THE PINCHOT LETTER

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The New Generation of Private Forest Landowners: Brace for Change

The United States is about to witness the largest intergenerational transfer of family forest ownership in the nation's history. Given the extent of private forests in the United States, and their significance for conserving public values such as water quality and wildlife habitat, it will be important to develop a clearer understanding of the changing needs and interests of the next generation of owners. The Pinchot Institute and the USDA Forest Service recently completed a study of the next generation of private forest landowners in the United States. Results suggest that existing landowner assistance programs might need to be adapted to ensure good forest stewardship, and minimize further losses of forest area through fragmentation and conversion to nonforest land uses.

THE CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS OF FOREST LAND OWNERS

Over the past decades, dozens of studies have been conducted by universities, natural resource agencies, and the forest industry to better understand the interests and inclinations of the current generation of private forest landowners regarding the management of family forests. The stakes are high. Private forest lands, not including those owned by integrated forest products companies, account for nearly 50 percent of all the forest land in the United States, and nearly 60 percent of all productive timberland (Smith et al 2004). These private forests play a critically important role in protecting water quality, conserving habitat for rare plant and animal species; offering opportunities for hunting, fishing and other forms of outdoor recreation; producing wood and other renewable forest products; and mitigating climate change by sequestering millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" (Best and Wayburn 2001). In many ways, private forests play an essential role in protecting important public conservation values. Thus it is in the national public interest that we better understand the needs and motivations of private forest owners, to better craft programs and policies to assist forest landowners in managing their forests sustainably, and maximize the chances that those forests will continue to provide important public conservation values in perpetuity.

Certain consistent findings across many of these studies suggest that the perspectives of current private forest landowners are reasonably well understood, even though the total population is large—10.3 million—and diverse. Typically, the most commonly cited reasons why these individuals and families own forest land are for aesthetic enjoyment, conserving environmental values, privacy, and having a valuable asset to pass along to heirs (Butler and Leatherberry 2004). Relatively few owners indicate that timber production is an important reason for having forest land. These basic findings were most recently corroborated in the 2003 National Woodland Owners Survey (NWOS), conducted by the U.S. Forest Service.

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The 2005 NWOS conducted by the U.S. Forest Service found that the proportion of forest owners under 45 years of age dropped sharply between 1993 and 2003. More than 60 percent of today's forest owners are older than 55, and more than half of these are older than 65. During the next two decades, a substantial portion of the nation's private forest lands will be transferred to the next generation. Ten percent of the family forestland is owned by people who plan to transfer it within the next *five* years.

Will the goals of this next generation regarding the management of family forest lands be similar to those of the current generation? How will the demographics of the next generation of forest owners be different, and how might this affect their values, motivations and needs as they make decisions on the future of their forests? The answers to these questions have profound implications for what can be expected of this vast area of forest in the United States, and how the public values that have traditionally been provided by these private forests will be affected.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, ASK THE KIDS

To begin addressing some of these important questions, the Pinchot Institute, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and state forestry agencies, conducted a survey of the next generation of private forest landowners—not the owners of today, but those most likely to be the owners in the future. Most important to the study was the cooperation of individuals who own and manage private forest lands today, who granted

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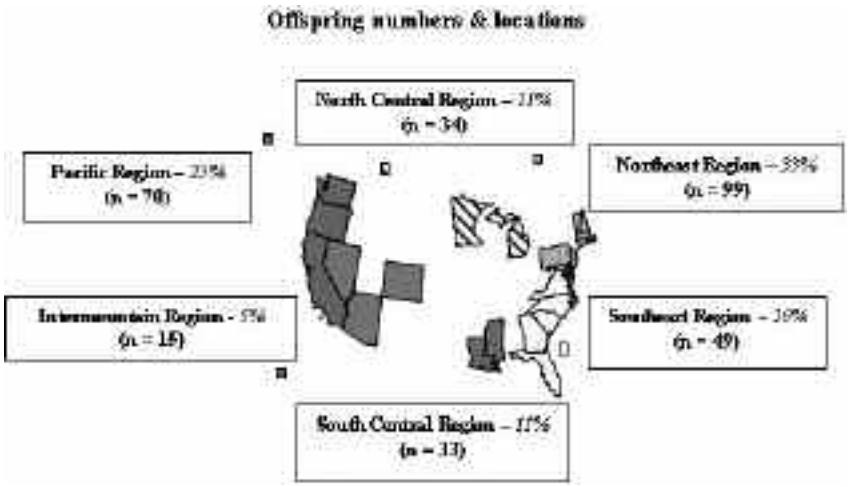
permission to interview their offspring, and to raise sometimes sensitive questions that in many instances had not yet been discussed within the families themselves. There were several instances in which forest landowners who had heard about the study contacted the Pinchot Institute to request that their children be interviewed. In most cases, the current owners were concerned about the future of their forests, but a surprisingly large proportion of parents did not know whether their children were interested in assuming management of the family forests, and had never discussed this with them.

The study was conducted in early 2005 through a series of 300 telephone interviews with the children of current private forest landowners, in six regions encompassing 25 states across the country. Interviews typically lasted between 30-45 minutes, and approximately 30% of the interviews were conducted with siblings of the same family. Current forest landowners were identified through state forestry agencies, university extension services, county assessor offices, and representatives of state and county forest landowner associations. The offspring to whom the Pinchot Institute was granted permission to interview represented families owning a total of approximately 300,000 acres in a range of tract sizes (15 percent owned 10-49 acres; 17 percent owned 50-99 acres; 44 percent owned 100-499 acres).

THE NEXT GENERATION: DIFFERENT NEEDS AND INTERESTS

The general picture that emerges of the next-generation owners of the nation's private forests is that most have had little involvement to date in the management of the family forest; and many of these individuals have little interest in becoming more involved. A large proportion of these next-generation owners work in professional fields with average or higher household incomes. Most do not live near their families' forests, and do not plan to live on the family forest in the future.



Nevertheless, most offspring of today's private forest landowners expect that their parents will want to keep the forest land in the family; and that as heirs, they will find themselves being forest landowners themselves within the next 10-20 years. Most offspring want to inherit the land, but less than half want to be involved in the current management of the land. This will lead to an intergenerational disconnect and may mean that the next generation of forest landowners will not be able to manage the land according to the legacy their parents envisioned.

Many of these individuals expect that the family forest will one day become a source of income for them, but the importance of this seems to vary significantly by gender, age and geographic region. Next-generation forest landowners who are women tend to focus more on the importance of maintaining the land as a family legacy more than men, who tend to focus more on income and personal use. The next generation of forest landowners seems to be generally aware of land use changes, particularly residential development, that are taking place in the vicinity of the family forest, and see the undeveloped nature of the family forest as one of its most important characteristics. In general, their stated intent is to retain the land as forest, but needs for ready cash for unanticipated emergencies, paying taxes, or covering medical expenses are factors that could prompt them to convert, subdivide, or sell family forest land.

Next-generation forest landowners, in general, see the major challenges in forest land ownership being taxes, maintenance costs, and the time commitment required to manage the property. Many are only marginally knowledgeable about the family forest itself and how it is being managed by their parents; and many express no desire to become more knowledgeable at this point. Some of this may be in deference to their parents, and the sensitivities surrounding discussions of inheritance. But it also seems to reflect the general low level of interest in becoming involved in management decisions, and taking ownership of a forest not located near their own community.

