the fair.



Voices from the Field

Urban Environmental Education: an Avenue towards Community- Based Conservation

Alex Kudryavtsev
(pre-dissertation fellow, 2008)

For the first meeting with Jennifer Plewka, Director of Education Programs at Phipps Community Development Corporation and one of my community partners, I visited a community garden in the Bronx in June 2008. I arrived early, and two gardeners from Bangladesh and Puerto Rico welcomed me when I entered Drew Gardens. Just one step through the gates, and I escaped from concrete jungles into a lush garden with a scenic view of the Bronx River. When Jennifer came in a minute later, she gave me a tour of this green space. I realized that it was more than a regular community garden. Ten years ago some committed residents of this neighborhood turned a dumping site into a green area that provides multiple services for people and the environment. Today these two acres of land in the heart of the Bronx host a multicultural community garden, urban forest, butterfly garden, and space for community events. As a living classroom, Drew Gardens offers local youth rich opportunities to master environmental stewardship skills through gardening, planting trees, and monitoring of water quality in the Bronx River. Like other environmental educators participating in my

research project, Jennifer hopes that young participants in her educational programs will become advocates for the environment, and in the future will catalyze revitalization of nature in other underserved inner-city communities. She also wants to know what environmental education approaches are effective in promoting community-based conservation.

In summer 2008 I worked with seven educators from six community-based organizations in the Bronx – including Phipps CDC, Bronx River Alliance, Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, Rocking the Boat, A.C.T.I.O.N. at the Point CDC, and Sustainable South Bronx – whose goal is to enhance community-based conservation. To support this goal, these NGOs carry out a number of environmental education (EE) programs along the Bronx River. Historically, the focus of EE has been evolving from natural history study to encompass individual behavior change. Urban EE programs in the Bronx have further expanded the goal of EE to foster various types of collective environmental actions. Therefore, desired outcomes and educational approaches in EE programs should be revised to fit the updated goal of EE. In addition to environmental knowledge and environmental stewardship skills, potential desired outcomes of EE might include such things as social capital, which most people would not associate with EE, or community and ecosystem level outcomes. Together with environmental

educators in the Bronx, I am creating a conceptual model of urban EE that will incorporate revised goals for EE, corresponding desired outcomes, and educational approaches. This model will be used to help design, implement, and evaluate urban EE programs that will trigger community-based conservation in cities. Last summer I was able to describe how my community partners conduct EE, including their goals, what activities they implement, and what outcomes they are trying to achieve. This information will assist me in choosing an appropriate methodology for building a conceptual model of urban EE in 2009, which will be based on the shared understanding among environmental educators and grounded in EE theory.

My community partners in the Bronx suggested that urban community-based conservation, which is their goal in EE, should include three components: 1) environmental restoration, 2) monitoring, and 3) activism. Educators also support the idea that community-based conservation can be promoted by engaging youth in authentic participation in real-life conservation projects, which resonates with ideas of ecological citizenship (Light, 2003) and civic ecology (Krasny and Tidball, 2009). In addition to learning about natural history, the educators are involving youth in more practical activities that produce meaningful outcomes for their communities. For example, youth measure environmental quality, restore riparian ecosystems and oyster banks in the Bronx River, manage invasive species in urban forests, raise community awareness of green spaces, and participate in public negotiations about establishing new parks.

While the goal of EE is clear to my community partners, they strive to find corresponding desired outcomes in EE programs, as well as types of youth educational activities that match their EE goals, and that are practical and theoretically justified. Educators and I hope that critical reflection of EE practices and the

new conceptual model of EE that we will build over the next year will contribute to enhancing urban EE programs and to promoting desired individual, community, and environmental outcomes through revising current EE programs. In their turn, these outcomes will help to build more sustainable and resilient social-ecological systems in the Bronx, and more green spaces similar to Drew Gardens that provide benefits for residents of multicultural communities and important ecosystem services. To view some of my summer observations and the map of my research site, please visit <http://thebronxriver.blogspot.com>



