

CONTINENTAL DIALOGUE ON NON-NATIVE FOREST INSECTS & DISEASES
November 2017, Speaker Biographies

Sherry Aultman, Invasive Species Program Manager, Clemson University. Sherry is the Invasive Species and Organic Program Manager at Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry. She holds a M.S. in Plant and Environmental Science and a B.S. in Fine Art from East Tennessee State University. Sherry served on the 2017 Continental Dialogue meeting planning committee.

John Baker, Spotted Lanternfly Program Coordinator, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. John joined the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2016. John's role includes overseeing survey activities, property treatments, and overseeing the volunteer banding program for the Spotted Lanternfly program. John has previously participated in research investigating honey bee losses, and native pollinator populations.

Chip Bates, Forest Health Program Manager, Georgia Forestry Commission. Chip is a graduate of Auburn University (1985) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management. His career in forestry began in 1986 with a consultant firm in South Georgia and in 1990 he transferred to the Georgia Forestry Commission and has 27 years of experience working with the Forest Management Departments. The Forest Health Management Group is responsible for providing leadership in Forest Health Management issues, forming partnerships to work with Federal, State, and private cooperators, and providing technical assistance to the landowners of Georgia.

Chuck Barger, Associate Director, University of Georgia, Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health. Chuck has been with the University of Georgia for 20 years where his work focuses on invasive species and information technology. Websites that he designed have been featured twice in Science Magazine and have received over 2 billion hits since 2002. Chuck developed the infrastructure behind Bugwood Images which runs the ForestryImages.org and Invasive.org websites. Recently, Chuck has focused on mapping invasive species and tools for Early Detection and Rapid Response using EDDMapS and smartphone applications. He has led development of 26 smartphone applications including the first apps for the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service. He was appointed to the National Invasive Species Advisory Council in 2013. He is Chair of the North American Invasive Species Network. Chuck has been an invited speaker at over 90 regional, national and international conferences and co-authored 25 journal articles and outreach publications.

Belle Bergner, Executive Director, North American Invasive Species Management Association Belle Bergner is the Executive Director of the North American Invasive Species Management Association based in Milwaukee, WI. NAISMA is working with Minnesota DNR to grow the PlayCleanGo® invasive species awareness campaign throughout North America that was developed by, and is owned by MN DNR. Belle has 14 years of experience in nonprofit management and conference planning. Belle received her BA in Biological Sciences from Mount Holyoke College and her MS in Ecology and Evolution from the University of Pennsylvania with training in environmental management, law and policy. Her masters research focused on the impact of global warming on boreal forests. Prior to receiving her MS, Belle managed ecological research projects in Eastern forests and Midwestern Prairie.

Faith Campbell, Vice President, Center for Invasive Species Prevention. Faith has worked as an environmental advocate on invasive species issues for nearly 30 years, with a focus on non-native, tree-killing pests for 24 of those years. She has carried out this work for a series of organizations, including Natural Resources Defense Council, American Lands Alliance, and The Nature Conservancy. Now retired from TNC, Faith is helping to form Center for Invasive Species Prevention (CISP), with the intention of continuing to work on invasive species issues.

Paul Chaloux, National Policy Manager, USDA APHIS PPQ. Paul serves as APHIS National Policy Manager for the agency's Asian Longhorned Beetle and Gypsy Moth Programs, working at agency headquarters in Riverdale, Maryland. He received his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Protection and his Master's degree in Forest Pathology, both from West Virginia University. Paul began working for APHIS in Florida in 2000 as a pathologist on the Citrus Canker Eradication Program, now known as the Citrus Health Response Program. He then served as a Supervisory Officer until March 2008, when he moved from Florida to Maryland to begin his present duties.