This picture of the next generation of private forest landowners, suggests the need for a comprehensive examination and evaluation of existing federal, state and private programs for technical and financial assis-

tance to private forest landowners. Many of the existing programs for technical assistance, financial incentives and cost-sharing were developed to help landowners absorb some of the up-front costs of improving forest growth and productivity through silvicultural practices. Returns from forest management often come many years after the initial investment in forest improvements. Many public and corporate assistance programs are aimed at enabling landowners to undertake these activities despite the long lag time between expenses and income.

A population of private forest landowners that is increasingly remote from the forest land itself, whose livelihoods are less connected with the land, and who lack prior involvement with the management of the family forest is unlikely to have the experience or knowledge to feel competent in making management decisions. Ultimately, they may be less interested in owning the land at all, and thus be more likely to consider options that will result in further fragmentation or conversion of forest land.

THE NEED TO RE-EXAMINE EXISTING LAND OWNER ASSISTANCE POLICIES

The next two decades of Americans will witness the largest intergenerational transfer of family forest land ownership in the nation's history. The needs and interests of the next generation of private forest landowners clearly will be different from those of their parents, but in what ways? Will the individuals who stand to inherit lands that are an important part of their family legacy—and which also collectively constitute a major share of the nation's productive forest land—be prepared to assume these responsibilities? What will be the implications for water, wildlife and the array of other public conservation benefits that these private lands have traditionally provided? What will be the implications for timber production? Are there alternative approaches to the existing suite of programs and policies for private forest landowner assistance that will more effectively address the circumstances of the next generation of owners, and thus help ensure the continued conservation and stewardship of these lands?

Most of these questions will have to be answered through future research efforts, but this should not stand in the way of incorporating these kinds of considerations into intergenerational "succession plans" for family forests. To the extent that such planning is done today, its focus is often limited to estate planning aimed at minimizing the tax consequences of intergenerational transfers of assets. A more comprehensive approach might include considerations of continuity in forest management plans and objectives, particularly where goals include creating conditions or values that take decades to develop.

In remarks at the National Press Club in Washington on October 3, Georgia tree farmer (and Rolling Stones keyboardist) Chuck Leavell acknowledged the changes taking place on private forest lands, especially in the South where he is now seeing "fewer windmills and more satellite dishes." In terms of the policies and programs aimed at assisting private forest landowners—and simply keeping the forest in forest, Leavell noted that "what worked in the past may not work in the future." The future of private forest lands is too important—to private landowners and to the national public interest—for us to be unprepared. The results of this first look at differences in the next generation of private forest landowners suggest that this is an area that warrants broader and more intensive research, and a comprehensive examination of existing policies and programs relating to private forest lands.

Additional information on this study can be found at www.pinchot.org, or by contacting Al Sample (alsample@pinchot.org), Catherine Mater (mater@mater.com), or Brett Butler (bbutler@fs.fed.us). This project was undertaken by the Pinchot Institute as a cooperative venture in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry Northeastern Area and the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station.

Please turn to page 14 for an interview with Catherine Mater about this study.

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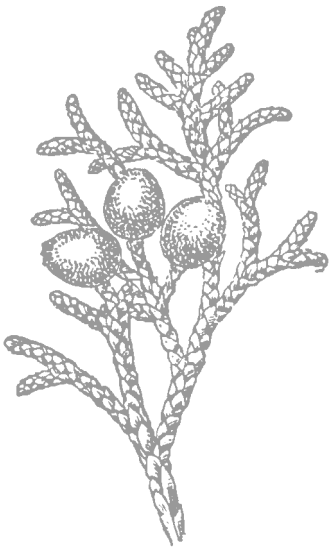

Working Toward Common Goals in Sustainable Forest Management: The Divergence and Reconvergence of European and American Forestry

On July 1, 2005, France and the United States pledged to expand their cooperation on forest conservation and management, with one another and with other parts of the world that are still striving to shift from unsustainable exploitation of forest resources to sustainable forest management. Signing the agreement were Jean-Jacques Benezit, Director of International Affairs in the French Ministry of Agriculture, and Dale Bosworth, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture. Strong support for this renewed high-level cooperation on forestry matters was voiced by Jean-David Levitte, French Ambassador to the United States; John Turner, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; Michael Johanns, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture; and Mark Rey, U.S. Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.

This pledge of renewed cooperation between France and the United States is symbolic in many ways. It was signed on July 1, the hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Transfer Act of 1905, which established the U.S. Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture, and transferred the responsibility for managing the federal forest reserves (now National Forests) to the Forest Service from the Department of the Interior. Furthermore, the agreement was signed at the very desk used by Gifford Pinchot when he served as the first Chief Forester of the United States and founding chief of the Forest Service.

Because there were no forestry schools at any university in the United States in Pinchot's time, he received his professional education at the French national forestry school, the École Nationale Forestiére in Nancy, in 1889. Like Pinchot, many of the other early leaders in forestry in the United States received their training at European forestry schools. They brought back with them the sum of experience, and knowledge of forest science and forestry practice, developed in Europe over more than a thousand years. Adapting this knowledge to the unique ecological, economic and social circumstances in the United States at the time, Gifford Pinchot and his contemporaries launched not only the U.S. Forest Service, but the profession of forestry itself in the United States. Through Pinchot and others, Europe made a major contribution to accelerating the transition in the United States from our own unsustainable exploitation of forests to conservation and sustainable forest management as we know it today.

The signing of this agreement, on the centennial anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Forest Service, was in many ways a recognition of this important contribution, and an acknowledgement of thanks to our European colleagues and forestry education institutions. It marked the culmination of an international colloquium organized by the Pinchot Institute, the U.S. Forest Service, and the École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts,[1] to examine the common roots of forest science and forestry practice, the divergent paths followed by European and American forestry during the 20th century, and the reconvergence that is taking place in the 21st century around common concerns such as

American and European participants in June at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina

conserving biological diversity, protecting water quality, and promoting sustainable forest management in both developed and developing countries. The colloquium took place in two stages, first in Nancy, France at the École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts on March 7-9, and second at Grey Towers National Historic Site in Milford, Pennsylvania on June 27-29. The papers from the colloquium are being published as a book to be released by the Pinchot Institute and the Forest History Society in 2006.

DIVERGENCE AND RECONVERGENCE

Forestry in Europe and the United States share common roots, not only in terms of the practice of silviculture, but in the institutional, legal and policy framework that forms the basis for sustainable forest management. Sustainable forest management, as the term is currently applied, explicitly incorporates ecological and social considerations as well as economic ones. European forestry institutions, especially educational institutions such as the École Nationale Forestiére in Nancy, France, significantly contributed to the introduction of basic principles of forestry to the United States in the late 19th century. This catalyzed the nation's transition from unsustainable exploitation of its forest resources to the conservation and sustainable management of these resources.

Early American forestry leaders who received their training in Europe, such as Gifford Pinchot, quickly recognized that the silviculture and forest science they had been taught there would have to be adapted to the very different circumstances prevailing in the United States at that time, not only in terms of different forest types, but also to respond to important social, economic, cultural and political differences. The institutional, legal and policy framework for forestry in the United States developed along distinctly different lines than in Europe, and continued to do so throughout the 20th century. It also evolved at a far faster rate, so that during the last half of the 20th century, forestry in the United States was already struggling to address significant changes in social values and perspectives regarding forests and forestry that are only now sweeping through forestry in Europe.