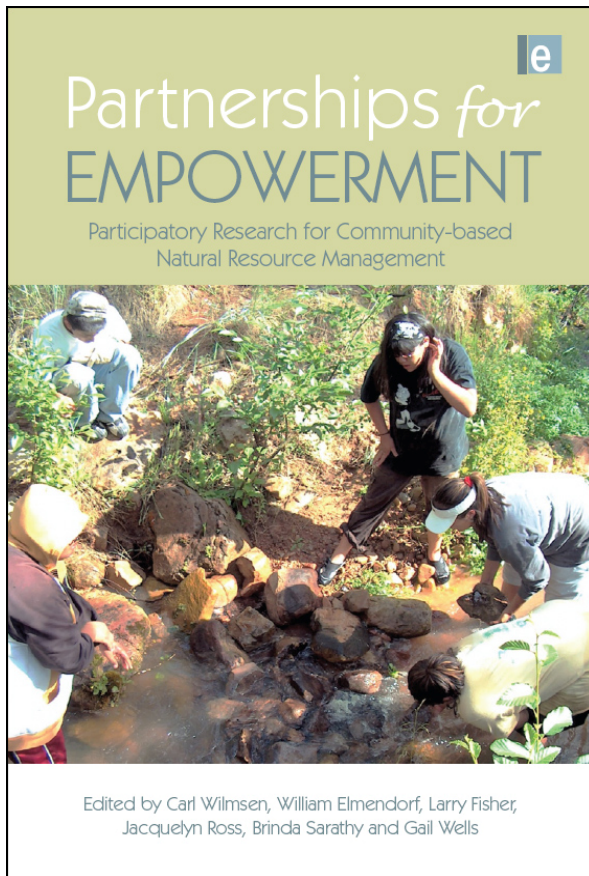
Alex Kudryavtsev thanks his advisor, Dr. Marianne Krasny, his community partners, and CFERP program for support.

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Earthscan Publishes CFERP Book
***Partnerships for Empowerment: Participatory Research for
 Community-based Natural Resource Management***
 Edited by Carl Wilmsen, William Elmendorf, Larry Fisher,
 Jacquelyn Ross, Brinda Sarathy and Gail Wells



"A 'must read' for anyone who cares about natural resource management...Without doubt this text will remain a centrepiece in environmental and community studies for years to come, as it demonstrates the power and promise of community-based partnerships on the vanguard of sustainable community development praxis, forging new pathways between social and environmental justice, and wedding theory and practice."— Dr. Caitlin Cahill, University of Utah

CFERP is pleased to announce the publication of *Partnerships for Empowerment*, a book written and edited by a wide range of CFERP members.

With most chapters written by CFERP fellows and their community partners, the book analyzes the current state of the art of participatory research in CBNRM. Its chapters and case studies examine recent experiences in collaborative forest management, harvesting impacts on forest shrubs, watershed restoration in Native American communities, civic environmentalism in an urban neighborhood and other topics. Although the main geographic focus of the book is the United States, the issues raised are synthesized and discussed in the context of recent critiques of participatory research and CBNRM worldwide. The book's purpose is to provide insights and lessons for academics and practitioners involved in CBNRM in many contexts. The issues it covers will be relevant to participatory research and CBNRM practitioners and students the world over.

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Fellow News

Todd Bryan (dissertation fellow, 2001) recently won the 2008 Best Dissertation Award from the Academy of Management's Organizations and the Natural Environment (ONE) Division at the Academy's international conference in Anaheim, CA (<http://one.aonline.org/>). The Academy is the leading professional association for scholars dedicated to creating and disseminating knowledge about management and organizations and has over 18,000 members in 102 nations. Todd received his doctoral degree in April from the School of Natural Resources & Environment at the University of Michigan. His dissertation is titled "Aligning Identity: Social Identity and Changing Context

in Community-based Environmental Conflict." Todd is currently a Senior Associate with the Center for Science and Public Policy at The Keystone Center in Colorado.