Rick Cooksey, Acting Director, US Forest Service Forest Health Protection. Rick has worked for the Forest Service for 25 years and held posts as Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forest in Wyoming, and recently as Director for State and Private Forestry for the Rocky Mountain Region in Denver, CO. Rick has a Master's of Science in Forestry from the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. David R. Coyle, Forest Health Associate, Southern Regional Extension Forestry and UGA-Warnell School of Forestry, University of Georgia. David runs the Southern Forest Health and Invasive Species Program (<http://southernforesthealth.net/>), which provides online and in-person training to forestry professionals across the 13-state southeastern region. This program includes forest insects, pathogens, and invasive weeds, and focuses on pest identification and management. Dave has over 20 years of experience in forest pest management, and has worked in the Midwest and Southeast, hardwood, pine, and mixed forests, and in natural and managed stands. Dave received his B.A. at Luther College in Decorah, IA; his M.S. at Iowa State University; and his PhD at the University of Wisconsin.

Brad Gething, Director of Science and Technology Integration, National Wooden Pallet & Container Association. Brad Gething became a member of the NWPCA staff in July 2013 and acts as Director of Science and Technology Integration. Brad's role includes participation in various standards and regulatory bodies, promotion of research and development, and support on other technical issues related to the wood packaging industry. Brad serves on several international panels including the Forestry Expert Working Group for the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) and The International Forest Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG). Before becoming a member of the NWPCA team, Brad worked at Penn State University as a post-doctoral scholar, researching issues related to the phytosanitation of wood packaging and ISPM 15. Brad earned a MS and PhD degree in Materials from Penn State University, and a BS degree in chemical engineering from Bucknell University.

Leigh Greenwood, Outreach Programs Manager, Restoring America's Forests, The Nature Conservancy. Leigh has worked for The Nature Conservancy since December 2007. Her work focuses on bringing multiple stakeholders together to achieve common goals in Forest Health, including: managing the international Don't Move Firewood campaign, the Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative, and the Firewood Scout Working Group. Leigh's leadership of the Don't Move Firewood campaign has led to its being widely regarded as one of the most innovative public outreach arms of The Nature Conservancy. Leigh earned her B.A. in Biology at Williams College and her M.S. in Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana in Missoula, where she studied the intersection of native wildlife and invasive plants.

Gordon Hammer, General Manager Client Relations, Georgia Ports Authority. Gordon is responsible for the leadership of the Georgia Ports Authority's Client Relations Team, which is responsible for developing a competent and dedicated team through leadership, structured training, and teambuilding. His principal accountability is to ensure high quality of service, customer retention, and distinctive customer interaction. With a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and a Third Mates License from SUNY Maritime College, Gordon has more than 30 years experience in liner shipping, logistics, and the port sector within the Maritime, transportation, and logistics industry. Prior to joining the GPA in 2006, he served as Vice President Trades and various other positions at Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics in New Jersey. Gordon had previously worked at Wilhelmsen Lines in Baltimore, Maryland and Ivaran Lines in New Jersey, as Vice President Sales & Marketing and was with both organizations for a combined 12 years. He has held various liner, logistics, and operational leadership positions during his 30 year career.

Katie Harrell, Chair, California Firewood Task Force. Katie Harrell is the Chair of the California Firewood Task Force and Communications Director for the CA Forest Pest Council. She has enjoyed working in public affairs on forest health and invasive species issues in California for the last 16 years.

Dr. Kyle Haynes, Research Associate Professor, Blandy Experimental Farm, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia. Kyle is a population ecologist and over the past 9 years, the primary focus of his research has been to understand the factors affecting the spatial and temporal population dynamics of forest-defoliating insects.

Rachel Holmes, Urban Forest Lead, The Nature Conservancy. Rachel coordinates the Conservancy's urban forestry program called the Healthy Trees, Healthy Cities (HTHC) Initiative. The mission of the initiative is to protect the health of our nation's forests and the well-being of communities by fostering a culture of stewardship that engages individuals and groups in the care of urban trees, and supports the next generation of emerging conservation leaders. Particularly passionate about youth engagement in urban forest management, Rachel established the HTHC Urban Tree Health Monitoring internship program, coordinated in partnership with the US Forest Service. Prior to her work at the Conservancy, Rachel created and implemented two urban forestry-based job training programs for urban youth in New Haven and Bridgeport, CT and served as an urban forester for the State of CT's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. She is the co-chair of the Chicago Region Trees Initiative Education Working Group, co-chairs the Communications Working Group for the Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition and is a member of both the NY State and CT State Urban Forest Councils. Rachel holds a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University, a Master of Divinity from the Yale Divinity School, and a Master of Forestry from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She is also a professional Flamenco dancer.