At the start of the 21st century, European and American forestry institutions are focusing on many of the same concerns—sustainable wood production, biodiversity conservation, protection of water quality, climate mitigation, and promoting sustainable economic development in rural communities, for example. This reconvergence is resulting in increased cooperation in the development of new forest science and technologies among scientists and forestry practitioners; and new strategic alliances among forestry institutions involved with research, technical assistance, and forest management. Not only is this cooperation taking place on European and U.S. soil, but more importantly, in developing countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, which are at the point in their own histories where they are struggling to make the transition from unsustainable resource exploitation to resource conservation and sustainable use.

HISTORICAL FRAMEWORK

Sustainable forest management in Europe developed over a period of more than a thousand years, dating back to medieval edicts governing woodcutting and the taking of game animals in royal forests. As chronicled in the chapter by David Adams,[2] the framework of legal principles underlying forest use and management goes back at least to the *Corpus Juris Civilis* compiled by the Roman Emperor Justinian in the 6th century. The Romans introduced the concept of privately-owned forests (*res in patrimonio*) to lands which previously had been treated as commons. Following the fall of Rome, the Barbarians of central and northern Europe enacted the first Germanic forestry laws between the 5th and 7th centuries, promulgating fines and punishments for forest trespass and declaring all forests, except royal territories, commons subject to free public use.

Canute, ruler of England, Denmark and Norway in the 11th century, established laws granting private ownership and use of forests, and also reserved royal forests for the protection of both wild game and the woods themselves. As populations in Europe increased, impacts on the forests also increased, prompting the enactment of forest protection laws in Europe and in Norman England. Tensions over the enforcement of these notoriously strict laws governing the use of forest lands helped give rise to the *Magna Carta* and its accompanying *Magna Foresta* in the 13th century. In the early 19th century, the Napoleonic Code swept away many of the remaining vestiges of feudalism, and opened forests throughout the portion of Europe once conquered by Napoleon to private ownership and use.

Forest science and the practice of silviculture came of age in Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, as described in chapters by Marie-Jeanne Lionnet,[3] Heinrich Spiecker,[4] Yves Birot[5] and Françoise Houllier.[6] The concept of managing forests for a sustained yield of wood arose out of economic and social problems created by forest exploitation for shipbuilding, charcoal making and other uses that made it difficult for local communities to meet their needs for fuelwood, fodder and food. Selective harvesting systems based on coppicing (regeneration through stump sprouts), coppicing-with-standards (leaving occasional large trees to provide for

forest regeneration from seeds as well as sprouting), and high forests (regenerated primarily through seeding and planting) helped sustain forests for a variety of uses, theoretically in perpetuity. Tree breeding and the introduction of new species brought about higher forest productivity, along with the use of even-age silvicultural systems involving the periodic clearing and regeneration of larger areas of forests under the "regulated forest" concept.

CHANGING SCIENCE AND SOCIAL VALUES

In much of Europe during the 20th century, preferred species of trees, such as Norway spruce and European beech, were planted over large areas, often with only a single species represented. In recent years, many problems with this approach have become apparent, including insect outbreaks, severe weather damage, and disease problems. These problems have had major economic impacts, and have caused European forestry to shift back toward mixtures of commercial and native species. As noted in chapters by Franz Schmithüsen,[7] Christian Barthod,[8] and Konstantin Von Teuffel,[9] forestry in Europe is also changing in response to evolving social values and cultural perspectives regarding forests, and the need to provide greater protections to natural characteristics not usually found in large monocultures of non-native tree species.

Ironically, forest scientists and forest managers have, for most of the past two centuries, focused on methods to maximize wood production. Even though these methods were highly successful, European foresters are finding that social goals relating to forests have changed in the meantime. An entirely new set of social and economic challenges have arisen in European forestry, and the traditional institutions of forestry research, forest management, and forestry education are struggling to meet these new challenges.

These kinds of challenges are not new to forestry in the United States, where, interestingly enough, these kinds of environmental, economic and social concerns arose decades earlier than in Europe. Chapters by Michael Williams[10] and Char Miller[11] describe some of the unique frontier values that shaped the early American view of forests, and helped drive the wave of deforestation and forest exploitation that swept across America during the 19th century. It was the widespread environmental and economic damage from this exploitation that caused scientists and authors such as George Perkins Marsh, Charles Sprague Sargent, and John Aston Warder to sound the alarm, and call for government action to halt the devastation of the nation's forest resources.

It was into this set of circumstances that young Gifford Pinchot was thrust, urged by his father to go to Europe to study forestry, and bring back to America a more enlightened approach to utilizing its forests. The notion that a forest could be cut and at the same time preserved was a foreign concept to 19th-century America, as it rushed to open its last frontiers, to capitalize on its natural assets, and to join the industrial revolution sweeping through Europe at the time. Pinchot's family itself had once made its fortune in the lumber business, clearing timber and abandoning the land in the style that was customary and accepted at the time, a fact that may have had some bearing on Pinchot's choice of profession.

Pinchot's conservationist tendencies are compared in a chapter by John Perlin[12] to those of another icon of the American conservation movement: John Muir. Conventional wisdom holds that Muir regarded Pinchot's utilitarian approach to forests as anathema to his own preservationist approach, and that the feeling was mutual. In fact, Perlin points out many of Pinchot's writings and public pronouncements at the time reveal a strong tendency toward forest protection. Use of the federal forest reserves and other public lands by local individuals was inevitable, Pinchot reasoned, so the most practical approach is to allow such uses, but regulate them to prevent resource depletion or long-term damage to the land's productivity. Perlin likewise examines Muir's writings at the time, and finds that he too understood this approach, but also regarded some landscapes as almost sacred in their pristine form, to be held inviolate by any human exploitation. Unfortunately for history, and for the relationship between these two early conservation leaders, they differed over one particular landscape—Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite. Particularly ironic is that, long after Muir's death in 1914, Pinchot increasingly favored strong governmental intervention to protect forests on private as well as public lands in the United States, eventually becoming highly critical of the close association between the lumber industry and his beloved U.S. Forest Service.

The evolution of the Forest Service to being the nation's largest single timber producer by the mid-20th century had a major impact on the National Forests, and on the public perception of the Forest Service itself, as noted in the chapter by Paul Hirt.[13] With Europe still reeling from the devastation of World War II, the U.S. economy was the fastest growing in the world at mid-century. The American spirit was one of unflagging optimism and confidence that, with a combination of economic resources and technological know-how, anything was possible. Forest science and the practice of forestry in the United States focused almost entirely on maximizing wood production, and were very successful in achieving that goal. But as in Europe, social values

Al Sample (US), Dominique Danguy des Deserts (FR), Heinrich Spiecker (DE), Franz Schmithüsen (CH), and Paul Sisco (US) at a chestnut tree planting and dedication in the Cradle of Forestry.

and public preferences shifted in the meantime. Forestry found itself out of step with the rest of society, and subject to a storm of public criticism that foresters—most of whom considered themselves to be conservation-minded—struggled to understand. Hirt observes that after nearly four decades of controversy over timber harvesting and other forest practices, forestry in the United States seems to have come full circle. Timber harvesting on the National Forests has declined from previous unsustainable levels, and the focus has shifted more toward what it was a century ago—watershed protection, ecological restoration, forest health, maintaining forest extent, and wood harvesting mostly by regional and community-based firms for local processing and economic development.

ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE

European and American forestry are now facing similar challenges and opportunities in the 21st century. At no time in history has there been greater public interest in the conservation and sustainable management of forests—in Europe, in the United States, and throughout the world—than at present. There is widespread recognition that maintaining forests is an essential prerequisite to conserving biological diversity, including threatened or endangered plant and animal species, as well as game species. Protecting water quality from forested watersheds has become a critical need in many parts of the world as an increasing proportion of the population becomes concentrated in urban centers. Increasingly urbanized populations also mean that forests and other natural areas are becoming more important for outdoor recreation and relief from the pressures of urban life. More people are coming to understand the value of wood as a renewable resource, and that it can be substituted for other kinds of building materials whose mining or manufacturing have a far greater impact on the natural environment. Most recently, there is growing recognition of the important role forests play in mitigating global climate change, either through sequestration of carbon dioxide, or by substituting "biofuels" for fossil fuels in energy production, a major source of greenhouse gases.

The controversies and public debates over timber harvesting and other forest practices in Europe and the United States have stimulated many different efforts to define "sustainable forestry." The chapter by Al Sample[14] describes how these many separate efforts have led to a remarkably consistent identification of "generally accepted principles of sustainable forest management." These principles are increasingly finding their way into international trade in forest products through new mechanisms, such as independent third-party certification. "Green" certification gives confidence to the purchaser of a wood product that it is from a well-managed forest, whether the purchaser is an individual consumer or a company intent on demonstrating its commitment to environmental stewardship. Over time, certification will reward conscientious forest managers with greater market share, while gradually eliminating market access to wood from exploited or endangered forests.

These basic principles are becoming the core of forest management planning for the future, both in Europe and the United States, as described in chapters by Jean-Jacques Benezit,[15] Cyrille Van Effenterre,[16] Michel Vernois,[17] and Dennis LeMaster.[18] Internationally, they are increasingly being manifested in the influences that European and American forestry professionals are having on key institutions such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) forestry program, as described in the chapter by Jean-Paul Lanly.[19] Gérard Buttoud[20] expands further upon this in his discussion of the new concepts and policies emerging from the broader international dialogue on forestry, which increas-

ingly involves private and nonprofit organizations as well as government entities. Author Jeff Burley[21] gives further emphasis, stressing that multilateral and multi-sectoral (e.g., private enterprises and nonprofit organizations, not just governments) cooperation and action will be needed if forest conservation and sustainable forest management is ever to be achieved at the global level. Sustainable forest management has a key role to play in poverty alleviation in developing countries, not only through maintaining community supplies of fuelwood and fodder, but in protecting water supplies and water quality in rural areas often devastated by drought and water-borne diseases. As the local economies are increasingly drawn into the global economy, developing countries are becoming the fastest growing sources—and markets—for wood and wood-fiber products. Ensuring that these develop in way that can be sustained over the long term will be a major challenge for the developing countries themselves, but also for multi-lateral development banks and sources of private capital that fund major forest development projects.

All of this has significant implications for forestry education in Europe, in the United States, and throughout the world. This colloquium was inspired by the important contributions that forestry education at European universities made to the United States at a critical stage of its development as a nation, by educating Gifford Pinchot and other early forestry leaders. Having recognized the importance of the United States-developing forestry education programs of its own, Pinchot helped establish a new forestry school at Yale University. More than 50 additional forestry programs have since developed in the United States, mostly at state universities. But as Patrice Harou,[22] Ed de Steiguer[23] and Terry Sharik[24] observe, the enrollments in forestry programs at universities in both Europe and the United States have been steadily declining for several years. Forestry programs at many universities have been blended into broader programs in agriculture or environmental sciences. At other universities, the forestry programs have simply disappeared altogether.

What is particularly ironic is that this decline in university-based forestry programs is coming at a time of unprecedented world-wide public concern over forest conservation, when there has never been a greater need for competent, well-trained forestry professionals. These professionals are needed in the field where they can develop a first-hand understanding of resource problems and their underlying causes, and find effective means by which to address these problems. But experienced, knowledgeable and articulate forestry professionals are also needed at the highest levels of governments and private enterprises, to guide policymaking so that it is practical and effective, and so that unintended negative consequences are avoided.

Forestry education in Europe and the United States has made important contributions to sustainable forestry over the past century. But in many cases, these institutions are not capable of preparing the next generation of forestry professionals for the new set of challenges they will be facing. How can forestry education adapt to these changing needs? Creative partnerships and strategic alliances that allow university-based forestry programs to combine their strengths and share resources internationally—such as "distance learning" programs that allow students around the world to take on-line classes with top professors at many different universities in a single degree program—will be essential to meeting the world's changing needs for forestry education.

CONCLUSION

This colloquium marked the centennial of the U.S. Forest Service, and acknowledged the important role of European forestry educators in fostering the development of forest science and the practice of forestry in the United States. As Françoise Le Tacon[25] points out in his chapter, scientific and technical exchange in forestry between the United States and Europe has been going on for more than a century. But today's challenges in forest conservation and sustainable forest management will require far more than developed countries assisting one another and learning from one another's experiences. There are many countries in the world that are today striving to make that same transition that was so important to the United States at the time of Gifford Pinchot—from unsustainable exploitation of their forests to conservation and sustainable management.

In his 1911 book, *The Fight for Conservation*, Pinchot wrote: "A nation deprived of its liberty may win it; a nation divided may reunite; but a nation whose natural resources are destroyed must inevitably pay the penalty of poverty, degradation and decay." In our interconnected global society, no individual nation can suffer such a fate without affecting other nations halfway around the world. On the other hand, a nation that achieves success in sustaining its resources and its people becomes a positive force in the global economy and contributing citizen in the global community.

Addressing the new and growing cadre of forestry professionals in the United States that he helped to inspire, Gifford Pinchot also wrote, "Our responsibility to the Nation is to be more than just good stewards of the land. We must be constant catalysts for positive change." Today, our responsibility is to the global community, and it is in part through expanded international cooperation that we will fulfill that responsibility to be constant catalysts for positive

change, and continue to advance conservation and sustainable forest management.

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NOTES

1. Other sponsoring organizations included: the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg, University of Freiburg, Forest History Society, Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, National Forest Foundation, Society of American Foresters, Stihl, Blooming Grove Club, American Chestnut Foundation, and the Biltmore Estate.
2. North Carolina State University.
3. École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts, Nancy.
4. Université de Freiburg-en-Brisgau, Freiburg.
5. Institut National Recherche Agronomique, Nancy, France.
6. Institut National Recherche Agronomique, Nancy, France.
7. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland.
8. Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable, Paris.
9. Forest Research Institute of Baden Wurtenberg,.
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13. Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
14. Pinchot Institute, Washington, DC
15. Ministère de l'agriculture et de la Pêche, Paris.
16. École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts, Paris.
17. École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts, Nancy
18. Purdue University (ret), West Lafayette, Indiana.
19. Académie d'agriculture de France, Paris.
20. École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts, Nancy
21. Oxford Forestry Institute, Oxford University.
22. World Bank, Washington, DC.
23. University of Arizona, Tucson.
24. Utah State University, Logan.
25. Institut National Recherche Agronomique, Nancy.