Stephanie Gripne (predissertation fellow, 2001) is Operations Manager for New Forests Inc. (<http://www.newforests.com.au/>), an international forestry investment and advisory business with offices in Sydney, Washington DC, San Francisco and Kota Kinabalu. New Forests specializes in investments in sustainably managed plantation forests and other environmental assets such as carbon, biodiversity and water. New Forests is a partner in the Malua Biobank (launched in August, 2008) which sells Biodiversity Conservation Certificates to finance restoration and protection of 34,000 acres of formerly logged forest in Sabah, Malaysia. The area is home to one of the

highest concentrations of orangutans in the world, as well as clouded leopards, pygmy elephants and over 300 bird species. (www.maluabiobank.com)

Joanna Seibert (formerly Tenny; masters fellow, 2004) lives on Petit Jean Mountain where she works for the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute (www.uawri.org) developing environmental education programs. Her main area of focus is developing a multi-partner/stakeholder sustainable small acreage farming and agroforestry program for rural Arkansans. It is targeted at people who are interested in supplementing their incomes in under-resourced, rural communities. The program operates at many scales: community, county, state, and they are in the process of nurturing international partnerships with Canada and China to form sister organizations/communities. The partnerships will facilitate the exchange of knowledge, stories, experience, and the development of family forest associations, which include local food production and agroforestry.





By Diane Snyder

(Vice President-Community Development)

One third of the U.S. is forested. “Those forests are an important national asset, whether owned by the public and managed by federal, state or local land management agencies or Tribal entities, or whether held privately,” said U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (the Endowment) President Carlton Owen. “The pressures facing forests and forest-reliant communities are immense and growing, yet we believe that it is not only possible but vitally important that we find ways to ensure that forests continue to produce marketable products, clean water, wildlife habitat and other ecological services,” he said. The Endowment’s Theory of Change recognizes that forest-reliant communities differ from other communities in their existence within the richness of a forested environment. Based on a belief that one cannot easily separate the fortunes of such communities from that of the forest, we envision a future where healthy working forests provide multiple forest value streams that, when captured, lead to healthy forest-reliant communities who, in turn, steward their forests in sustainable ways that maintain healthy working forests. This led to our three focal initiatives:

- Retention and restoration of healthy working forests;
- Promotion and capture of multiple value streams (economic opportunity); and
- Enhance community capacity, collaboration and leadership

Our approach is founded on a commitment to a clear focus and dynamic partnerships designed to achieve our objective of plowing the lion’s share of our resources into “systemic, transformative and sustainable change” for the health and vitality of the nation’s working forests and forest-reliant communities.

About the Endowment

The Endowment is a not-for-profit corporation established September 21, 2006, at the request of the governments of the United States and Canada in accordance with the terms of the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) between the two countries. While a governmental settlement served as genesis for the organization, we have no affiliation with either government. The Endowment is a public charity under U.S. law.

Highlights from the Endowment’s Programmatic Works

Forest Investment Zones: Recently the Endowment’s largest programmatic approach, the Forest Investment Zones initiative, was initiated. Three zones were competitively identified and are strategically placed in three areas of the U.S. for long-term support of community based forestry efforts. “As a new entrant in the sustainable forestry arena we’ve solicited expert input and given a great deal of thought about how we can best achieve our vision of seeing that *“America’s forests are sustainably managed to meet broad societal objectives...while ensuring healthy and vibrant forest-reliant communities,”* said the Endowment’s Board Chairman Dick Molpus. “We landed on the concept of “forest investment zones” – real places where we can work together with local and regional organizations as well as citizens in innovating and learning that could serve as living laboratories to benefit all forest types and communities across the nation,” he continued.

From a cache of nearly 60 pre-proposals stretching literally from Alaska to Florida and from California to Maine, the Endowment identified three projects that capture a significant slice of the array of forest types, ownerships and challenges facing rural America. The goal of this investment is to use these Forest Investment Zones as a way to disseminate learning and create a ripple of innovation, surge in new markets and creativity

with new business models to positively impact numerous forested areas across the nation. Endowment Vice President for Community Development Diane Snyder noted that “This program hits squarely on all three legs of forest sustainability: ecological, economic and social health. We believe that Forest Investment Zones stand to create inspiration, innovation and positive change that will spill-over to forested areas across the nation.”

Community-based Forestry Research: The field of community-based forestry, a practice consistent with the principles of sustainable development, presents an expanding portfolio of opportunities. Community-based forestry (CBF) refers to the management of forested landscapes by community residents for community and societal benefit. CBF is currently represented by a diverse set of practices, projects, organizations, and experiments that are based on the principle of integrating equity, sustainable forest management, and community development. CBF seeks to gain access to benefits from and engage participation in management of forestland at the community or regional scale.

