



Agenda

2026 ISFRE and WFE Joint Meeting

May 18-20, 2026, Fort Collins, Colorado

International Society of Forest Resource Economics (ISFRE)
Western Forest Economist (WFE)

Meeting Info: <https://msuferm.com/isfre26/>

Scan the QR code or click the link below to see all the Abstracts



https://msuferm.com/isfre26/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Book-of-Abstract_-2026-ISFRE-and-WFE-meeting.pdf



FOREST AND RANGELAND
STEWARDSHIP
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



Department of Forestry
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Schedule for the day of arrival and Day 1 (May 18 and 19)

Time	Room	Activity and Sessions		
Monday, May 18, 2026 (Arrival Day)				
1:00 - 5:00 PM	Hotel Lobby	Tour (Biochar Now, 19500 County Road 7, Berthoud, CO 80513)		
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Hotel Atrium	Reception and Networking, Poster Setup in Salon II & III		
6:30 - 8:00 PM	Salon I & V	Dinner Banquet		
Tuesday, May 19, 2026 (Day 1)				
7:00 - 8:00 AM	Salon II & III	Breakfast and Poster Setup. Food station in the Atrium		
8:00 - 8:15 AM	Salon II & III	Opening Remarks: Dr. Eric Toman, Department Head of Forest & Rangeland Stewardship		
8:15 - 9:00 AM	Salon II & III	Keynote Speech: Dan Gibbs		
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Salon II & III	Panel 1: Emerging and New Markets for Forest Products and Shifting Market Risks and Challenges (Moderator: <i>Raju Pokharel</i> ; Panelist: <i>Daowei Zhang, Jesse Henderson, Greg Latta</i>)		
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Salon II & III	Networking Break and Poster Session 1 . Food station in the Atrium		
CONCURRENT SESSIONS		Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
10:30 - 12:00 PM		Session: 1. Forest Product Markets: Price Dynamics, Policy Impacts, and Market Behavior	Session: 2. Forest Product Industry Structure and Mill Dynamics	Session: 3. Economic Impacts of Natural Disturbances
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Salon II & III	Lunch. Food station in the Atrium		
CONCURRENT SESSIONS		Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
1:00 - 2:30 PM		Session: 4. From Stand Dynamics to Decision Support: Innovations in Forest Management	Session: 5. Environmental & Economic Tradeoffs	Session: 6. Forest-Based Climate Mitigation
2:30-3:00 PM	Salon II & III	Networking Break and Poster Session 2 . Food station in the Atrium		
CONCURRENT SESSIONS		Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
3:00 - 4:30 PM		Session: 7. Economic and Social Dimensions of Wildfire Management	Session: 8. Lightning Session (7 minutes)	Session: 9. Private Forest Landowners: Behavior, Adoption, and Policy Engagement
5:00 PM		Dinner (on your own)		

Schedule for Day 2 (May 20)

Time	Room	Activity and Sessions						
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 (Day 2)								
6:00-7:30 AM: Wellness Activity (Hiking and sightseeing at the Horsetooth Reservoir); Meet at hotel lobby and carpool								
7:30 – 9:00 AM	Salon II & III	Breakfast and Business Meeting. Food station in the Atrium						
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Salon II & III	Panel 2: Innovative Financing Mechanisms of US Forestry Projects: Trends and Future Implications (Moderator: <i>Shivan Gc</i> ; Panelist: Richard Mei, Anil Koirala, Phil Saksa)						
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Salon II & III	Networking Break and Poster Session 3 . Food station in the Atrium						
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2:30-3:00 PM	Salon II & III	Networking Break and Poster Session 4 . Food station in the Atrium						
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3:00 - 4:30 PM								
4:30- 5:00 PM	Salon II & III	Closing and Awards						
5:00 PM		Dinner (on your own)						
Thursday, May 21, 2026 (Departure Day)								

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): 8:00 am – 9:00 am (Opening and Keynote)

Location: Salon II & III

Moderator: Srijana Baral, Colorado State University

May 19: 8:00 - 8:15 AM

Opening Remarks: Dr. Eric Toman, Department Head of Forest & Rangeland Stewardship

May 19: 8:15 am – 9:00 am

Session: Keynote by Dan Gibbs

Dan Gibbs is the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. As the director, Dan leads the development and execution of the Department's initiatives to balance the management of the state's natural resources. Prior to joining the Department of Natural Resources, Dan served as a Summit County Commissioner from 2010-2018. Prior to his tenure as a Commissioner, Dan served in the Colorado House of Representatives and in the Colorado State Senate, where he served on the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.



His legislative accomplishments include securing funding for wildfire mitigation and forest health, creating the Colorado Kids Outdoors grant program, supporting watershed health initiatives, and increasing environmental protections for wildlife from oil and gas development. Dan is a certified wildland firefighter and chaired the statewide Wildland Fire and Prescribed Fire Matters Advisory Council, and represented county governments on the Forest Health Advisory Committee. Dan is a graduate of Western State Colorado University and completed the Harvard Kennedy School Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program.

Learn more about Dan and CO DNR here: <https://dnr.colorado.gov/contacts/dan-gibbs>

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): 9:00 am – 10:00 am (Panel)

Location: Salon II & III

Session: Panel 1- Emerging and New Markets for Forest Products and Shifting Market Risks and Challenges

Moderator: *Raju Pokharel*, Michigan State University

Panelists:

- **Daowei Zhang** | Auburn University

Dr. Zhang is Alumni and George W. Peake Professor of forest economics at Auburn University. He is an expert in the areas of forest management, trade, investment and finance, economic development, and international forestry. Learn more about Dr. Zhang here: <https://cfwe.auburn.edu/profile/daowei-zhang/>

- **Jesse Henderson** | US Forest Service

Dr. Henderson is a Project Leader and Research Economist at the Southern Research Station. Dr. Henderson's expertise lies in the economics of human and natural disturbances (hurricanes, wildfires), timber sales in the National Forests, carbon markets, forest product mills, the forest sector, and agent-based models. Learn more about Dr. Henderson here:

<https://research.fs.usda.gov/about/people/jesse.henderson2>

- **Greg Latta** | University of Idaho

Dr. Latta is Associate Professor of forest economics and Director of the Policy Analysis Group at the University of Idaho. His work focuses on simulating policy impacts on markets using mathematical optimization techniques. He has been involved in the voluntary forest carbon offset space for well over a decade and has participated in crafting multiple methodologies as well as offset project development work. Learn more about Dr. Latta here: <https://www.uidaho.edu/people/glatta>

10:00 - 10:30 AM Salon II & III Networking Break and **Poster Session 1**

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 1. Forest Product Markets: Price Dynamics, Policy Impacts, and Market Behavior</p>	<p>Session: 2. Forest Product Industry Structure and Mill Dynamics</p>	<p>Session: 3. Economic Impacts of Natural Disturbances</p>
<p>Moderator: <i>Mahesha Kulupparachchi</i>, Coordinator: <i>Ichchha Thapa</i></p> <p>1. Lumber price shock revisited: The “asset-buffer” role of the U.S. housing market <i>Sofwaan Bakary</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tennessee <i>Summary:</i> This study examines how U.S. lumber demand responded to the 2021 lumber price supercycle.</p> <p>2. Strategic Bidding and the Reserve Price Distortion in State Timber Auctions <i>Basanta Lamsal</i>, Postdoctoral Scholar, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> Overbidding is concentrated among large firms, mainly in pulpwood, and targets low-volume, infrequently offered species. Cleaning lowers reserve inputs and volatility, but many wins still rely on overbidding.</p> <p>3. Time-Varying Price Elasticity of Supply for Wood Products under Emerging Forest Carbon Policies <i>Mahesha Kulupparachchi</i>, Post doctoral fellow, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> This study contributes to understanding how forest carbon policies influence timber market dynamics and impact price elasticity of supply for three major softwood stumpage product types including pulpwood, chip-n-saw and sawtimber.</p> <p>4. What Drives Oak Timber Prices? Evidence from Arkansas Timber Markets <i>Sujata Shrestha</i>, Graduate Student, University of Arkansas at Monticello <i>Summary:</i> The research analyzes oak timber prices in Arkansas using VECM to assess long-term trends and key price drivers. It highlights the role of macroeconomic cycles, policies and market shocks, with insights for harvest planning and price risk management.</p> <p>5. How do institutional and regional factors contribute to forest mill dynamics in the U.S? <i>Sofwaan Bakary</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tennessee <i>Summary:</i> This study investigates the factors influencing the operational status of forest mills in the United States.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Jagdish Poudel</i>, Coordinator: <i>Faith Glaze</i></p> <p>1. Determinants of Primary Timber Processing Facility Closure in Colorado: A Survival Analysis <i>Faith Glaze</i>, Graduate Student, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> The study uses survival analysis to examine determinants of primary mill closure in Colorado using longitudinal survey data. Mill structure, workforce, and timber supply influence closure risk. Results emphasize industry structure and timber supply.</p> <p>2. Determining Market Linkages and Impacts from Mill Capacity Flux <i>Matt Clutter</i>, PhD Student, North Carolina State University <i>Summary:</i> Examining the observed price effects and resulting spatial correlation from capacity flux for small-diameter log mills in the Southeastern United States.</p> <p>3. Interstate Wood Product Flows and Market Competition in the USA Under Different Economic Scenarios <i>Basana Sapkota</i>, Graduate Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This study examines how alternative macroeconomic growth scenarios reshape US interstate wood product trade, affecting market concentration, competitive dynamics, and linkages across major product categories using the LURA model.</p> <p>4. Mapping U.S. Forest Product Mills with High-Resolution Imagery and Embeddings <i>Alison Ritz</i>, Research Scientist, ORISE Postdoc <i>Summary:</i> In this presentation I will discuss our methodology and results for creating a forest product mill map for the contiguous U.S. states. I will also present on key indicators of model success and how these methods can be repeated for routine updates.</p> <p>5. Revisiting the Effects of Internet Usage on Paper Demand with a Focus on E-Commerce and U.S. Paperboard Demand <i>Greg Latta</i>, Associate Professor of forest economics and Director of the Policy Analysis Group, University of Idaho <i>Summary:</i> We re-estimate econometric models from a prior study and add a new focus on the relationship between GDP and paperboard demand.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Nana Tian</i>, Coordinator: <i>Dhruba Burlakoti</i></p> <p>1. Estimating the Social Cost of Carbon Dioxide Incorporating Fire PM2.5 Mortality <i>Henry Williams</i>, Graduate Student, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> We estimate a partial Social Cost of Carbon incorporating climate-driven fire PM2.5 mortality. Using CESM and the GIVE model, we link temperature change to wildfire mortality and estimate a U.S. value of \$6.79 per ton.</p> <p>2. From Shock to Recovery: Economic Resilience of Southern Pine Forests Under Natural Disturbance <i>Simran Pandey</i>, Student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes post-disturbance recovery in southern pine plantations to quantify economic resilience through forest value dynamics and to inform landowner decision-making and long-term forest management.</p> <p>3. Quantifying Biomass Mortality and Financial Losses from Forest Disturbances in East Texas <i>Xufang Zhang</i>, Forest Resource Analyst, Texas A&M Forest Service <i>Summary:</i> The study aims to provide the comprehensive overview of forest mortality across East Texas caused by various disturbances, offering forest landowners, industries, and policymakers a large-scale perspective of disturbance patterns within their regions.</p> <p>4. Economy-Wide Effects of Hurricane-Induced Forest Sector Disruptions: An Application of a Computable General Equilibrium Model <i>Stephanie Chizmar</i>, Research Economist, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station <i>Summary:</i> We will present our approach and share results from a study on the economy-wide impacts from simulated labor market disruptions following Hurricane Michael. We found that results varied by experimental shock and household income level.</p>