High School Students Learn Hands-On about Pennsylvania Forestry Issues

On May 31, a group of students from Delaware Valley High School (DVHS) took part in a field studies course on the history and practice of forestry. The course was held at Grey Towers National Historic Site and the nearby Milford Experimental Forest. Students learned about the history of conservation and took part in a field class re-creating the lessons about forestry and land management techniques taught at the Yale School of Forestry a century ago. The Milford Experimental Forest was one of the sites where forestry was first taught in the United States. The workshop was the first time since 1927 that the site has been used to teach students about forest management.

This program has been developed by staff at Grey Towers and Milford Experimental Forest, in partnership with DVHS. Last year, project partners developed a curriculum that includes several types of courses, including: how to measure trees and practice forestry and how to assess the health of forest ecosystems. Ecosystem assessment will focus on how deer impact the diversity of plant life and the regeneration of forests.

High school students learn how to identify trees.

These courses will continue to be offered to students at local high schools thanks to generous gifts from the Wayne Bank, which donated $45,000 and The Dime Bank, which donated $10,000. Wayne Bank President and CEO Bill Davis noted, "Wayne Bank has long valued the conservation of natural resources as well as the well-rounded education of our communities' youth. We're proud to help foster progress in forest management through our partnership with Pinchot Institute for Conservation and with area young people."

The Pinchot Institute and the Forest Service at Grey Towers are grateful for the generous support of Wayne Bank and the Dime Bank. This program is made possible through a collaborative partnership between the Pinchot Institute for Conservation and Grey Towers National Historic Site.

Cooperative Conservation: Protecting the Economy, Culture and Environment in a Coastal Alaska Community

Cooperative conservation—bridging federal, state, tribal and private interests to achieve conservation goals for the broader public good—is an idea whose time has come, as evidenced by the recent White House conference on cooperative conservation held in August in St. Louis. There are many new and exciting opportunities for cooperative conservation, limited only by our own imaginations and creativity.

However, some of the best opportunities, like the concept of cooperative conservation itself, have been under development for quite some time. One such opportunity lies in the coastal rainforest in the western Gulf of Alaska, on an island whose ecological, economic and cultural significance prompted its protection by presidential executive order more than a decade before the establishment of the National Forest System, whose centennial we celebrate this year.

BACKGROUND

Afognak Island is one of the most spectacular and beautiful islands in Alaska. At more than 740 square miles, it is the second largest island in the Kodiak Archipelago and is located just north of Kodiak itself. The island's rocky coasts, sheltered bays and old growth spruce forests provide unparalleled habitat for the Kodiak brown bear, Roosevelt elk, Sitka black-tailed deer, and more than 160 species of birds. The rivers and streams provide spawning habitat for four species of Pacific salmon, along with steelhead, Dolly Varden trout and arctic char. Its highly indented coastline shelters many marine mammals, such as sea otters, seals, sea lions, and several species of whales that migrate through the area.

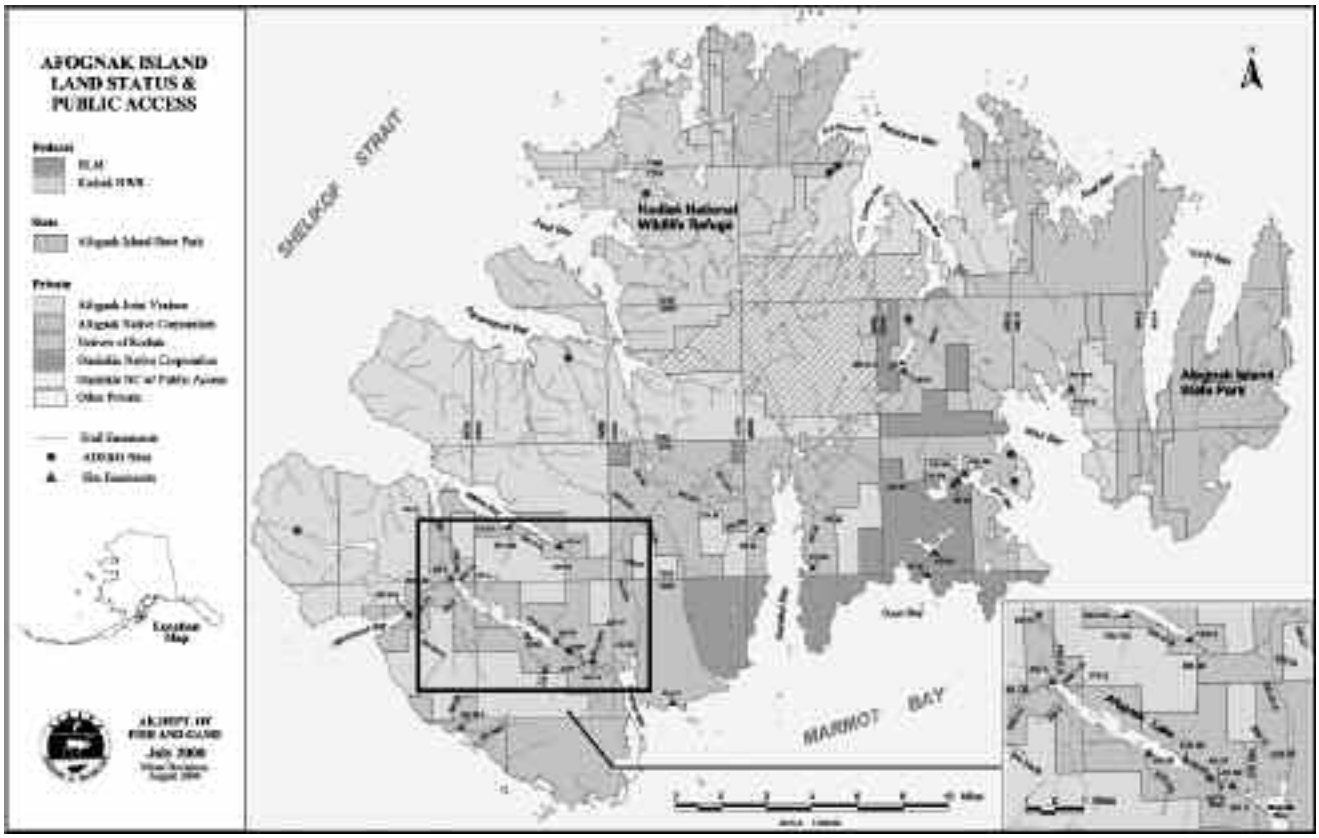
By the late 1800s, exploitation of the forests and fisheries of the Kodiak Archipelago by early Russian colonists and American commercial interests had already seriously diminished the salmon populations, and threatened to destroy one of the most productive fisheries in the north Pacific. A rich Native culture derived from the Sugpiak Eskimos and other members of the Alutiiq language group, had utilized these salmon as a primary food source on these islands for at least 7,000 years. The introduction of large-scale commercial techniques, such as setting nets at the mouths of rivers to capture nearly every spawning salmon, sharply reduced reproduction rates and subsequent salmon runs within a matter of a few years.

Kodiak brown bear (*Ursus arctos middendorffi*) on Afognak Island, Alaska

In 1892, President Benjamin Harrison issued an executive order establishing the Afognak Forest and Fish Culture Reserve to protect salmon spawning habitat and rebuild the depleted fishery. This was only the second use of the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, which authorized the president to reserve lands from the public domain for conservation purposes. In 1908, three years after the creation of the U.S. Forest Service and establishment of the National Forest System, Afognak Island was reclassified as part of the Chugach National Forest. In 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt visited the Kodiak Archipelago, and established the 1.9 million-acre Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge to further strengthen habitat conservation in this unique area.

