

EVERGREEN

WORLD FORESTRY
CENTER MAGAZINE



WORLD
FORESTRY
CENTER

2024 SPRING ISSUE

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spring Brings New Growth in Our Programming, Our Reach, and Our Team



Joseph A. Furia
Executive Director,
World Forestry Center

Spring is here and full of possibility. That means verdant fir tree tips emerging in our forests, the first chinook salmon running in our rivers, and the elusive morels poking through the duff. At World Forestry Center, it also means developing new programming, welcoming new staff, and exploring new avenues to expand the forestry conversation and support constructive action.

Our work continues to center around *people*. This is why we are dedicated to including more voices, more entry points, and more opportunities to build and strengthen our community across sectors and cultures.

In this edition of the *Evergreen*, you can read more about this work:

- › *Expanding our Team* – Earlier this year, we welcomed to World Forestry Center’s staff our new Managing Director, Sue Hildick, and Communications Director, Alli Gannett;
- › *State of the Forest exhibit in the Discovery Museum* – Through the mediums of art and written stories, our latest exhibition showcases the detailed impacts of wildfires on communities and individuals;
- › *Year Two of the Fellowship Program* – After spending a year learning about all facets of wildfires, our Fellows are now focused on exploring how they can engage their respective communities or sectors in the wildfire conversation;
- › *CANOPY: Forests + Markets + Society* – Our forestland investment conference has an updated name that honors our longstanding focus on institutional investments in forests, but also recognizes how our programming has evolved to include how those investments reflect a balance of economic, ecological, and social values.

More exciting programming is ahead. But we can't do this work without the support and donations from our generous community. When you make a gift to World Forestry Center, you support informing, connecting, and empowering our society to create healthier forests and communities. Thank you. ❖

With appreciation,

Joseph A. Furia
Executive Director

Support World Forestry Center by donating at: worldforestry.org.

INTRODUCTIONS

World Forestry Center Welcomes New Staff Members to the Growing Team:



Sue Hildick
Managing Director
shildick@worldforestry.org

"I am excited to join WFC at a time when a major pivot is underway to create the conversations needed to change the future. I'm a builder and love the opportunity to support our growing team and deepen our collective impact. I'm hopeful that WFC can convene new and established players in conversation and action around sustainable forest management for the benefit of all."

Sue joins the team after a successful career in government affairs and non-profit organizations. Before joining WFC staff, Sue worked with Clackamas County, Foundations for A Better Oregon (FBO) and the Chalkboard Project, and the Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross. As Managing Director, Sue will oversee the day-to-day management of the organization and serve as a collaborative and strategic partner to the Executive Director.

She is passionate about women in leadership and positive empowerment programs for girls. She has served on the Board of the Women's Foundation of Oregon, New Leadership Oregon and the Mark O. Hatfield Advisory Board at Portland State University, Marylhurst University, and the Regence Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Oregon Community Board.

Sue holds a B.A. in government from Georgetown University and an M.B.A. from Marylhurst University. Sue is a fourth-generation Oregonian, and lives in southwest Portland with her 15-year-old child, Charlie, and two Havanese pup-sisters, Rosie and Mable.



Alli Gannett
Communications Director
agannett@worldforestry.org

"I am eager to bring my passion for connecting with people and diving into complex issues from the heart into the communications of World Forestry Center in the hope of providing more entry points for everyday individuals to realize their voice is needed in the forestry conversation."

Alli joins the team after a career in religious communications for The Episcopal Church, working with the dioceses in Connecticut and Oregon. In her career with the church, Alli has produced an award-winning podcast, shared transformational stories, and led workshops and retreats on the healing connection between nature and spirituality.

She is passionate about authentic and captivating storytelling that shares the vibrant and complex relationship between society and the environment in a comprehensive, aesthetic, and relatable approach. Alli holds a Master of Divinity from Yale University, and a B.A. in religion from the University of Pittsburgh. No stranger to the forest, Alli has lived and worked in two national parks, Bryce Canyon NP and Mt. Rainier NP, and has clocked in over 1,500 miles on the Appalachian Trail.

Alli is originally from Maryland, but has called Portland her home for several years. She lives in southeast Portland with her partner, Tim, and fearless toddler, George.

Stay tuned as we continue to introduce our growing team!
To learn more about WFC staff, visit our staff page at worldforestry.org.