12:00 - 1:00 PM Salon II & III LUNCH BREAK

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 4. From Stand Dynamics to Decision Support: Innovations in Forest Management</p>	<p>Session: 5. Environmental & Economic Tradeoffs</p>	<p>Session: 6. Forest-Based Climate Mitigation</p>
<p>Moderator: <i>Robert Grala</i>, Coordinator: <i>Thomas Gifford</i></p> <p>1. Can Loblolly Pine Plantations Remain Financially Viable Under Multi-Objective Management? <i>Sushma Bhattarai</i>, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study shows that stacking ecosystem services improves the financial viability of loblolly pine plantations, especially on marginal sites, highlighting trade-offs across profitability, rotation length, and ecosystem service objectives.</p> <p>2. From Climate Benefits to Disservices: Reassessing the Role of Urban Forests in Climate Resilience <i>Wanyu Liu</i>, Professor, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan <i>Summary:</i> Urban forests enhance climate resilience but also create ecosystem disservices under typhoons. Survey results report safety risks, infrastructure damage, and rising maintenance costs, underscoring the need for risk-aware urban forest management.</p> <p>3. Forestland Valuation for Current Use Taxation: Income Capitalization Models and an Uneven-Aged Alternative from New Hampshire, USA <i>Ranjit Bawa</i>, Assistant Professor of Forest Economics and Natural Resource Policy, University of New Hampshire <i>Summary:</i> We survey U.S. current-use forestland tax models, showing income capitalization dominates and identifying how states differ in growth-and-yield inputs, costs, risk treatment, and capitalization rates.</p> <p>4. Retention rules for individual crop trees in northern hardwood forests <i>Neal Maker</i>, <i>Research Forester, Forest Biometrics Research Institute</i> <i>Summary:</i> We derive simplified crop tree retention rules for seven key commercial species of northern hardwood forests, with diameter-based retention thresholds conditioned on crown ratio, timber quality, site, and discount rate.</p> <p>5. TimberReach: A Geospatial Application for Quantifying Merchantable Timber <i>Titilayo Tajudeen</i>, Graduate Student, North Carolina State University <i>Summary:</i> Using geospatial and machine learnings methods we are creating a tool called TimberReach, which will highlight merchantable timber on National Forest System using physical & economic criteria.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Xufang Zhang</i>, Coordinator: <i>Sungeun Cho (Kylie)</i></p> <p>1. Assessing Economic and Environmental Impacts of Increasing Log Truck Weight Limits in Texas <i>Xufang Zhang</i>, Forest Resource Analyst, Texas A&M Forest Service <i>Summary:</i> This study evaluates the economic and environmental impacts of increasing log truck weight limits across the forest supply chain. Results show that higher weight limits improve efficiency while reducing fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.</p> <p>2. Containment lines, fuel breaks, PODs and suppression success: A case study of the 2021 Schneider Springs Fire <i>Jesse Young</i>, Research Economist, USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station <i>Summary:</i> We assessed the influence of weather conditions, terrain features, personnel availability, tree canopy cover, fire containment lines, and previously identified 'best available' containment features.</p> <p>3. Economic valuation of air quality and health implications from woody biomass electricity under clean-energy portfolio pathways in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico <i>McKenna Hedgepeth</i>, Environmental Scientist, NMED Air Quality Bureau <i>Summary:</i> This project highlights methodology that allows policy makers and resource managers the ability to determine and monetize air & human health impacts of renewable energy standards as they interact with neighboring states.</p> <p>4. Natural versus Artificial Christmas Trees: An Integrated Economic and Environmental Assessment in the United States <i>Pooja Chhetri</i>, Forest Economist, Texas A&M Forest Service <i>Summary:</i> This study compares economic and environmental performance of natural and artificial Christmas trees industries in the U.S. While both industries contribute to nation's economy, artificial trees generate substantially higher carbon dioxide emissions.</p> <p>5. Quantifying the Economic Impact of Value-Added Processing Retention in Mississippi <i>Mehadi Shawon</i>, PhD Student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This research quantifies \$10.6 billion in processing leakage from Mississippi's \$26.8 billion agricultural and forestry sector, identifying 19 high-opportunity commodities worth \$7.2 billion to guide economic development policy.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Poonam Khatri</i>, Coordinator: <i>Ethan Vanantwerp</i></p> <p>1. A Time-Dependent Global Warming Mitigation Analysis of U.S. Private Forests by Region and Site Productivity Class: Forest Growth, Wood Products, and Residue Bioenergy <i>Lieke Yentl Droog</i>, PhD Candidate, University of Washington <i>Summary:</i> 100-year mitigation estimates for U.S. private forests by region and site class, including wood products, substitution, and residue-to-bioenergy. Results show where residue utilization and displacement factors most influence mitigation.</p> <p>2. Carbon benefits of wood use over time: energy and residential construction in United States <i>Poonam Khatri</i>, Postdoctoral Scholar, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation would focus on providing a comprehensive overview of historical wood use, including the avoided carbon emissions benefits from wood use over time, both as an energy source and a construction material for residential buildings.</p> <p>3. Optimal Extension of Rotation for Forest Carbon Credits <i>Richard Mei</i>, Professor, Duke University <i>Summary:</i> This paper develops a theoretical framework for optimal rotation extension for forest carbon credits. The optimal condition is when marginal benefit of net carbon sequestration equals opportunity cost of foregone carbon rent.</p> <p>4. The Hidden Cost of Pile Burns: Accounting for the Carbon Cost of Forest Management <i>Caleb E Axlund</i>, Research Associate II, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> National-scale analysis of slash pile burning across U.S. National Forests, estimating CO₂, CH₄, and PM_{2.5} emissions and monetizing climate damages using the social cost of carbon, highlighting the welfare costs of accelerating carbon release.</p>
<p>2:30 PM - 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Salon II & III</p>	<p>Networking Break and Poster Session 2</p>