Starting in the 1970s, several major events brought about important changes for forest conservation on these islands. The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA) transferred large areas of the Chugach National Forest and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge to private ownership by newly-created Native corporations. ANCSA transferred more than 400,000 acres of the Kodiak NWR to local Native corporations, including about half of the ecologically critical habitat along the rivers and coasts. ANILCA added 50,000 acres of Afognak Island to the Kodiak NWR, but at the same time removed the rest of the island from the Chugach National Forest and transferred it to Kodiak and Afognak Native corporations.

The intent of these land transfers was to improve the economic self-sufficiency of Native communities. ANCSA and ANILCA contained provisions that limited the authority of Native corporations to sell these lands to other private interests for up to 20 years. Many of the Native corporations turned to the development of timber and mineral resources to provide income. The Kodiak Archipelago is the westernmost extent of spruce forests in Alaska, and although the forest is extensive it is also relatively slow-growing. Extensive areas of 200-400 year-old spruce forest have been harvested, especially during the peak timber prices of the 1990s, and harvesting is continuing to move north-



Afognak Island Land Status and Public Access

ward. Regrowth efforts on some of the island are more successful than others.

The Native corporations continued to explore alternatives that would provide a secure economic future for island Natives while maintaining the ecological integrity of these unique resources. One alternative was a federal buy-back of some of the most biologically-sensitive areas. The Native buy-back proposal for Kodiak and Afognak was strongly endorsed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, but cost was a major obstacle. In 1987, the Department of the Interior offered to swap Native corporation lands in exchange for oil and gas royalties from proposed drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The swap was opposed by the State of Alaska, which would lose royalties to the Native corporations. Longstanding environmental opposition to the opening of ANWR was firmly cemented in 1989, when the Exxon Valdez ran aground, spilling 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound and eventually onto the shores of Kodiak and Afognak. This oil spill, one of the biggest environmental disasters in history, not only killed over one million seabirds, fish and marine mammals, but damaged spawning, rearing and feeding habitat that was critical to their recovery, along more than 1,500 of miles of Alaska coastline.

Ironically, it was one of the outcomes of the Exxon Valdez oil spill that helped overcome the financial obstacles to the federal buy-back of Native corporation lands for habitat conservation. The State of Alaska and the federal government reached a settlement agreement with Exxon in 1991 to create a $1 billion fund to be used for ecological restoration in coastal areas affected by the oil spill. A biological survey of these coastal areas concluded that three-quarters of the most productive habitat for fish and wildlife species impacted by the oil spill was on Native corporation-owned lands on Kodiak and Afognak. Through a series of seven separate agreements reached between the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Kodiak Island Borough and the Native corporations, a total of 378,890 acres on Kodiak and Afognak islands was purchased or placed under conservation easements for a total of $300 million and placed in national wildlife refuges or state parks.

REMAINING SMALLER-TRACT ACQUISITIONS

While many of the major conser-

vation goals involving the acquisition of large tracts of land have been accomplished, there are several remaining tracts that in spite of their relatively small size are critically important because of the particular ecological features they contain. One such area is at the head of Perenosa Bay, the largest bay on the north side of Afognak Island.

Through the previous land acquisitions, both the east and west sides of Perenosa Bay are now part of Afognak Island State Park. The 45 mile gap that separates them is perhaps the most ecologically critical to protect. Most of the salmon that return to this bay spawn at one major tributary, Paul's Creek, and in the inland freshwater lake that serves as its source. Neither the tributary nor the lake have sufficient protection. In the 1970s, the U.S. Forest Service planned a large timber sale, the Perenosa Sale, just south of Perenosa Bay. After ANILCA and the transfer of these lands from US Forest Service jurisdiction, logging proceeded under the auspices of the Native corporations. This included the construction of 1,000 miles of arterial and secondary roads. To date, timber removal has taken place on over 200,000 acres, and logging by TransPac, a Korean firm, is continuing this year. In some cases, this has diminished elk and deer habitat, particularly their winter range, on the lower elevation lands of the south and central portions of the island, but so far has not reached the watershed the most directly affects salmon spawning habitat at the head of Perenosa Bay.

In 2002, the EVOS Trustee Council recognized the importance of completing the coastal area of this ecosystem, and approved up to $10.2 million from the Exxon Valdez Habitat Restoration Fund for acquisition of this tract from the Afognak and Koniag Native Corporations. The Department of the Interior also has endorsed this acquisition and the Alaska State Legislature twice passed receipt authority for federal funds to be used to acquire Perenosa Bay properties from willing sellers. The Native corporations have expressed their willingness to sell these lands, and have agreed to an appraised fair market value on the cost. Thus far, use of oil spill funds for the acquisition has been opposed by the Alaska governor's office, but $4 million in

private funds and federal coastal wetland funding has materialized to begin finishing the coast line acquisitions. As the gap of remaining land conservation targets gets smaller, a broadbased stakeholder coalition supporting the project is considering another run at oil spill funding. In addition, the State of Alaska recently enrolled in the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Legacy program and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources has placed North Afognak Island on its short-list of priority areas. Other federal, state and private sources of funds are being approached to help finish the conservation of an area that ranked first among coastal habitat areas for benefiting oil spill injured wildlife out of 1,500 miles of private land impacted by the oil spill.

CONCLUSION

A partnership of conservation organizations including the American Land Conservancy, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Kodiak Brown Bear Trust and the Pinchot Institute is continuing to explore all possible options for completing an agreement to protect this key segment of the landscape, and bridge the gap between state park lands at this integral component of the Perenosa Bay ecosystem. This forest is home to a remarkable concentration of species, and is critical for maintaining the rich biological diversity of northern Afognak Island and its associated marine environment. The acquisition of this tract at the head of Perenosa Bay would create a stretch of over 150 miles of protected coastline on Afognak and nearby Shuyak Island filling the gap between Afognak Island State Park lands to the northwest and northeast.

These partners have joined to seek a practical, broadly supported solution that is developed and supported by a broad diversity of interests locally, regionally and nationally. For the communities in and around Afognak and Kodiak, this is one important link in a still-evolving long-term strategy to restore and maintain the ecological integrity of this unique landscape, which itself plays such a central role in maintaining the economy, culture and quality of life in this corner of Alaska.

Q & A with Catherine Mater: The New Generation of Private Landowners Study

Catherine Mater has been a senior fellow for the Pinchot Institute since 1997. An engineer in the forest products industry, she has extensive experience in assisting in the development of new engineering technologies and marketing strategies for the wood products industry in both domestic and international markets. Catherine is a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Froestry Research Advisory Council, which provides advice to the Secretary. Catherine conducted the research on the Next Generation of Private Forest Lansdowners Study, referenced in the article on page 1.

What is the importance of this study?

Mater: This is the first time that any direct interview or research work has been conducted with children of forestland owners (non-industrial private forestlands) in the United States. We began to explore this area a few years ago, when we were funded by the Wood Education Research Center (WERC) to interview "non-joiner" forest landowners to determine what conditions would force them to fragment or convert their family forests. "Non-joiners" are those forest landowners who are not affiliated with forestry or environmental organizations. These people fall outside the main forestry information loop and rarely seek outside advice on managing their own family forests. They are essentially landowners who are disconnected. For the WERC project, over 100 non-joiners were interviewed in nine eastern hardwood states. In contrast to key issues typically identified by woodlot owner and forestry organizations (such as property and estate taxes), interviewed non-joiners ranked taxes significantly below their key concern: lack of interest from their own offspring to maintain forestlands in family hands.