FEATURED EXHIBITION

State of the Forest

February 1 – April 30, 2024 | Featuring Suze Woolf & Lorena Williams



STATE OF THE FOREST by Suze Woolf from *Environmental Impact II*, Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C., David J. Wagner, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director.

Presenting Sponsor
Umpqua Bank

Supporting Sponsor
Hampton Lumber

World Forestry Center’s first art exhibit of the year, *State of the Forest*, brings into full color the detailed aftermath of a wildfire.

Painted over a ten-year period, artist Suze Woolf captures the unusual beauty of the fire-carved snags, known as “totems,” from all over the North American West. Studies of individual trees became her metaphor for human impact: our predilection for cooking the planet.

Everywhere these totems are the same—carbonized and eaten away—yet different; the physics of the fire and the tree’s biological structure combined to make unique sculptures. Each ridge, fissure, and layer becomes its own landscape. Char remains iridescent for up to a decade, reflecting local light and color.

Suze’s original paintings have been digitally reproduced at full-size on fabric. A solid layer and a sheer layer are suspended together to create volume, and the softness of the fabric is a counterintuitive reminder of the fragility of a forest usually perceived as permanent. The sheer layer adds an almost video-like motion effect as you walk by.

Fourteen of the trees have companion “story trees:” white text on black shapes that correspond to the trees they reference. Author Lorena Williams, a wildland firefighter, contributes perspectives on each tree portrait from a range of emotional, scientific, fictional, poetic, and prosaic points of view, inviting viewers to go beyond the usual “ugly” or “tragic” interpretations.



Fire season is following an increasingly catastrophic trend for our communities, our wildlife, and our forests. World Forestry Center seeks to amplify the voices of community members who are deepening their understanding of wildfire, and we are proud to feature an exhibit that explores the relationship between art and wildfire. We hope it will invite more people to engage in the conversation because wildfire affects everyone.

Learn more about *State of the Forest* on our website at worldforestry.org/sof. 🌱

MEET THE ARTISTS



SUZE WOOLF explores mediums from watercolor to paper-casting, artist books, pyrography, and installation. She exhibits across the U.S. and Canada with work in public and private collections. Suze has been an artist in residence in Zion, Glacier, Capitol Reef, Great Basin, and North Cascades National Parks and an invited resident at art colonies such as the Banff Centre, Vermont Studio Center, Willowtail Springs, Jentel, Playa, Centrum, Mineral School, and Sitka Center for Art & Ecology. She has received awards from several arts organizations and universities.



LORENA WILLIAMS is a writer, educator, and traveler. She has worked seasonally as a wildland firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service. After earning her M.F.A., she taught English, creative writing, composition, and ESL at Chatham and Duquesne Universities. She is now the Shared Stewardship Communications Specialist for San Juan National Forest in Durango, CO. Lorena was born and raised in eastern Oregon. Her writing is closely tied with her love of land, working on the family farm, whitewater rafting, traveling, and fighting fire.

Next Featured Exhibit:

Tree People

June 1 – September 29, 2024

This exhibit, by Finnish photographers Ritva Kovalainen & Sanni Seppo, showcases myths and folklore in connection to trees from travels in Finland, Estonia, and East Karelia.



Entering Year Two of Our Fellowship Program

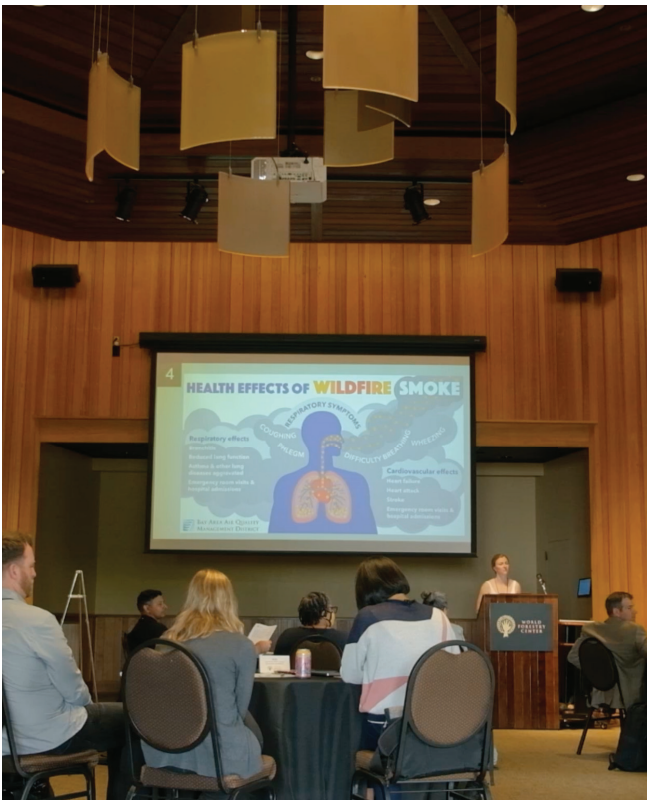
Entering the second year of the program, Fellows are now working to develop a customized engagement plan for their sector or community based on what they learned about the impacts of wildfire during year one of the program. Their experience and feedback on the program will also help to inform the development of future exhibits and programming at World Forestry Center.