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 7. Economic and Social Dimensions of Wildfire Management</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Kelly Wallace</i>, Coordinator: <i>Tara Allohverdi</i></p> <p>1. Do higher wages improve wildland firefighter workforce retention? <i>Jude Bayham</i>, Associate Professor, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> Econometric analysis of wildland firefighter retention</p> <p>2. Economic Costs of U.S. Wildfires: A Meta-Analysis <i>Evan Hjerpe</i>, Director, Conservation Economics Institute <i>Summary:</i> The paucity of wildfire cost data, combined with increasing wildfire severity, generates a need for a synthesis and accounting of the published wildfire cost information. I will present our research hypothesis, methods, and meta-regression results.</p> <p>3. Relaxing Budget Constraints and Wildfire Suppression: Evidence from the Fire Funding Fix <i>Shuhang Lou</i>, PhD student, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation introduces a work-in-progress of the Fire Funding Fix. It discusses how relaxing federal budget constraints may have changed suppression behavior and/or spending, and seeks feedback on identification, mechanisms, and interpretation.</p> <p>4. Understanding Fuels Treatment Acceptability Across the West: Evidence from the Wildfire Research (WiRē) Compiled Dataset <i>Kelly Wallace</i>, Senior Professional Research Assistant, University of Colorado Boulder <i>Summary:</i> This presentation synthesizes research on public acceptability of fuels treatments in the WUI using the Wildfire Research (WiRē) dataset. Findings show broad but nuanced support and explore some factors related to acceptance.</p> <p>5. Working Watersheds in Colorado (holistic approach to restoring a sustainable timber industry) <i>John Giordanengo</i>, President, Economic Restoration Institute <i>Summary:</i> Summary of the theory, policies, and history behind Working Watersheds, a state-wide program to restore Colorado's timber and forest products industry to a sustainable state.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Raju Pokharel</i>, Coordinator: <i>Emilie Hebenstreit</i></p> <p>1. An Economic Model of Hardwood Management and Markets in the Southern Appalachian Region (SAR) <i>Gaurav Dhungel</i>, ORISE Research Fellow, USDA Forest Service-SRS <i>Summary:</i> We present a simple economic modeling framework, illustrating the optimal selection of management regimes (a mix of exploitative and improved practices), management timing, and area allocation in a relatively complex hardwood forest setting.</p> <p>2. Balancing Risk and Management: The Evolution of Liability Rules and Management Requirements in Prescribed Fire Legislation <i>Changyou Sun</i>, Professor, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> A total of 178 bills for prescribed fire were identified. Early legislation emerged in the South and diffused nationwide. Bills with both management and liability requirements were most successful.</p> <p>3. Economic contribution of Forest Product Industries: A county-level analysis <i>Anusha Shrestha</i>, Assistant Professor, Stephen F. Austin State University <i>Summary:</i> Analysis of county-level direct economic contributions of Texas forest product industries, revealing top-contributing counties & changes.</p> <p>4. Evaluating the Economic Consequences of Chronic Wasting Disease Using Hunter Survey Data: Behavioral Responses and Regional Market Shocks Using IMPLAN <i>James Henderson</i>, Professor, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> The economic impact of chronic wasting disease in Mississippi and Tennessee is modeled by integrating hunter behavior with input-output analysis.</p> <p>5. Insurance Pricing Responds Asymmetrically to Wildfire Risk and Mitigation in Colorado <i>Srijana Baral</i>, Assistant Professor, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation will highlight factors influencing home insurance premiums across wildfire risk zones.</p> <p>6. Opportunities and impacts of market expansion to utilize wood fiber for biopower in the United States <i>Raju Pokharel</i>, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> Market development for biomass bioenergy with carbon capture can boost forest resilience and grow the economy through increased demand and jobs.</p> <p>7. Re-evaluating selection thinning <i>John Foppert</i>, Assistant Professor, Paul Smith's College <i>Summary:</i> Preliminary results from a 2016 field trial comparing thinning methods in a Sierra mixed-conifer are presented alongside projected future stand growth, following up on theoretical work on the economic logic of thinning presented at WFE 2025.</p> <p>8. Comparing economic valuation methods between biopower and other renewable energy generation technologies <i>Kamana Poudel</i>, Postdoctoral Scholar, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation summarizes the pros and cons of economic valuation methods and recommends using a combination of methods to provide a comprehensive assessment.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Shaun Tanger</i>, Coordinator: <i>Basana Sapkota</i></p> <p>1. Adoption, Intensity, and Exit: An Analysis of Sustainable Forest Management in West Virginia <i>Stephen Cheye</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, West Virginia University <i>Summary:</i> This study investigates the adoption, intensity, and exit of sustainable forest management practices (SFMPs) in West Virginia. Findings indicate that ecological values are key drivers of adoption. The results provide insights for intensifying SFMPs.</p> <p>2. Examining Landowner Acceptance of Carbon-Based Improved Forest Management in the Marginal Lands of Oklahoma <i>Carson Raper</i>, MSc Student, Oklahoma State University <i>Summary:</i> A survey was produced to obtain knowledge of landowner acceptance of carbon-based improved forest management in the marginal lands of Oklahoma. Study results show 24% acceptance and need for further outreach among private landowners.</p> <p>3. Forest Landowner Carbon Market Participation as a Response to Concerns about Property Taxation: Does a Relationship Exist at the State Level? <i>Shaun Tanger</i>, Associate Director, Arkansas Center for Forest Business <i>Summary:</i> Using state-level NWOS data, we test whether property tax concern predicts enrollment in tax and carbon programs. Results show that tax concerns raise tax-program participation but lower carbon participation.</p> <p>4. Perceived Future Revenue Risks Across Forest Income Streams: Insights from the Southern United States <i>Prabin Bhusal</i>, Postdoctoral Researcher, NC State University <i>Summary:</i> This study examines factors shaping landowners' perceived revenue risks, with timber-focused ownership and pandemic impacts increasing timber and carbon concerns and demographics influencing expectations across forest income sources.</p>

End of Day 1 Dinner on your own

Outdoor Events

Monday, May 18 (Arrival DAY)

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Facility Tour: **BioChar Now**
(Transportation is provided)
(See last page for details)

Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2)

6:00-7:30 AM: Wellness Activity

Hiking at the Horsetooth Reservoir

Meet at the hotel lobby and carpool
(Transportation is not provided)



Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2): 9:00 am – 10:00 am (Panel)

Location: Salon II & III

**Panel 2: Innovative Financing Mechanisms of US Forestry Projects:
Trends and Future Implications**

Moderator: *Shivan GC, Michigan State University*

Panelists:

- **Richard Mei** | *Duke University*

Dr. Mei is Professor of Practice and Director of the Natural Resources Finance Initiative. His research program centers on forestland investment, nature-based climate solutions, and decision-making under uncertainty.