Thus, the next iteration of research was to find out what these offspring really think about owning and managing their own family forests. This is very benchmark qualitative research. The sample size of 300 interviews, while not being large enough for statistical evaluation, has similarity of responses across gender, age, and location of offspring – enough so to suggest statistical *possibilities.* If so, we see a troubling family portrait where future ownership of family forests are concerned.

How were offspring selected for this study?

Mater: This is really important to understand. Our methodology for interview selection wasn't to just seek out offspring geographically located across the United States. We first contacted current private forestland owners to ask their permission to interview their offspring. This was an important first step as we found that the parents were clearly thinking about the future of their forestlands, but did not know what their children thought regarding future ownership of the family forests. Other selection criteria included offspring gender, and family forest size (32% had family forests less than 100 acres in size, another 44% had 100-400 acres of forestlands in the family. 300 offspring in 25 states in six regions were interviewed by phone. These offspring represented 200 families and about 300 thousand acres of forestland.

How was the study conducted?

Mater: The study contained five key question categories:

- ***Demographics*** –We wanted to know who the offspring were and obtain general information about the lands they will inherit. Examples of some questions asked each offspring: What is their profession, annual household income, and age bracket? Do they know how much forestland they will inherit? What do they know about the characteristics of their family forests? How long have the lands been owned by their family? Do they plan on living on the family forestland in the future? We see troubling waters just from gleaning this demographic information alone: more than half (both male and female offspring) work in professional fields, make between $51,000 and $100,000 per year in household income, do not live near their family forests, and do not plan to live on the family forestland in the future.

- ***Affiliations*** – These questions gauged what organizations offspring and their parents are involved in. Are they involved in forestry or environmental organizations? Interestingly, offspring were less engaged than their parents with respect to organization affiliation, and male offspring were more connected with forestry and/or environmental organizations than the female offspring.

- ***Knowledge of forest management*** We wanted to understand how much offspring know about the management of the family forests. How aware and knowledgeable are they relative to the management goals and objectives for their family forests? Do they know if a written management plan exists? Are they involved in the management of the family forests? If not,

do they want to be? Once again, based on offspring responses, we see foundation for real concern regarding the future of family forests: almost 60% of all offspring have not been involved in the management of the family forests – regardless of location, gender, or age. And of those not involved, 60% do not want to be. The good news is that 40% of the offspring are involved, and the majority of those involved (70%) participate at a decision-making vs. advisory level.

Offspring were also clear (60% stated so) that if they owned the land, they would wish to develop income off the land coming primarily from timber harvesting. But male offspring – by a large margin – were much more interested in income generation than their female counterparts. This is most interesting as over 60% of the offspring stated that their family forests were currently primarily managed for wildlife protection, not income generation.

- ***Perceptions*** – Again we note this was the first time any research on offspring perceptions has been conducted. We were interested in knowing what offspring perceive to be the most valuable characteristics of their family forests. What do they understand to be the reasons for their family - owning - forestlands? Is ownership due to inheritance, love of land, investment? How are the family forests being currently used? And, as almost 60% stated that land use and changes around their family forests do shape their views and decisions regarding future ownership, we wanted to better understand what offspring were observing. For example, 46% of offspring stated they are aware of current plans to subdivide forestland near their family forests for residential use.

Regarding what offspring consider to be the most valuable characteristics of their family forests, we learned that males and females really do think differently. Female offspring valued the undeveloped status of the forestland and the legacy of family owning forestland at significantly higher levels than male offspring, who valued the ability of the land to produce income as a valuable characteristic.

- ***Decision-making*** – These questions assessed what decisions the offspring would make once they owned the family forestlands. Over 80% of the offspring wanted to own their family forests, even though (as noted earlier) most do not want to be involved in the management. Many thought their parents were managing the land just fine. There were significant differences between male and female responses on why they wanted to own the land. Males were more geared toward investment, but the females wanted to maintain family legacy of the land. Key challenges to owning the land tended to be in contrast with what the non-joiner parents stated in the WERC study, where taxes ranked very low as a condition that would force fragmentation and conversion. Offspring are clearly concerned about taxes, as both male and female offspring ranked taxes as their top challenge to owning the family forest. They also ranked taxes as a key condition that would force them to sell or subdivide their family forestland. However, females were more concerned about not having the knowledge to manage the family forests while males were more concerned about sibling rivalry. Interestingly, both WERC parents and offspring were in agreement with ranking the need to pay for medical expenses as a condition that could force them to sell the family forests. This is probably the first time in forest landowner research in the United States where family health and forest health have been linked together. This new linkage fosters some out-of-the-box thinking regarding follow-on opportunities.

What are the next steps?

Mater: Following through on the findings of this first study of the next generation of forest landowners is going to be extremely important if we are to get out ahead of conservation challenges such as forest conversion and fragmentation. Five ideas that immediately come to mind:

- **Spur additional offspring research** to achieve statistically significant response levels. We certainly learned during this initial round of interviews that no one is cultivating the offspring voice in the maintaining family forests discussion. Yet, they are the critical path. And relying on parents understanding of what offspring think may well be a recipe for failure. We need to be much more assertive in linking directly to the offspring pipeline.

- **Rethink strategy, even incentives, that establish positive performance in bringing offspring to the family forest management** plate at an early age. As noted in the study results, the longer the offspring feel disconnected from the family forest, the greater the difficulty in capturing their interest.

- **Focus much more strategic thinking on the differences between male and female offspring perceptions and thinking geared toward what drives their decisions**. There's a growing trend of females owning forestlands. Maintaining family legacy is an underlying strong occurrence in the female offspring. We need

to fully understand and implement different approaches in reaching out to female versus male offspring, with results likely to also benefit understanding of sibling rivalry issues.

- **Actively pursue funding for thinking through, designing, and implementing innovative pilots that link human health (i.e., medical costs and access to affordable health care) to forest health.** Are there ways to develop collaboration between these two worlds? If so, such an effort would not only instantly spark interest from offspring, but could increase awareness to a point where people who never thought of owning forestland before might be inspired to do so. What seems an improbable link may just be possible where you have such a common thread of concern in both current and future forestland owners. Examining creative–*even crazy*–ideas should be a top priority

- **Retool outreach programs to fully acknowledge the importance that income generation based on timber harvesting plays in maintaining forestlands in family hands**. Where parents may rely less on income generation as a purpose for owning forestlands, their children are clearly thinking differently. If we have some level of confidence in this initial study's results, to reach offspring – speak to their pocketbook!

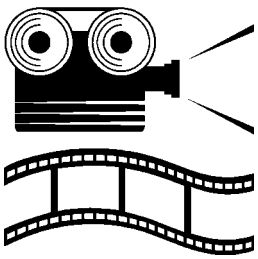
Environmental Film Festival Celebrates 14th Year in D.C.

From the tigers of India's Emerald Forest to the grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park, from Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy Valley to Washington, D.C.'s Anacostia River, and from the delights of organic tea to the challenges of globalization, the 14th annual Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital will present films on a broad spectrum of environmental topics from March 16 to 26, 2006.

Over 100 documentary, feature, animated, archival, experimental and children's films will be screened at a variety of venues throughout the Washington, D.C. area, including museums, embassies, universities and local theaters. Most films include discussion with scientists and filmmakers and are free.

A national leader in showcasing the finest in environmental filmmaking, the Environmental Film Festival brings winning selections from national and international films festivals to Washington, D.C. Winners from the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival will be presented at this year's Festival, as well as selections from the Telluride Mountainfilm Festival and Portugal's CineEco Festival.

"Buyer, Be Fair: The Promise of Product Certification," a film directed by John de Graaf that is premiering at the Festival, shows how consumers and businesses can promote environmental sustainability and social justice



through product labeling, focusing on Forest Stewardship Council certified wood and Fair Trade coffee.

The origins and evolution of planet Earth are investigated in the film, "Genesis" by the French scientist-filmmaker team of Claude Nuridsany and Marie Perennou and also in the film, "Miracle Planet II: The Violent Past." The role of predators in shaping ecosystems is examined in "Strange Days on Planet Earth: Predators." The unique relationship between people and whales as told by whale biologist and pioneer Roger Payne is explored in "A Life Among Whales."

Oscar-winning and Oscar-nominated animated shorts on environmental topics include the Frederick Back classic, "The Man Who Planted Trees" and the hilarious "Creature Comforts" by the creator of the Wallace & Gromit series. In addition, film historian Max Alvarez will evaluate the depth and context of Hollywood's treatment of environmental themes over the years..

By offering fresh perspectives on a broad range of environmental subjects, the Environmental Film Festival seeks to incorporate environmental topics into the mainstream of life. For complete program information on the 2006 Festival, visit our website at www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org in February or call the Festival office at 202-342-2564 for a printed film brochure.

101 Conservation Scholarship: Fostering the Next Generation of Natural Resource Professionals

Years ago, active and retired U.S. Forest Service personnel—the Institute's public partner—established the 101 Conservation Scholarship to help educate future natural resource professionals. Overseen by the Pinchot Institute's Board of Directors, this annual, $1,000 award provides much-needed book or tuition assistance to the children of Forest Service employees, who are studying natural resources management at the post-secondary level.

With your gift of $101.00 or more, you can help keep this tradition alive. Please send your gift, noted as a contribution for the $101 Conservation Scholarship Fund, in the enclosed envelope or make a credit card donation online.

You can also contact Liz Siddle at (202) 797-6580 or *lsiddle@pinchot.org* for more information on the various ways in which you can make a tax-deductible contribution to this invaluable fund.

For this, and the various other ways in which you ensure the stewardship of our natural resources, we truly thank you.

Paige McClanahan Hired as New Research Assistant

Paige McClanahan joined the Pinchot Institute in August 2005. As a Research Assistant, Paige will be providing support on conservation policy and organizational change, and community-based forestry stewardship. A native of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Paige attended Williams College, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Geosciences in 2004. Paige comes to the Institute from the League of Conservation Voters, a conservation-minded political organization in Washington, D.C., where, as an intern, she supported the organization's policy, communications, and campaigns activities. In past years, she has worked as a forest caretaker in Williamstown, Massachusetts, a field geologist in northwest Iceland, and a camp counselor in Colorado. She has also done volunteer work with children in Peru and Ghana.

Paige McClanahan

Newsletter for Community-based Forestry Practitioners

Since June 2005, the Pinchot Institute and American Forests have assumed editorial duties for an electronic newsletter called *Forest Community News*. The primary audience for this newsletter is community-based forestry practitioners, but any and all interested parties are welcome to receive it by email. The aim of this monthly news source is to deliver useful information related to community forestry from the national perspective. Each issue contains pertinent updates from Capitol Hill and the Administration, including land management agencies like the USDA Forest Service. Also highlighted are relevant resources and events as they arise. With support from the Ford Foundation, this service is being provided on behalf of the editing organizations as well as the Communities Committee of the Seventh American Forest Congress and the National Network of Forest Practitioners. To be added to the Forest Community News mailing list, please send your name and email address to Naureen Rana at nrana@pinchot.org.

New Century, New Trees Conference Proceedings Available

According to a report by Food and Agriculture Organization (2001), 9.4 million hectares of the world's forests were lost worldwide during the years 1999-2000. Continued world population growth, rapid industrialization of developing countries, and a finite supply of land suitable for forest plantations are trends that suggest forest biotechnology will be a significant benefit worldwide. Although not a panacea for these issues, biotechnology and intensive forestry are important tools that support sustainable forestry programs.

To explore the question of forest biotechnology as a significant tool for forestry in North America, the Institute of Forest Biotechnology hosted a conference with the Pinchot Institute, the Forest History Society, Resources for the Future, and Purdue University. The conference, entitled New Century, New Trees was convened November 16-17, 2004 in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

The proceedings to this conference are now available. Please visit the Institute of Forest Biotechnology website at *www.forestbiotech.org* for more information.

Staff member is elected to National Network of Forest Practitioners

Naureen Rana, Project Manager at the Pinchot Institute, has been elected to the Board of the National Network of Forest Practitioners (NNFP). The mission of the NNFP is to promote the mutual well-being of workers, rural communities, and forests by supporting individuals and groups that build sustainable relationships between forests and people. The Network, based in Providence, Rhode Island, has a diverse, nationwide membership.

Become an Innovator for Forest Stewardship

Become an innovator for forest stewardship by becoming a **Pinchot Associate.**

As a Pinchot Associate, you will join others across the nation who provide the support needed to enable the Pinchot Institute to quickly, yet thoughtfully, respond to natural resource issues *before* they become policies that ruin our environment, diminish our livelihood or destroy our quality of life. The flexibility your unrestricted gift provides allows us to collaborate nationwide with Americans—from rural landowners to federal policymakers—to sustain natural resources and build economic capacity through our educational programs, research on forest-management policies, and technical assistance for on-the-ground activities.

As a Pinchot Associate, you will be a natural resource steward. For your gift of $100 or more, we will:

- Keep you informed of timely natural resource issues through *The Pinchot Letter*;
- Send you advanced notification of our workshops, seminars, conferences, and newly released publications;
- Give you special recognition in our year-end newsletter and annual report;
- Send you invitations to special events we host in your community, Washington, DC and at Grey Towers so you can see for yourself how you are helping to advance forest conservation.

Your gift can be made to the Pinchot Institute through the Combined Federal Campaign or by returning the enclosed envelope.

The Pinchot Letter

News from the Pinchot Institute for Conservation

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❑ Please add my friend or colleague to your mailing list to receive *The Pinchot Letter*; their contact information is below.

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_____

Our weaknesses? _____

_____

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Support forest conservation through the Combined Federal Campaign

Don't forget to designate the Pinchot Institute on your Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) pledge card. Contributions from the CFC are an important part of the Pinchot Institute's funding. These generous gifts enable us to carry out independent, innovative research into sustainable forest management and issues affecting natural resource policy.

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the largest workplace-giving program in the world—for employees of the federal government, the postal service, and the uniform services. If you are a federal government or military employee and would like to support the Pinchot Institute through the CFC, please enter CFC code #2396 on your pledge card during the next campaign. Please check your guide for our designation number for local, municipal and state campaigns.

Dollars can also be donated to the Pinchot Institute through other similar workplace charitable campaigns.

For more information on how to contribute through the CFC or to set up an independent, workplace giving campaign at your corporation, please call (202) 797-6580 or pinchot@pinchot.org.

If you value our efforts, please don't forget to include us in your estate and financial plans.

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