Dr. Frank H. Koch, Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station. Frank Koch is a research ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center in Research Triangle Park, NC. His research involves the use of statistical and geospatial analysis to investigate patterns and trends in factors that affect forest health. He has particular expertise in risk and impact modeling for invasive alien forest pests and in broad-scale monitoring of moisture conditions in forests. Frank collaborates with scientists from the Canadian Forest Service, USDA APHIS, and other agencies and institutions in this work, which is often national, continental, or even global in scope. He serves on the national management team for the Forest Service's Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program, and currently is the Communications Officer for the International Pest Risk Research Group (IPRRG).

Elizabeth Lebow, Asia-Pacific Program Specialist, USFS International Programs. Beth manages U.S. Forest Service activities in the Asia region as well as global invasive species partnerships aimed to improve U.S. forest health through international cooperation on significant forest pests. She has eleven years of experience in international development and natural resources management. Beth studied ecology as an undergraduate and graduate student, earning her PhD from the University of Georgia in 2005. Before joining the U.S. Forest Service, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines, working with a local government environment office on community forestry and restoration projects. She lives with her husband and two sons in rural Vermont.

Dr. Terry Morris, Director of Quarantine Policy, Analysis and Support, USDA APHIS PPQ. Terry is the Director of the USDA, APHIS, PPQ Quarantine Policy, Analysis and Support (QPAS). QPAS develops risk-based import policies and procedures for implementation at US ports of entry or within the US, for the purpose of safeguarding American plant and animal resources from the establishment of harmful exotic pests and diseases. Prior to joining QPAS, Terry held a variety of positions within PPQ, including Acting Associate Deputy Administrator and Acting Director for PPQ's Phytosanitary Issues Management staff. Prior to joining PPQ, she worked with USDA APHIS' Veterinary Services and with USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. Terry Morris is a native of Maryland. She graduated from Salisbury State University in 1988 with a Bachelors of Science degree and from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993 with a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree.

Richard Otis, President, Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition. Rick is a nationally recognized expert on environmental policy, with a unique understanding of tools and information technology used to drive performance, and, most recently, focused on leveraging these tools to address environmental challenges facing China.

Dr. Scott Pfister, Laboratory Director, USDA APHIS PPQ CPHST Otis Laboratory. Scott has been the Director of the USDA APHIS PPQ CPHST Otis Laboratory since June of 2016. The laboratory conducts research in support of APHIS's major forest pest programs such as Gypsy Moth, Asian Longhorned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer. In 2009, Scott joined APHIS as the Director of Forest Pest Programs. Since then he has held a variety of positions and prior to relocating to Otis, he was the Associate Executive Director for Plant Health Programs, where he oversaw policy development and management for the domestic plant pest quarantine, pest detection and export services programs. Prior to joining PPQ, Scott worked for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, where he held the position of Forest Resource Protection Chief. He also previously served as the State Plant Regulatory Official for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. In addition, to a Ph.D. in Natural Resources (Forest Health specialization), Scott holds a Master of Science degree in Plant Pathology and a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy.

Abbey Powell, Public Affairs Specialist and Hungry Pests Campaign Manager, USDA APHIS.

Abbey is an award-winning strategic communications change agent with more than 20 years of experience specializing in marketing campaigns, innovative technologies, branding, and project management. Abbey handles PPQ-related media inquiries and manages the USDA's flagship campaign to raise awareness about invasive pests, and what people can do to leave hungry pests behind (www.HungryPests.com). After joining the Legislative and Public Affairs team at APHIS in September 2014, she quickly became an institution after being featured as Agent Powell in the syndicated Mark Trail comic strip in a 7-week series about the EAB, purple traps, and parasitoids.

Craig Regelbrugge, Senior Vice President of Industry Advocacy and Research, AmericanHort.