Learn more about Dr. Mei here: <https://nicholas.duke.edu/people/faculty/mei>

- **Anil Koirala** | *Compeer Financial*

Dr. Koirala is the Vice President of Sustainability and Carbon Markets at Compeer Financial, where he leads carbon project financing and develops innovative sustainable finance products. He supports underwriting and credit teams by providing technical expertise and due diligence on soil carbon, forest carbon, and broader nature-based solutions, and advises on risk assessment for sustainability-linked lending. Prior to joining Compeer, Dr. Koirala worked with forest carbon developers, including Anew Climate and NativState. He holds a Ph.D. in Forestry and Natural Resources from the University of Georgia. Learn more about Dr. Koirala here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anil-k-b64958191/>

- **Phil Saksa** | *Blue Forest*

Dr. Saksa is a Co-Founder and Chief Program Officer of Blue Forest. He works with research groups, conservation finance firms, stakeholders, and land managers to develop innovative approaches to funding and implementing natural resource management, working towards a collective mission to create ecologically resilient and sustainable landscapes. Dr. Saksa holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Systems from the University of California. Learn more about Dr. Saksa here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/phil-saksa/>

10:00 - 10:30 AM Salon II & III Networking Break and **Poster Session 3**

Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2): 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 10. Trade Policy and International Forest Product Markets</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ram Adhikari</i>, Coordinator: <i>Faith Glaze</i></p> <p>1. Economic Impacts of the 2025 Washington State Tax Package on the Forestry Sector Introduction and Policy Context <i>Abdallah Akintola</i>, Research Scholar, University of Washington <i>Summary:</i> This study evaluates the impact of 2025 Washington tax reforms on the forestry sector using a CGE model. It highlights how the tax can alter regional competitiveness, timber investment and unintended consequences for trade-exposed industries.</p> <p>2. Impact of coastal flooding and storm surge on global wood product demand <i>Ram Adhikari</i>, Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study examines how coastal flooding and storm surges affect global wood product demand using data from 157 countries. The results show that sea level rise increases wood consumption, highlighting climate risks' growing influence on wood markets.</p> <p>3. Pulp and Paper Trade and BRICS Alignment: Political Symbolism or Economic Realignment? <i>Noel Perceval Assogba</i>, Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee <i>Summary:</i> This study investigates whether BRICS alignment is purely a geopolitical development or whether it carries measurable economic implications for trade in pulp and paper products.</p> <p>4. Tariff Pass-Through in U.S. Lumber Markets: Evidence from SPF and Composite Price Indices <i>Kurt Niquidet</i>, President, BC Lumber Trade Council and Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes how U.S. softwood lumber tariffs affect U.S. prices, finding significant pass-through. Econometric results show higher pass-through for SPF lumber than broader indices, with implications for trade policy and housing affordability.</p> <p>5. Timber Product Market Response to Trade and Harvest Policies <i>Jesse D. Henderson</i>, Research Economist, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station <i>Summary:</i> Presenting results of a forthcoming USDA General Technical Report on the impacts of changing U.S. National Forest harvest targets, duties on Canadian softwood lumber, and tariffs.</p>	<p>Session: 11. From Policy to Practice: Conservation Outcomes and Stakeholder Responses</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Rene Zamora-Cristales</i>, Coordinator: <i>Dhruba Burlakoti</i></p> <p>1. Dynamic Regional Variation in the Inducement and Substitution Effects of Conservation Reserve Program in the US <i>Dhruba Burlakoti</i>, Graduate Student, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> Evaluate whether CRP tree-planting subsidies induce additional private investment or substitute for existing planting across the US using a time-varying state-space framework. Results show substantial regional differences.</p> <p>2. Evaluating Private Landowner Perceptions and Motivations to Wetland Conservation Program Participation in Oklahoma. <i>Joseph Ienzi</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Oklahoma State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines landowner participation in voluntary wetlands programs in Oklahoma. Survey data and AHP analysis identify motivations and barriers to participation, helping improve program design, outreach and funding efficiency statewide.</p> <p>3. Public Perception of using Public Lands for Climate Mitigation <i>Casey Zaitzew</i>, USDA NIFA National Needs Fellow, West Virginia University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines public views on using federally managed lands for biological carbon sequestration. A nationwide survey finds limited familiarity but generally neutral to positive support, shaped by climate awareness and personal beliefs.</p> <p>4. Unlocking Natural Capital: Economics and Innovation for Tropical Secondary and Degraded Forest Restoration along the Pacific Flyway <i>Rene Zamora-Cristales</i>, Associate Professor, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> Oregon migratory birds are declining due to tropical deforestation. This project links restoration in Latin America with financial models and optimization for habitat recovery, rural development, and scalable restoration across the Pacific-Flyway.</p>	<p>Session: 12. Ecosystem Services, Conservation Finance, and Stakeholder Engagement</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Sayeed R. Mehmood</i>, Coordinator: <i>Sungeun Cho (Kylie)</i></p> <p>1. Factors Affecting the Willingness to Pay for Forest Restoration at The Wilds in Ohio <i>Sayeed R. Mehmood</i>, Associate Professor, The Ohio State University <i>Summary:</i> Determine the value of forest restoration by asking the visitors about their willingness to pay for forest restoration efforts at the Wilds in Ohio.</p> <p>2. Forest Product Firms' Intention to Invest in Payments for Ecosystem Services Programs: A Theory of Planned Behavior Approach <i>Mahesh Tiwari</i>, PhD Student, University of Georgia <i>Summary:</i> Forest Product Firms' Intention to Invest in Payments for Ecosystem Services Programs</p> <p>3. Valuing Cultural Ecosystem Services in a High-Use Mountain Landscape: A Multi-User Study from the Mt. Everest Region <i>Bobby Thapa</i>, PhD Candidate, University of Maine <i>Summary:</i> This study values cultural ecosystem services using non-market and qualitative methods, revealing user differences, equity concerns, and limits of monetization-offering insights for resilient, culturally grounded conservation in natural landscapes.</p> <p>4. Wildfire Effects on the Provision of Ecosystem Services in the South Platte River Basin of Colorado <i>Sungeun Cho</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Colorado State University. <i>Summary:</i> We analyzed spatiotemporal ES provision and wildfire impacts across land typologies in Colorado. CEs delivered higher levels of ESs than local and private protected areas, developed, and non-CE areas.</p>