One of the Endowment’s forefront programmatic initiatives in 2008 was research surrounding “The Status of Community-based Forestry and Community-owned Forests in the United States.” Lead partner Dynamica Coaching & Capacity Building developed a Community Forest Consortium, a collection of individuals representing academia and non-profit organizations involved in community-based forestry (CBF), to yield a “state-of-the-issue” report on community-based forestry efforts and community-owned forests in the U.S. The work was intended to:

- Provide clear understanding of both communities practicing community-based forestry and lands in community forest ownership;
- Provide examples of differing community-based forestry models that focus on their access to the resource,

level of participation in management activities and resultant benefits to the community(s); and

- Include case studies of some of the best (e.g. more innovative/replicable) examples of differing ownership structures, provisions and/or conditions.

Learning’s went beyond what is offered about the current status of CBF to include insights into the possibility and promise of CBF to evolve into a mature field with sustainable institutions, sufficient capital, and expanded capacity.

Including a description of the current status of CBF, the Community Forest Consortium highlighted potential opportunities to expand CBF as an application in the United States. The final report includes a survey that was used to identify, describe and categorize the range of practices and geography of CBF in the US, a database of initiatives, support organizations and networks, a typology that classifies and describes different approaches to CBF, and case studies and profiles to highlight examples of best practices and emerging trends.

While noting several obvious challenges for CBF, the Community Forest Consortium concluded that “the promise of CBF is that it offers a pathway for rebuilding local infrastructures of support for forest-based economies, for building inclusive forest-based communities, and for promoting the sustainable management of forested ecosystems to ensure their growth as valuable assets for future generations.” The work highlights a broad spectrum of community-based forestry and community-owned forest models and experiences on public and private lands. According to the Endowment’s Snyder, “It was exciting to see such a diverse group come together from across the nation to provide information in a manner that will not only inform our work, but that will also assist the field.”

To read more on the Endowment’s programmatic initiatives visit www.usendowment.org.



Publications

BOOKS

Towards Quality Improvement of Action Research: Developing Ethics and Standards

Edited by Ben Boog, Julia Preece, Meindert Slagter, and Jacques Zeelen

This book offers perspectives and challenges for action research in contemporary society with a particular reflection on ethics and standards. On the one hand the world is becoming smaller and much more open with tremendous opportunities for international exchange and multi-cultural enrichment. On the other hand the divide between the poor and the rich is deepening, international tensions are growing and the sustainability of the environment is under considerable threat on a worldwide basis. These trends are challenging politicians, civil society and social movements to search for problem solving strategies to deal with the risks of exclusion, poverty, social and physical insecurity and environmental deprivation. The intriguing question is what role action research could play in order to address these challenges? In this book scholars from divergent traditions of action research present and discuss instructive examples of action research practices from developed as well as developing countries. Special attention is paid to the vital issue of how this type of research can be conducted in a participatory, responsible, transparent and scientific way.

<https://www.sensepublishers.com/>

Forest Community Connections: Implications for Research, Management, and Governance

Edited by Ellen Donoghue and Victoria Sturtevant

This book aims to help researchers, resource managers, and policymakers better understand

today's forest communities in the United States and their complex and evolving relationship with the land. The book explores the responses of forest communities to change by examining a variety of contemporary management issues—including wildfire risk, forest restoration, amenity migration, and commercial harvest of nontimber forest products. The book also examines the aesthetic, economic, and cultural values community members attribute to forests and considers the role of communities within a range of forest governance structures.

http://www.rff.org/RFF_Press.

Participatory Research in Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Doing Science Together

Edited by Louise Fortmann

This book starts from the understanding that all people create knowledge and that the creation of sustainable livelihoods and of conditions that protect and sustain rural ecosystems are interrelated. Here local experts and professional researchers write independently about the participatory research processes through which they created new knowledge together. They demonstrate that interdependent science can produce more accurate and locally appropriate data, while frankly addressing persisting issues such as unequal power, whose knowledge and what ways of knowing count, whose voice can be heard or appear in print, and other dilemmas of this practice. Conservation scientists and practitioners will both benefit from reading this book.