Craig is responsible for AmericanHort's industry advocacy and research programs. AmericanHort is the national trade organization representing horticulture. Regelbrugge serves in national leadership positions representing the horticulture industry on matters relating to the labor force, plant health, and trade. He co-chairs the Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform, and serves on the board of the National Immigration Forum Action Fund. He serves as chairman of the US Industry Advisory Group to the North American Plant Protection Organization. Regelbrugge received his undergraduate degree in horticulture from Virginia Tech, and served as a county horticultural extension agent in Virginia before joining ANLA in December 1989. He is a frequent presenter, author, and spokesperson on topics relating to the workforce and immigration, production, trade, and environmental issues impacting the horticulture industry. He is an avid gardener of ornamental and native plants, vegetables, berries, and...oysters.

John Sagle, Director, Agriculture Safeguarding, Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Mr. John Sagle currently serves as Director, Agriculture Safeguarding with U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Washington, DC. Mr. Sagle has 11 years of Federal Service with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). He has held a variety of key management positions with CBP such as Acting Director, Agriculture Safeguarding, Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison (APTL), HQ; Branch Chief, Agriculture Safeguarding, APTL, HQ; and Supervisory CBP Agriculture Specialist, Newark, NJ. As Acting Director, Agriculture Safeguarding, Mr. Sagle was charged with the oversight and administration of Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) programs within CBP to include the oversight of operations encompassing over 2,400 field level CBP Agriculture Specialists and the Agriculture Canine Program. As Branch Chief, Agriculture Safeguarding, he was responsible for agency collaboration with HQ staff and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture. As Supervisory CBP Agriculture in Newark, he was responsible for oversight and administration of CBP Agriculture Operations in the passenger clearance, air cargo, and compliance sectors.

Piera Siegert, State Entomologist, New Hampshire Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food.

Piera has a M.Sci. in Entomology from Michigan State University. She has twelve years of research experience in an insect behavior lab with a focus on applied chemical ecology. Piera has been with the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food since 2010 where she is the State Entomologist, and the Director for the Division of Plant Industry. In this role, she also serves as the State Plant Regulatory Official for the state, and is a member of the National Plant Board. Because New Hampshire is the second most densely forested state in the nation, with 84% of its area covered by trees (and much of the rest is water!), Piera spends significant time on forest pest threats to the state's resources. In addition to her regulatory responsibilities, Piera cooperates with state and federal agencies, universities, and other public and private partners to increase outreach about forest pests. Piera was involved in the creation of www.NHBugs.org, a multi-agency cooperative effort that serves as the state's information clearinghouse about forest pests. Recent significant forest pest outreach initiatives in New Hampshire include joining Firewood Scout (with more than 520 vendors listed), a new page on www.NHBugs.org specifically addressing recreational firewood transportation, and launching an NHBugs facebook page.

Robert Simpson, President, GreenWoodGlobal Consulting. Bob Simpson founded GreenWoodGlobal Consulting in 2011 after spending nearly 18 years with the American Forest Foundation, working in its forestry-related outreach and education programs. As AFF's Senior Vice President, Simpson was responsible for developing and implementing strategies for AFF's forestry programs such as the American Tree Farm System (ATFS). Simpson graduated from Virginia Tech in 1979 and holds a Bachelor of Science in Forest Resource Management.

Dr. Caterina Villari, Assistant Professor, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia. Caterina Villari has a B.S. in Forest and Environmental Sciences and a M.S. in Plant Health Sciences and Technologies, both from the University of Florence (Italy). She received her Ph.D. in Crop Science, Plant Protection Curriculum from the University of Padua (Italy) in 2012, and did her postdoctoral work at the Ohio State University, Department of Plant Pathology. Starting in 2016, she is an Assistant Professor in Forest Pathology at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia. Her main scientific interests are the interactions among trees, fungal pathogens and insect herbivores, and related chemical ecology aspects. She works with symbioses between bark beetles and fungi, and plant defense theories, using an interdisciplinary approach that involves ecological, metabolomic, and molecular analyses.