12:00 - 1:00 PM Salon II & III LUNCH BREAK

Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2): 1:00 PM -2:30 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 13. Forest Biomass and Bioenergy Markets</p>	<p>Session: 14. Wildfire Prevention, Mitigation, and Socioeconomic Consequences</p>	<p>Session: 15. Forest Management and Silviculture Economics</p>
<p>Moderator: <i>Kamana Poudel</i>, Coordinator: <i>Emilie Hebenstreit</i></p> <p>1. Economics of Forest Residue Renewable Diesel Under Moisture Risk, Yield Uncertainty, and Supply Constraints <i>Chukwuemeka Valentine Okolo</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> We estimate \$/gal renewable diesel from Oregon forest residues, tracking how landowner premiums, moisture, drying energy, and yield pass through to cost. Scale and utilization dominate. Moisture raises costs; yield gains hedge when supply is tight.</p> <p>2. Evaluating Tipping Points from Forest Biomass Use for U.S. Data Center Electricity Generation <i>Nathan Bush</i>, PhD Student, University of Idaho <i>Summary:</i> We add existing data centers in a partial equilibrium model of the U.S. forest sector and then require scenario-specific levels of their energy demand to be fulfilled from forest-based biomass.</p> <p>3. Structural and economic assessment of wood-based biomass power in the US <i>Kamana Poudel</i>, Postdoctoral Scholar, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This study estimates the economic contribution of wood-based biomass power across all 50 U.S. states and examines the factors influencing variation in wood-based biomass electricity generation across states. By integrating economic impact modeling with analysis of structural, market, and policy drivers, the study provides insights to inform energy and forest policy design, support rural economic development, and guide region-specific investment and resource management decisions.</p> <p>4. Scaling Forest Biomass for Electricity and Its Impacts on Markets, Land Use, And Carbon <i>Greg Latta</i>, Associate Professor, University of Idaho <i>Summary:</i> We use a forest market model to explore non-linearities in forest bioenergy GHG intensity</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Ghanashyam Khanal</i>, Coordinator: <i>Thomas Gifford</i></p> <p>1. Catastrophic Wildfires and Suicide <i>Chandler Hubbard</i>, PhD Candidate in Economics, University of Wyoming <i>Summary:</i> Presentation consists of the following parts: background and interest, prior research, data (restricted-use), econometric analysis, robustness checks, implications, and future work.</p> <p>2. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Wildfire Prevention Programs on Tribal Lands in the United States <i>Ghanashyam Khanal</i>, ORISE Research Fellow, USFS Southern Research Station, <i>Summary:</i> This study assesses wildfire prevention effectiveness on Tribal lands over eight years using activity-level data converted to hours. Results show that prevention and outreach significantly reduce human-caused ignitions.</p> <p>3. Incentives and Barrier of Private Wildfire Mitigation: Evidence from Western WUI Households <i>Grant Webster</i>, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Colorado Boulder <i>Summary:</i> This study uses household survey data of WUI residents to investigate the incentives that would encourage WUI residents to take up more wildfire mitigation and the barriers standing in their way. The findings provide insights for policymakers and practitioners seeking to design more targeted and effective wildfire mitigation programs.</p> <p>4. Long term effects of large wildfires on local water quality <i>Thomas Gifford</i>, Ph.D Candidate in Economics, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> Exploring the connection between wildfire and water quality, economic consequences within, and policy implications.</p> <p>5. The effect of wildfire on violations of regulatory drinking water standards in the US <i>Joey Blumberg</i>, ORISE Postdoctoral Research Fellow, USFS <i>Summary:</i> Showcase a data synthesis effort and provide evidence of the understudied relationship between wildfire and human health outcomes through degraded source water quality.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Ram Dahal</i>, Coordinator: <i>Basana Sapkota</i></p> <p>1. Comparative economic analysis of even-aged and uneven-aged forest management of Douglas fir in Western Oregon <i>Hsu Kyaw</i>, PhD student, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> It will be economics comparison between even-aged and uneven-aged forest management of Douglas fir in the western Oregon.</p> <p>2. Economic Assessment of Different Silvicultural Prescriptions in the T3 Watershed Experiment at Olympic Experimental State Forest <i>Ankit Koirala</i>, Student, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> Can novel silvicultural prescriptions compete financially with conventional harvest on state trust lands? This study uses operational-scale T3 data from Washington's Olympic Experimental State Forest to compare different financial tools.</p> <p>3. Regenerating Northern Hardwoods: Challenges, Impacts, and Management Solutions <i>Emilie Hebenstreit</i>, Graduate Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> Current and alternative management practices of the northern hardwood (NH) forest are simulated in FVS to determine which management practice is best for NH forest regeneration.</p> <p>4. Influence or Interference? Understanding Crowding Effects in Forest Management Adoption <i>Jean Fritz Saint Preux</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Purdue University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines factors influencing the adoption of sustainable forest practices using survey data and logistic regressions. Results show that forest size and proximity matter, and adopting one practice affects the adoption of others.</p> <p>5. Understanding Private Landowner Strategies for Managing Wild Pigs: A Combined Cluster and Structural Equation Modeling Approach <i>Nana Tian</i>, Associate Professor, University of Arkansas at Monticello <i>Summary:</i> Not provided.</p>
<p>2:30 PM - 3:00 PM Salon II & III Networking Break and Poster Session 2</p>		

Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2): 3:00 PM -4:30 PM (Concurrent Sessions)