We have partnered with Emily Brew and her team at Perennial, a social impact strategy firm, to facilitate the conversation and provide support to the Fellows as they engage their sectors in wildfire issues. We are honored to support the Fellows in becoming leaders in their fields working to address the wildfire crisis. ❖



Tim Hecox
*Experience Director,
World Forestry Center*

“It is exciting to enter the second year of this program with our Fellows. We are grateful to Emily Brew and the expertise she brings as we gradually move from learning about the impacts of wildfire on our communities to developing action and engagement plans.”



Emily Brew
*Co-Founder & Chief Strategist,
Perennial*

“In May, our Fellows will gather for an in-person meeting, which will include a visit to a community and forest impacted by wildfire. Then they will begin a work session focused on developing community engagement plans in their sectors.”

About the Fellowship Program

The Fellowship Program is generously supported by grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Science Foundation. To learn more and meet the 2023-2024 Fellows, visit worldforestry.org/fellows.

World Forestry Center's Forestland Investment Conference Gets a New Name

CANOPY
Forests + Markets + Society

SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2024 | WORLD FORESTRY CENTER | PORTLAND, OR

For 22 years, World Forestry Center has gathered investors, land managers, advisors, carbon project developers, and others to its signature forestland investment conference, *Who Will Own the Forest?*. What began as an inquiry into how changing forest ownership affects forest management has gradually expanded to include how capital markets can drive sustainable forestry.

With this reality in mind, this January, we renamed the annual conference to **CANOPY: Forests + Markets + Society**. This new name honors our longstanding focus on institutional investments in forests, and recognizes that those investments are part of a constant balancing of economic, ecological, and social values.

At a time when there is so much polarization in our society, we remain convinced that this gathering is a unique opportunity to engage on essential matters: healthier forests, communities, and economies. 🌱

Learn more at worldforestry.org/canopy.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Wildfire Preparedness Weekend at the Discovery Museum

As wildfire season approaches, Oregonians must take steps to protect their homes and communities. To help residents prepare, the Oregon State Fire Marshal and Portland Fire and Rescue have partnered with World Forestry Center to host a **Wildfire Preparedness Weekend** at the Discovery Museum on April 27-28, 2024, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Admittance to the museum and activities for this family-friendly event is free thanks to a sponsorship from Portland General Electric.

Learn more at worldforestry.org/wildfire-preparedness-weekend/ ❖

A promotional poster for the Wildfire Preparedness Weekend event. The background is a dark, smoky scene with a large tree on the right and a wildfire in the foreground. The text is white and reads: "WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS weekend APRIL 27-28, 2024 WORLD FORESTRY CENTER DISCOVERY MUSEUM". At the bottom right, there are three logos: Portland Fire and Rescue, Oregon State Fire Marshal, and World Forestry Center. Below the logos, it says "FREE ADMISSION | SPONSORED BY PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC".

WILDFIRE
PREPAREDNESS
weekend
APRIL 27-28, 2024
WORLD FORESTRY CENTER
DISCOVERY MUSEUM

PORTLAND FIRE RESCUE
OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL SERVING SINCE 1917
WORLD FORESTRY CENTER

FREE ADMISSION | SPONSORED BY PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC

Donate today!

Your donation helps us build upon existing programs to drive problem-solving by professionals, create events and experiences to connect the public to its interdependence on forests, and steward a place that supports a community of sustainable forestry champions. ❖

World Forestry Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit with the mission to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry.

Support World Forestry Center by donating at worldforestry.org.



Scan the QR code to donate.

