

About the Speakers

The course instructors are experts in his or her field. Below is a biography on each instructor listed in order of appearance.

Tara Keyser

Tara is a Research Forester with the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Bent Creek Experimental Forest. Tara holds a BS in forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a MS and PhD from Colorado State University. She has worked for the USDA Forest Service since 2007. Her research focuses primarily on the (1) the regeneration ecology of upland hardwood forests in the southern Appalachians; (2) quantifying climate-growth relations for dominant hardwood tree species in the southeastern US; and (3) the effects of prescribed fire on forest structure and composition.

Henry McNab

Henry McNab has been a research forester with the Southern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service for over 40 years. He has worked at research offices in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Since 1983 he has been assigned to the Upland Hardwood Ecology & Management Unit located at the Bent Creek Experimental Forest, near Asheville. His current research assignment deals with forest site classification for timber production and ecological purposes.

Katie Greenberg

Cathryn (Katie) H. Greenberg is a Research Ecologist with the Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management Research Work Unit, Southern Research Station, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service. Katie received a BA degree in philosophy from George Washington University, a MS degree from the University of Tennessee, and a PhD from the University of Florida. Her research focus includes (1) effects of forest management practices (such as timber harvesting, fuel reduction practices, and prescribed fire) and natural disturbances (such as wind damage) on plant and animal communities, and (2) production of forest food resources, such as native fleshy fruit and hard mast, in relation to forest types and silvicultural disturbances.

Dean Simon

Dean Simon is a Certified Wildlife Biologist, Registered Forester, and a Certified Prescribed Burner and was recognized as Wildlife Biologist of the Year by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in 2007 and received the Management Excellence Award by the Southeastern Section of the Wildlife Society in 2008 for work with prescribed burning, fire management, and fire ecology research in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Dean brings a wealth of knowledge on wildlife habitat working with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for the past 30 years as a Regional Wildlife Biologist and Forester in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Dean received a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry from Louisiana State University and a Master's Degree studying fire ecology and wildlife at the University of Georgia.

Tom Waldrop

Tom Waldrop is Team Leader for Fire Science with the Southern Research Station's Center for Forest Disturbance Science. He has been located at Clemson, SC since 1987. Tom holds BS and MS degrees in Forest Management from Clemson University and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Tennessee. His research focuses on many aspects of fire ecology in the Piedmont and Appalachian Region. He is the founder of the Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists which fosters communication and science delivery between fire managers and scientists from Pennsylvania to Alabama.

Albert "Bud" Mayfield

Dr. Mayfield, is a Research Entomologist with the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station located in Asheville, NC. Bud's main research focus is on the biology, ecology, and integrated pest management of invasive insects and insect-pathogen complexes of the southern U.S., including the hemlock woolly adelgid, walnut twig beetle/thousand cankers disease and redbay ambrosia beetle/laurel wilt disease.

He has a Ph.D. from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF), in Environmental and Forest Biology. A Master of Forestry from West Virginia University and BA in Biology from Yale University.



Jeff Stringer

Jeff is an Extension Professor and Research Scientist with the University of Kentucky, Department of Forestry. His research includes applied aspects of oak silviculture and forestry operations. His silviculture work focuses on the enhancement of oak growth and regeneration including oak shelterwood, two-age system development, site preparation for natural regeneration, and crop-tree release. His research in forestry operations includes forestry Best Management Practices use and herbicide applications. He is a nationally recognized extension specialist in hardwood silviculture and timber harvesting. He excels at integrating practical, scientific information for production foresters. His energetic presentations and practical hands-on field exercises engage students.

Stacy Clark

Stacy has been a Research Forester with the Southern Research Station since 2005 and is stationed in Knoxville, Tennessee on the University of Tennessee campus. She studies artificial regeneration of hardwoods, primarily oak and American chestnut. She also has research projects on prescribed burning and fuel dynamics, and several tree-ring studies to examine forest history and stand dynamics. She obtained her PhD from Oklahoma State University in Plant Science, and her M.S. and B.S. in Forest Resource Management from the University of Tennessee.

Susan Loeb

Susan Loeb is a Research Ecologist with the Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management Research Work Unit, USFS, Southern Research Station. She holds a B.A. in Human Biology from Stanford University and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Ecology from University of California, Davis. Susan has been with the Southern Research Station since 1988 and is stationed in Clemson, SC. She studies the ecology and conservation of forest bats and her research focuses on three areas: 1) ecology and conservation of endangered and sensitive species, 2) the effects of forest management and other disturbances on bat habitat use and populations, and 3) methods to effectively monitor bat distributions and relative abundance.

Jim Chamberlain

Jim is a research scientist with the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station located in Blacksburg, VA. Jim is currently managing and building a regional program on rural development opportunities with non-timber forest resources and products. His particular interests are the social and economic market dynamics that affect how non-timber forest products are incorporated into forest management. He has active research on selected products including ramps, galax and black cohosh, as well as a project to define, describe and evaluate the non-timber forest products industry in the southeast. Jim has focused his professional attention for the last 28 years on forestry, forest management, forest products and natural resource issues. Much of his career has focused on rural development forestry; finding ways rural communities can better incorporate forest plants into their landscapes. Prior to pursuing his doctorate, Jim was President of an international non-governmental organization that promoted the use of multi-purpose trees for agroforestry in developing countries. His particular focus was South and Southeast Asia; he worked with farmers, researchers, and other stakeholders in Thailand, Philippines, Bangladesh, Laos, China, Indonesia, India and Nepal. Associate Degree (forest Management), Paul Smith's College, BA(Wood Products Engineering) SUNY; Master of Forestry, Yale; Master of Economics, Virginia Tech; PhD, Virginia Tech.

John Greene

Dr. John Greene is a Research Forester (retired) with the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station. Dr. Greene has spent his career helping landowners understand tax laws and incentives for promoting sustainability forestry.

Greg Frey

Dr. Gregory Frey is a Research Forester at the USDA Forest Service. His work involves evaluating the impacts of forest policy, regulation, and taxes. After serving in the US Peace Corps in Paraguay, Greg Frey returned to North Carolina to receive his PhD at NC State University (Raleigh) in forest economics, studying the feasibility and profitability of timber investments and agroforestry systems. Dr. Frey has worked the World Bank, helping countries fight deforestation, and at Virginia State University, teaching about resource management and sustainable income streams. He is married with a 5-year-old daughter.