Salon I	Salon II & III	Salon IV
<p>Session: 16. Wood Supply Optimization, and Life Cycle Impacts</p>	<p>Session: 17. Spatially explicit data, modeling, and decision-support tools</p>	<p>Session: 18. Integrating Economics, Ecology, and Climate in Forest Management</p>
<p>Moderator: <i>Yogesh Sinde</i>, Coordinator: <i>Ichchha Thapa</i></p> <p>1. Environmental and economic assessment of a wood-based energy system for space heating <i>Yogesh Sinde</i>, Postdoctoral Scholar, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation evaluates and comparing the environmental and economic performance of wood biomass-based space heating systems relative to conventional fuel oil systems in an institutional facility. The findings inform forest managers, facility operators, and policymakers considering expanded use of wood biomass-based energy for space heating.</p> <p>2. Economic and Policy Determinants of Mass Timber Demand in the United States <i>Ichchha Thapa</i>, PhD Candidate, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This study estimates the mass timber demand function in the United States using a state-level panel data (2004-2024) and a fixed-effects model by examining the economic and policy drivers governing the growth of mass timber projects.</p> <p>3. From forest to framework: Supply chain perspectives on using small-diameter timber for mass timber <i>Hosne Akter</i>, Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Tennessee Knoxville <i>Summary:</i> To provide a more grounded understanding of where the supply bottlenecks, technological gaps, market uncertainties and sustainability risks lie in the transition from traditional wood products to large-scale engineered MT applications.</p> <p>4. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of a Hardwood Sawmill Facility in the Appalachian Region of the United States. <i>Tara Allohverdi</i>, PhD student Michigan State University Department of Forestry <i>Summary:</i> A life cycle assessment of a hardwood sawmill that uses wood residues to help power a sawmill.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Hari Katuwal</i>, Coordinator: <i>Ethan VanAntwerp</i></p> <p>1. Spatial Concentration of Foreign Landownership in U.S. Agricultural and Forest Land Markets <i>Jiaying Lei</i>, PhD student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines foreign ownership in US agricultural and forest land markets, using a two-stage hurdle model to show how spatial concentration and regional competition shape entry and limit landholding expansion across US states.</p> <p>2. Landscape Interactions of Optimal Wood Supply to Mills for the Continental United States <i>Ethan VanAntwerp</i>, Master's Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> A new modeling approach evaluates how forest product processing facilities interact with the landscape across the United States. Determining the market optimal usage of forest products to meet mill demand while minimizing cost.</p> <p>3. Two Decades of Ignition: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Texas Wildfires (2005–2024) <i>Hari Katuwal</i>, Associate Professor, Tarleton State University <i>Summary:</i> This research leverages a 20-year record of roughly 243,000 wildfires to analyze shifts in ignition patterns at the county level in Texas.</p> <p>4. A Comparative Analysis of Structural Changes in Kentucky Forest Sector <i>Benard Oriama</i>, Graduate Student, University of Kentucky. <i>Summary:</i> This study provides a comprehensive framework for understanding industrial input divergence in Kentucky forest sector and provides policy insights on the need for differentiated modernization strategies in both upstream and downstream industries.</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Thomas Ochuodho</i>, Coordinator: <i>Basana Sapkota</i></p> <p>1. Cost and benefit analysis of conservative forest management <i>Nan Zhang</i>, PhD Student, Duke University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation shows how biodiversity constraints can be incorporated into forest management optimization, highlighting trade-offs between timber value and conservation goals and estimating the economic cost of stricter biodiversity requirements.</p> <p>2. Natural Resource Contribution Analysis Using Tapestry Multi-Regional Social Accounting Matrices <i>Gregory Alward</i>, Affiliate Faculty, University of Idaho <i>Summary:</i> Introduces a multi-regional social accounting framework that decomposes supply chains to provide spatially explicit, reproducible measures of how forestry and natural resource sectors contribute across regional and national economies.</p> <p>3. Predicting the impact of climate change on landscape composition, deer, and outdoor recreation using a Bayesian structural equation modeling (BSEM) approach in Minnesota <i>Baishali Bakshi</i>, University of Minnesota <i>Summary:</i> We predict substantial shifts in landscape composition, deer, and outdoor recreation under climate change using a Bayesian SEM approach applied to the prairie-forest region of Minnesota for future time periods: 2040-2059, 2060-2079, and 2080-2099.</p>

4:30- 5:00 PM Salon II & III Closing and Awards

Tuesday, MAY 19 (DAY 1): Salon II & III (Poster Sessions)

10:00 - 10:30 AM	2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Poster Session 1	Poster Session 2
<p>Facilitators: <i>Mahesha Kuluppuarachchi</i>, CSU Students</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biomass Inventory Optimization for Willow Based Pellet Production Integrating Seasonal Supply and Stochastic Demand <i>Zhuoxiao Wu</i>, Recent Graduate (M.S.), Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> This MILP model uses (s,S) policies to optimize willow pellet inventory in NY under seasonal supply and stochastic demand. It cuts cost variability by 55% and boosts resilience via multi-feedstocks, providing key insights for facility managers. 2. Blockchain User Survey <i>Tara Allohverdi</i>, PhD student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation assesses the attitudes of the use of blockchain technology for forest product traceability and carbon tracking. Results highlight stakeholder perspectives on benefits, implementation barriers, and governance needs to support adoption in the forest sector. 3. Bridging Knowledge Gaps in US Timber Price Research: An Annotated Literature Review <i>Sujata Shrestha</i>, Graduate Student, University of Arkansas at Monticello <i>Summary:</i> The review synthesizes 53 peer-reviewed studies on US timber price dynamics across three themes revealing market heterogeneity, strong focus on softwood studies, and gaps in hardwood and ecological research, offering a roadmap for future research. 4. Does Wildfire Severity Impact the Provision of Ecosystem Services? A case study from the South Platte River Basin of Colorado <i>Sungeun (Katie) Cho</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> We develop an integrated scope incorporating multiple land types to assess how wildfire severity and burn area influence key ecosystem services (carbon storage, water yield, and habitat quality). 5. Economic Growth and Market Concentration in U.S. Interstate Wood Product Trade <i>Basana Sapkota</i>, Graduate Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes how alternative economic growth scenarios reshape US interstate wood product trade. Using the LURA model, it assesses changes in trade connectivity, market concentration, and competition under different economic conditions. 6. Influence or Interference? Understanding Crowding Effects in Forest Management Adoption <i>Jean Fritz Saint Preux</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Purdue University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines factors influencing the adoption of sustainable forest practices using survey data and logistic regressions. Results show that forest size and proximity matter, and adopting one practice affects the adoption of others 	<p>Facilitators: <i>Mahesha Kuluppuarachchi</i>, CSU Students</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Effects of Coastal Flooding and Storm Surge on Wood Product Demand in the United States <i>Anusha Shrestha</i>, Graduate Research Assistant, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study examines how sea level rise and coastal flooding affect U.S. sawnwood demand (1970–2024). Results show rising sea levels and economic growth increase wood consumption, likely driven by housing development and climate-related relocation. 8. Effects of Logging on Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions <i>Samuel Nonemaker</i>, Economics PhD Candidate, The University of Wyoming <i>Summary:</i> By May, I hope to have preliminary results to share. A poster or short presentation give a good opportunity to talk about the data, mechanism, and identification strategy for the first time, getting valuable feedback. 9. Exploring alternative northern hardwood management and regeneration options to enhance restoration. <i>Emilie Hebenstreit</i>, Graduate Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> FVS was used to model current management, thinning, against no management and an alternative management approach to determine the best management method for northern hardwood regeneration. 10. Feedstock Availability and Cost Analysis for Hardwood Mass Timber in Michigan <i>Ichchha Thapa</i>, PhD Candidate, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> This study identifies optimal locations and manufacturing model for hardwood-based mass timber in Michigan by assessing feedstock availability and manufacturing costs across different scenarios using network analysis and LURA model. 11. ForCAST: Forest Carbon Assessment & Statutory Tracker <i>Ethan VanAntwerp</i>, Master's Student, Michigan State University <i>Summary:</i> Mapping webtool for the lower 48 states, displaying information related to forest carbon policies. Using data from ACR, CAR, and Verra, it visualizes landscape changes and state-level policies for users to track overtime. 12. From Shock to Recovery: Economic Resilience of Southern Pine Forests Under Natural Disturbance <i>Simran Pandey</i>, Graduate Student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes post-disturbance recovery in southern pine plantations to quantify economic resilience through forest value dynamics and management strategies that inform landowner decision-making and long-term forest management.