<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/>

Acquiring and Managing a Community-Owned Forest: A Manual for Communities

by the Communities Committee of the Seventh American Forestry Conference.

This manual provides a guide for communities interested in establishing a community-owned forest, whether just beginning to think about a project or re-engaging community residents around land already in community ownership. Creating and managing a community-owned forest requires the collaborative development of a community vision and mission for the forest, a commitment to sharing in the costs and benefits of that forest, and the crafting of a governance and operational structure that ensures consistent, long-term management for forest resiliency and sustainability. Our manual includes step-by-step advice on getting started, engaging the broader community, financing acquisition, and long-term management and stewardship, as well as an extensive, annotated list of additional resources. <http://www.communitiescommittee.org/index.html>

Restoring the Pacific Northwest The Art and Science of Ecological Restoration in Cascadia

Edited by Dean Apostol and Marcia Sinclair

Restoring the Pacific Northwest brings together fifty-seven experts and practitioners to showcase nine seminal habitat types, six distinct restoration approaches, and more than three dozen case studies. It is an essential handbook and encyclopedic overview for restorationists and practitioners around the world. Excerpt of chapter 17, with contributions from past CFERP fellow Frank K. Lake, available at: http://www.ser.org/pdf/SER_Restoration_Readers.pdf

The Ways of Aristotle Aristotelian Phronêsis, Aristotelian Philosophy of Dialogue, and Action Research By Olav Eikeland

This book is a meticulous study of Aristotle's phronêsis and its applications to the fields of personal development or character formation and of ethical virtues. It also relates phronêsis to the wider context of Aristotle's theoretical philosophy and of his different ways of knowing, and to both theoretical and practical

concerns within modern social and action research. Eikeland's 'tour de force', based on his mastery of Aristotle's corpus and his long experience in action research, complicates and enriches our understanding of what is at stake and challenges us to build philosophical and methodological foundations of action research in more robust and meaningful ways.

<http://www.peterlang.net/home.cfm?vLang=E&vScreenWidth=1024>



REPORTS

An Assessment of Biomass Harvesting Guidelines, a new report by the Forest Guild, is the first comprehensive review of new biomass harvesting guidelines prepared by many states. The report also provides recommendations to ensure that new guidelines promote sustainable use of biomass from forests. The report is available at:

http://www.forestguild.org/publications/research/2009/biomass_guidelines.pdf

Tenure Rights and Beyond: Community Access to Forest Resources in Latin America

A.M. Larson, P. Cronkleton, D. Barry and P. Pacheco (2008)

CIFOR Occasional Paper 50

This occasional paper is the result of research carried out from 2006 to 2008 on the effects of new tenure rights for forest-based communities in Latin America on access to forest resources and benefits. Focused on seven different regions in four countries, the paper examines changes in statutory rights, the implementation of those

rights in practice, and the extent to which they have led to tangible new benefits from forests, particularly to new sources of income. Though the granting of tenure rights signifies an important achievement for many communities, new statutory rights do not automatically turn into rights in practice. Virtually all of the cases — even those in which benefits have been significant — encountered substantial challenges along the road from rights to benefits.

Download the document here

<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/Publications/Detail?id=2631>

Public Involvement Usually Leads to Better Environmental Decision Making – Report Offers Guidance to Federal Agencies on Public Participation

When done correctly, public participation improves the quality of federal agencies' decisions about the environment, says a new report from the National Research Council. Well-managed public involvement also increases the legitimacy of decisions in the eyes of those affected by them, which makes it more likely that the decisions will be implemented effectively. Agencies should recognize public participation as valuable to their objectives, not just as a formality required by the law, the report says. It outlines principles agencies can use to successfully involve the public. The report was sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council make up the National Academies. Report is available at <http://www.nas.edu/>

The Economics of Protecting Old-Growth Forest: An Analysis of Spotted Owl Habitat in the Fraser Timber Supply Area of British Columbia

This new study by Simon Fraser University researchers led by Duncan Knowler found that it made more economic sense to conserve forests than to cut them down because of the added value of non-timber forest products such as recreation sites, wild mushrooms, and carbon storage. More information:

<http://www.ecojustice.ca/media-centre/press-releases/less-logging-of-bc2019s-old-growth-forests-makes-more-economic-sense>

Learning through Comparisons: A Look at Forestry in Minnesota, Ontario, Finland and Sweden available from Dovetail Partners, Inc. This report presents the results of a project comparing alternative approaches to forest decision making in Minnesota, Ontario, Finland and Sweden to identify best practices that can be replicated or adapted to provide local benefit. Download the report here (pdf, 2.2 MB). <http://www.dovetailinc.org/reports/pdf/DovetailMatrixReport1008bfk.pdf>



ONLINE NEWSLETTERS AND RESOURCES

Fresh from the Woods

From the secret life of vernal pools to the growing European demand for wood pellets, *Fresh from the Woods* helps you to learn more about what's happening in the forest. It's an independent, interesting and science-based look at key issues that affect Maine's woodlands, economy and quality of life.

<http://www.forestsformainefuture.org/>

FAO's Participation Website E-Newsletter

This is FAO's Participation Website E-Newsletter, which will keep you up to date with the Website's latest resources. To receive this Newsletter via email, please write to: IWG-PA-Webbox@fao.org

Ecosystem Marketplace: An ongoing project from the Katoomba Group that researches payment schemes to compensate private and community landowners for the ecosystem services provided by their property. Case studies of existing market, discussions of theory, and analyses of market trends combine to inform and advance the issue of payments for ecosystem services (PES). Visit them at www.ecosystemmarketplace.com

Carbon Trading Primer: An educational resource designed to inform forest landowners about carbon trading and the potential for forest registry. The site provides a good background on the issue and offers carbon credit estimators for forest land, information about carbon audits, and a bunch of useful links for those considering registering their forest carbon. Visit the site at www.carbon.sref.info

Tips for academic publishing

<http://www.nuim.ie/nirsa/geo-pub/geo-pub.html>

Intro Syllabus Project

In response to multiple requests, the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) has launched a Syllabus Project. We are asking colleagues to send in syllabi for interdisciplinary Environmental Studies and Sciences courses, which we hope to make available at our web site, [Syllabus Project](#). We are particularly interested in syllabi for **interdisciplinary introductory ES courses**. The goal for this site is to offer help to new professors and others designing their first courses, although it will hopefully also help seasoned faculty who are looking to update existing courses or to incorporate new assignments and activities.



Conferences

Association of American Geographers, annual meeting, March 22-27, 2009. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://www.aag.org/>

From the Local to the Global: International Sustainability Conference

April 23-26, 2009
Villanova University
Villanova, PA

This conference aims to bring together scholars, activists, and government and corporate professionals from across the United States and around the world to learn from each other in exploring the multiple dimensions of sustainability. It will cultivate shared perspectives via a range of formats, including panels, poster sessions, workshops, and roundtables that address the scientific, humanistic, political, economic, and ecological challenges and opportunities of true sustainability.

<http://www.villanova.edu/sustainability/yearofsustainability/conference/index.htm>

International Partnership Institute

"Reciprocal Partnerships: Transforming Higher Education and Community for the Future"
May 18 & 19, 2009; Portland, Oregon
Registration: \$200

Developing and sustaining reciprocal partnerships is the basis for effective campus-community engagement. Yet, despite the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's (and others') national call to focus on partnerships a decade ago, this foundational work remains elusive for many campuses and communities. Join community and campus practitioners and scholars to deeply explore engaged teaching, research and service partnerships - their proven mechanisms and strategies for success, persistent challenges, and the scholarship of partnerships.

CALL for Proposals and REGISTRATION:
www.pdx.edu/cae/partnership.html
<http://www.pdx.edu/cae/partnership.html>
Proposals due: March 9, 2009

The Fifth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry: Advancing Human Rights Through Qualitative Research

May 20-23, 2009
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The 2009 Congress will offer scholars the opportunity to form coalitions and engage in debate and dialogue on how qualitative research can be used to bridge gaps in cultural and linguistic understandings. Delegates will address such topics as academic freedom, researcher safety, indigenous human rights, human rights violations, ethical codes, torture, political violence, social justice, racial, ethnic and gender and environmental disparities in education, welfare and healthcare, truth and reconciliation commissions, justice as healing. Delegates will consider the meaning of ethics, evidence, advocacy and social justice under a humane human rights agenda.

Contributors are invited to experiment with new methodologies, and new presentational formats (drama, performance, poetry, autoethnography, fiction).

www.icqi.org

Seeing the Forest Beyond the Trees: New possibilities and expectations for small-scale-forest products and services.

June 7-11, 2009

The international symposium will be hosted by the IUFRO Small-scale Forestry Working Group in Morgantown, WV. For additional information, contact Dave McGill

(dmcgill@wvu.edu) or visit <http://ssf09.com/>

Earth Charter Day Academic Conference 2009

Eindhoven, the Netherlands, July 2-5, 2009

The overall theme for ECDAC2009 is the contribution of the academic world to achieving the objectives as established in the Earth Charter. The Earth Charter is a declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society for the 21st century. This Charter has been formally endorsed by over 2,500 organizations, including global institutions such as UNESCO and the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The conference will focus on the actual contribution of the academic world to promote and realize

the four main principles of the Earth Charter: (1) respect and care for the community of life, (2) ecological integrity, (3) social and economic justice, and (4) democracy, non-violence, and peace.

More information: <http://www.ecdac2009.org/>

The 15th **International Symposium on Society and Resource Management**, ISSRM 2009, July 5-8, Vienna, Austria.

<http://www.issrm09.info>

The 23rd annual meeting of the **Society for Conservation Biology**, Conservation: Harmony for Nature and Society, will be held from 11-16 July in Beijing, China. General information on the meeting is available here:

<http://www.conbio.org/2009>

Rural Sociological Society 2009 Annual Meeting Climate Change and Societal Response: Livelihoods, Communities, and the Environment

July 30-August 2, 2009, Madison, Wisconsin.

<http://www.ruralsociology.org/>

European Society for Rural Sociology World Congress, to be held in Vaasa, Finland. August 17-21, 2009.

More information:

<http://www.esrs2009.fi/index.html>



Research Opportunities

**Sierra Forest Legacy
Sierra Green Research Fellow**
Calaveras County, CA

We are faced with a unique opportunity to harness several converging factors. Forest stewardship, value-added manufacturing and green-building trends are aligned forces to create market rewards for forest stewardship and local community sustainability. We seek a study that illuminates the opportunities and challenges in building a sustainable economy around forest stewardship. The Research Fellow, a full-time, temporary position, provides support to Sierra Forest Legacy in project development, management, and monitoring of the Community Forestry Program.

For details contact Craig Thomas
Executive Director
Phone: (530) 622-8718
[craig \[AT\] sierraforestlegacy \[DOT\] org](mailto:craig@sierraforestlegacy.org)

Traditional Maricopa Farming Tools and Methods

Richard Goodridge, a member of the Maricopa Tribe of the Gila River Indian Community located in Laveen, Arizona, seeks a research fellow to help in the documentation and preservation of Maricopa culture. Goodridge is the last in his tribe to weave many fibers in the old style and to construct many items used historically. With 25 years of experience in growing traditional foods, he is now working to start a native foods farm as well.

For more information contact Richard Goodridge at (520) 550-1522 or [richard_goodridge\[AT\]live\[DOT\]com](mailto:richard_goodridge@live.com).

2009 Nancy Nye Fellowship in Rural Community Development

The national rural program of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (Rural LISC) and the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire are pleased to announce the second of three year-long Nancy Nye Fellowships in Rural Community Development. The goal of the fellowship is to support original research that builds knowledge about and understanding of rural community development. Eligible applicants include rural community development practitioners, research and evaluation professionals, and students at the graduate level and above. Proposals will be judged on the contribution the project will make to community development, the rigor of the research methodology of the proposed study, and the applicant's qualifications and demonstrated ability to carry out the project. The fellowship recipient will receive \$7,500 to help cover the costs of the research project and recognize the Nancy Nye commitment to building the rural community development field.

Deadline: Applications are due by March 15, 2009.

To learn more about the fellowship and submit an application please visit the Carsey Institute website: <http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/>



Give to CFERP

Please consider a gift to the Community Forestry and Environmental Research Partnerships and help us train a new generation of scholars, policy makers and community practitioners in making more just and equitable natural resource management practices.

[www.cnr.berkeley.edu/
community_forestry/giving](http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/community_forestry/giving)