Wednesday, MAY 20 (DAY 2): Salon II & III (Poster Sessions)

10:00 - 10:30 AM	2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Poster Session 3	Poster Session 4
Facilitators: <i>Mahesha Kuluppuarachchi</i> , CSU Students 13. Regulatory impact on riparian buffer policies: a parcel-level pilot study in Lane County, Oregon <i>Keeryun Cho</i> , Graduate Research Assistant, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes how differentiated riparian buffer standards under the Oregon Private Forest Accord shape parcel-level regulatory exposure across private forest ownership types in Lane County. 14. Governing landscapes in the Anthropocene: Adaptive governance and resilience outcomes at the local level <i>Marc Castellón-Durán</i> , Graduate Student, Oregon State University <i>Summary:</i> The presentation will showcase the project’s research framework, including overlapping concepts from the SESF, complex adaptive systems theory, and collaborative governance theory, linked through the nexus of adaptive governance. 15. How do institutional and regional factors contribute to the forest mill dynamics in the U.S? <i>Sofwaan Bakary</i> , Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tennessee <i>Summary:</i> This study investigates the factors influencing the operational status of forest mills in the United States, with particular attention to ownership dynamics, certification, and regional characteristics. 16. Identifying Merchantability Opportunities in California’s Priority Landscapes: A strategy for Wildfire Risk Mitigation <i>Olakunle Sodiya</i> , Graduate Student, North Carolina State University <i>Summary:</i> This study is critical for maximizing the benefits or minimizing the costs of fuel-reduction strategies, identifying optimal locations for new investments, and better prioritizing forest health improvement and wildfire mitigation funding programs. 17. Post-Contract Forest Persistence under the Conservation Reserve Program: Evidence from the Pacific Northwest <i>Dhruba Burlakoti</i> , Graduate Student, Colorado State University <i>Summary:</i> This poster examines whether forests established under CRP tree contracts persist after expiration in the Pacific Northwest. Linking CRP enrollment data with NLCD land-cover data, we track forest dynamics before and after contracts.	Facilitators: <i>Mahesha Kuluppuarachchi</i> , CSU Students 18. Regime-Dependent Price Dynamics in U.S. Southern Stumpage and Lumber Markets <i>Michael McIntosh</i> , Post-Doctoral Fellow, Auburn University <i>Summary:</i> This presentation examines historical U.S. Southern stumpage and lumber prices using a nonlinear time-series model known as the Smooth Transition Autoregressive Distributed Lag Error Correction Model (ST-ARDL-ECM). 19. Spatial Optimization of Prescribed Fire to minimize Wildfire Incidence in Mississippi <i>Evan Moore</i> , Graduate Student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> Optimizing prescribed fire distribution helps reduce wildfire. Mississippi county data (2016–2024) were analyzed using panel regressions. Frequent prescribed burns in wildland–urban interfaces are associated with lower wildfire incidence. 20. What factors affect forest management expenditures in Mississippi? <i>Samjhana Panthi</i> , Graduate Student, Mississippi State University <i>Summary:</i> This study analyzes how various factors affect forest management costs among landowners in Mississippi. Using logistic regression, we examine how income, population density, land productivity, acreage, and market access shape management decisions. 21. Lumber price shock revisited: The “asset-buffer” role of the U.S. housing market <i>Sofwaan Bakary</i> , Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tennessee <i>Summary:</i> This study examines how U.S. lumber demand responded to the 2021 lumber price supercycle, one of the most extreme commodity price episodes in modern forest product markets.

4:30- 5:00 PM	Salon II & III	Best Student Presentation and Poster Awards
5:00 PM	Salon II & III	Closing Remarks

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May 18, 2026, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

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Please schedule hotel arrival by 12:30pm for the field tour. Alternatively, you can stop at the site before checking in at the hotel, since it's on the way to Fort Collins from the airport.

Meet at the hotel lobby at 1 pm to be picked up by a tour bus. The drive will be ~35 mins to the site. Box lunch will be provided to the tour participants. The bus will drop everyone off at the hotel by 5 pm. Reception starts at 5:30 pm.

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Meeting Hosts

Dr. Srijana Baral (Srijana.Baral@colostate.edu)

Dr. Mahesha Kuluppuarachchi

Kritagya Gyawali, Dhruba Burlakoti, Kylie Cho

Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship Colorado State University

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FOREST AND RANGELAND STEWARDSHIP
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Raju Pokharel (raju2020@msu.edu)

Dr. Shivan Gc (gc@msu.edu)

Dr. Kamana Poudel

Department of Forestry
Michigan State University

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/for/index>



Department of Forestry
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY