



Washington, DC Update

Congress remains highly polarized and President Trump’s efforts to topple several incumbent Republicans in recent primary elections likely won’t help Republican unity or prospects for the Administration’s legislative agenda on Capitol Hill. Meanwhile, Democrats have been having a field day putting Republicans on the defensive over the war in Iran, high gasoline prices and inflation, and the Department of Justice’s \$1.8 billion “Anti-Weaponization Fund” as proposed under a settlement with President Trump.

Administration officials also continue to appear before Congressional committees on Capitol Hill. Viral videos of Secretary of State Marco Rubio’s and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent’s heated exchanges with Democrats on Capitol Hill have filled social media feeds. One recent [exchange](#) between Bessent and Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) delved into Adam Wyden’s business dealings with Jeffrey Epstein as Bessent quipped “did your son and Jeffrey Epstein talk about pole dancing as he begged him for money using your limited credibility.”

Forest Service Oversight hearings, Reorganization. Congress also continues to conduct budget and oversight hearings. During appearances on Capitol Hill, Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz has been peppered with questions and criticisms about the Forest Service’s reorganization and Fiscal Year 2027 budget request.

Last month, Schultz adeptly navigated appearances before the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to address lawmakers’ concerns about office closures, the future of Forest Service research, and impacts on the agency’s firefighting capacity. Schultz has also done his best to explain proposals in the Administration’s budget request to eliminate funding for agency research and the State, Private, and Tribal Forestry programs, both of which Congress is unlikely to follow.

On June 2, Schultz appeared before a Senate Agriculture Committee [oversight hearing](#) of the U.S. Forest Service. Two days later, the Chief was before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands’ [oversight hearing](#) titled “the state of our nation’s federal forests and outlook for the 2026 wildfire year.” Republicans used the hearings to praise the agency’s efforts to increase active forest management, the aggressive approach to the initial attack of wildfires, and call for the passage of the Fix our Forests Act.

Democrats continue to criticize the agency reorganization plan and reductions in Forest Service staffing under the Trump Administration. The Administration has been more aggressive in pushing back on the criticisms, including in a June 1 response letter to Senate Democrats from Agriculture Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden that was [posted on X](#) along with this missive:

“Today, I sent a response letter to the Senate regarding the reorganization of [@forestsERVICE](#). Sometimes, the truth hurts. The Biden Administration overhired—by thousands—knowing the funding stream was temporary. And on January 17, 2025, Secretary Vilsack received approval to separate 7,000 Forest Service employees. At one point, the Biden USDA even contemplated selling Federal lands to solve their spending problem! They generated hundreds of pages of memoranda, emails, and presentations on how to fix a problem THEY created with their irresponsible spending, prioritization of DEI, and gimmicks for their Democrat friends.”

Former Secretary Vilsack has since pushed back on the claims that he contemplated selling federal lands, claiming that he simply called on Congress to provide adequate funding for stewarding the 193 million acres overseen by the Forest Service.

Chief Schultz has struck a more conciliatory tone with lawmakers and has clarified that many decisions have not been made, including the entire list of research facilities and agency offices that will be closed to reduce agency overhead costs and address an estimated \$3 billion facilities maintenance backlog.

Schultz has reiterated the Administration’s view that shifting to a more state-based management approach will move decision-making and agency staff closer to the ground and provide for more meaningful engagement with states, tribes and other partners through shared stewardship.

Interior Appropriations. The House Appropriations Committee approved its Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill on June 3. The bill does not make drastic cuts to Forest Service operations, research, and state, private, and tribal programs as proposed by the Administration. The House bill would increase the Forest Products budget line item, which most directly supports the agency’s timber sale program, from \$39 million to \$45 million. The Administration’s budget proposed \$175 million, which far outstripped the funds the Committee had available.

The House bill again does not include the Administration’s proposal to transfer the Forest Service’s wildland fire operations to the Department of the Interior. The Forest Service is still selecting a contractor to prepare an independent report on the matter as required by Congress in the current appropriations measure.

The House bill would fund the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Oregon & California Grant Lands (O&C lands) at \$104 million, which is down from this year’s \$115 million and up from the President’s budget request of \$65.8 million.

Pearce Confirmed as BLM Director. On May 18, the US Senate voted to confirm former Congressman Steve Pearce (R-NM) as the Director of the BLM, which has been without a confirmed director during the second Trump Administration. AFRC looks forward to working with Director Pearce to advance needed revisions to the Resource Management Plans for the O&C lands in western Oregon. /Heath Heikkila

AFRC Joins Markets Matter Convening in Madison, Wisconsin

From May 19-21, the Markets Matter Convening brought together national leaders in the forest products industry, finance, Tribes, federal land management agencies, research, nonprofits, and private sector in Madison, Wisconsin to discuss and design market-based solutions for forest health, wildfire risk reduction, and rural prosperity.

The Convening was organized by the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and the Society of American Foresters. More than 230 participants gathered in Madison in response to structural changes in the forest products industry that have led to mill closures, and to seek opportunities to “turn today’s supply and demand imbalance into an opportunity for innovation and investment.”

The three days of presentations, meetings, dialogues, networking, and ideas – including a tour of the [Forest Products Laboratory](#) (founded in 1910) – is expected to result in a National Action Plan outlining near-term and long-term recommendations to advance durable, scalable markets for wood fiber across both forestry residues and manufacturing residuals.

Travis Joseph participated and represented AFRC and its members. His focus and message at the Convening focused on protecting the remaining milling infrastructure in the West, the current policy risks and supply constraints, and the importance of the infrastructure to managing Federal lands and protecting communities. /Travis Joseph

The AFRC Podcast



Episode 57: Is Federal Timber Turning a Corner?



The [AFRC Podcast](#) is a monthly discussion examining key issues and news relating to forestry, forest products and public lands management.

AFRC Director of Forest Policy and Monitoring Andy Geissler breaks down first half timber outputs from the Forest Service and western Oregon BLM, and whether recent reforms and direction from Washington are beginning to translate into more timber volume on federal lands. We also discuss whether the agencies are positioned to sustain higher timber outputs, move projects more efficiently, and increase active management across the West.

Click here to listen to [Episode 57](#). Our podcast is also available on Spotify and Apple Podcasts

Northwest Forest Plan 30-year Socioeconomic Report Published

The Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP), signed in 1994, included requirements to conduct routine monitoring of the plan’s impacts on a variety of affected resources. Among those resources is socioeconomics with a specific focus on impacts to rural communities within the plan boundaries. Monitoring began 10 years after the NWFP was signed and occurred every subsequent five years with the 30-year report being published last month. The primary question that drives this monitoring is “are local communities and economies experiencing positive or negative changes that may be associated with federal forest management?”

This latest report, the fifth overall, focused on eight rural, forest-based communities. These eight communities were selected due to their characterization as “gateway” communities, defined as communities that are located on a main route to a popularly recognized natural feature or area with high tourism value. The idea was to determine if these gateway communities, formerly timber-dependent, were able to transition to an “amenity” based economy driven by tourism, second/vacation home ownership, and gentrification involving remote workers and retirees.

The communities selected for the 30-year report were Naches, Packwood-Randle, Upper Hood River Valley, Southern Tillamook, Butte Falls-Prospect, Gold Beach, Mt. Shasta-Weed, and Smith River-Gasquet. Interviews were conducted in each community with an emphasis on residents who live or work in the area. Some Forest Service employees were also interviewed as well as one or two timber industry employees. In total, 170 people were interviewed.

The findings indicate that each community assessed has experienced extensive social and economic ups and downs since establishment of the NWFP. Some communities, such as Packwood-Randle, Gold Beach, and Smith River-Gasquet were developing amenity based economic opportunities, but those industries generally only offered low-wage, low-skilled service jobs that did not replace mill and forestry work. Residents also indicated difficulties with affordable, high-quality housing, exacerbated by the growing trend of high-income outsiders purchasing vacation homes or rental properties. Interviewees indicated that this trend has had negative impacts on housing access for working people across the sampled communities.

Ultimately, social and economic impacts were most notable in the Packwood-Randle community. The most significant factor was the closure of the Packwood Lumber Mill in 1998. Two years after that mill closure, the share of low-income population in Packwood-Randle was over one and a half times greater than the low-income population in the rest of the NWFP area. In subsequent years, those communities experienced significant population loss. Many of the vacated homes were repurposed into part-time vacation rentals. However, by 2024, with fewer year-round housing options, local businesses were experiencing difficulties finding housing for their workers.

When asked about their hopes for their communities over the next ten years, many residents across each of the eight areas expressed concern about the risk of wildfire, the impacts of increased recreational use, and the rising cost of housing. The full publication can be found [here](#). /*Andy Geissler*

District Court Vacates the Bureau of Land Management’s Blue and Gold Harvest Plan

On May 14, Judge Kasubhai, in the District of Oregon, vacated the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Blue and Gold Harvest Plan (Blue and Gold). In December 2024, AFRC and Association of O&C Counties (AOCC) intervened as defendants in the litigation. See [January 2025 Newsletter](#). AFRC members Rosboro and Sierra Pacific Industries purchased several Blue and Gold timber sales and O&C counties anticipated receiving important timber receipts from Blue and Gold.

Plaintiffs (Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild, and Umpqua Watersheds) challenged Blue and Gold under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The parties completed briefing the merits in August 2025 and the Court held oral argument in December 2025. The parties have engaged in extensive motion practice in addition to briefing the merits. Plaintiffs have moved to supplement the administrative record multiple times, including seeking to add new evidence after oral argument. Additionally, on May 12, Plaintiffs filed a motion to enjoin pending

timber sale operations on multiple sales. Before that motion was resolved, the Court issued its ruling on the merits in favor of Plaintiffs.

Judge Kasubhai ruled in Plaintiffs' favor on their FLPMA claim. Specifically, Plaintiffs argued that Blue and Gold failed to comply with the requirement in the BLM's Resource Management Plan to retain trees both greater than or equal to 40 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) and that were established prior to 1850 in the Harvest Land Base, except where falling is necessary for safety or operational reasons and no alternative harvesting method is economically viable or practically feasible. Plaintiffs presented evidence and alleged that the BLM's data and characterization of the Blue and Gold plan area was inaccurate. In the Court's view, the BLM did not adequately respond to or discuss any of Plaintiffs' contradictory data and "did not acknowledge the existence of protected trees in the Plan Area or provide any information as to how it would protect them." The Court held that the BLM could not rely on conclusions based on average stand ages in light of the evidence before the agency.

With respect to NEPA, Plaintiffs alleged that the BLM failed to take a hard look at impacts to old-growth trees, failed to take a hard look at carbon storage/climate change impacts, and that the BLM was required to issue an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For the same reasons underlying its FLPMA ruling, the Court held that the BLM failed to take a hard look at impacts to old-growth trees. The Court explained that "BLM possessed significant, site-specific data that forest conditions were not as simple and uniform as its average stand data may have suggested, and BLM failed to use or disclose it to the public during the NEPA process."

With respect to carbon storage and climate change, the Court held that the BLM's analysis was sufficient under NEPA. The Court noted that the agency's analysis was bolstered by tiering to the carbon and climate analysis in the BLM's 2016 Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. Plaintiffs' critique of the BLM's carbon and climate analysis was based, in part, on the Montana District Court's decision that rejected the climate analysis provided by the Forest Service in support of its Black Ram Project. *See Ctr. for Bio. Diversity v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 687 F.Supp.3d 1053 (D. Mont. 2023). Judge Kasubhai concluded that the Black Ram decision was "not persuasive."

Finally, the Court held that the BLM was required to prepare an EIS for Blue and Gold. In particular, the Court noted that the potential effects of Blue and Gold were "highly uncertain," particularly with respect to the presence of old-growth trees.

The Court issued its decision on the remedy to vacate the Blue and Gold Environmental Assessment, Finding of No Significant Impact, and associated Decision Records without remedy briefing on the equity factors at issue.

In light of the Court's remedy ruling, Federal Defendants and Defendant-Intervenors AFRC and AOCC filed expedited motions for reconsideration and/or to alter the judgment on May 22. Defendant-Intervenors' motion requested the Court amend the Order on remedy to either remand *without* vacatur of all six decision records affected by the Court's Order; or alternatively, remand without vacatur of the decision records that authorized active and substantially performed sales so that those sales can be completed; or remand with vacatur of all the decision records but allow for cut and decked logs to be yarded and removed, and for post-logging operations to be completed, at the same sale areas.

Defendant-Intervenors also requested that the Court modify its Order and remand to the agency to determine in the first instance whether an EIS is appropriate. Plaintiffs filed a response to those motions on June 2 opposing any alteration of the Court's order. In part, Plaintiffs highlighted a stipulated

agreement reached by the parties to allow specific activities to wrap up operations that had been ongoing, including hauling felled trees (less than 40 inches DBH) out of the sale areas. Because both parties requested expedited rulings, AFRC hopes that the Court will rule shortly to provide more clarity to our members.

AFRC is disappointed with the substantive outcome in this litigation, but will continue to evaluate options to protect our members' interests in the work that has been performed and the work that was anticipated under Blue and Gold. /*Greg Hibbard and Sara Ghafouri*

Bitterroot Front Project Moves to Implementation

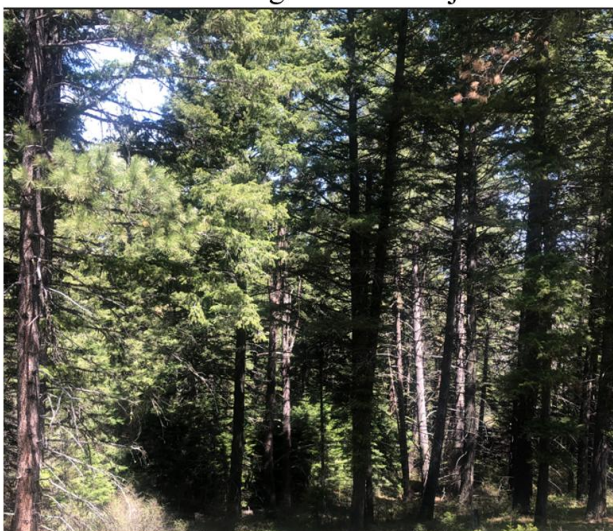
On May 12, the Bitterroot National Forest issued the final decision to begin implementation of the 143,983 acre Bitterroot Front Project. The Forest contains five of the highest risk firesheds in the nation, four of which are in the Bitterroot Front Project area. The planning area extends the length of the main Bitterroot Valley and includes the Stevensville and Darby-Sula Ranger Districts. There are more than 7,000 homes and structures at risk in the greater project area.

The area will be treated using an Integrated Resource Service Contract (IRSC) because the work to be completed will cost more than the revenue the Forest will receive from selling timber. The Forest hopes to have the Request for Proposal out in early June with the expectation that bidders will have at least 30 days to formalize and submit their bids.

The project overall will treat about 26,000 acres commercially, however, the first offering of the IRSC will include five timber sales totaling about 17 million board feet, which are in the highest wildfire risk areas. The successful bidder on these projects will have the opportunity to negotiate and operate the remaining sales.

AFRC staff and members made several trips to the Bitterroot Front Project area and provided input to the Forest on logging systems, sale economics and products most desired by the local sawmills. During the visits we observed firsthand, the overcrowded stands ripe for wildfire, and also visited the 2016 Roaring Lion fire that destroyed some buildings but was halted before it reached the heavier settled area.

Dense Stands Throughout The Project Area



Devastation From the Roaring Lion Fire



The project was first announced in 2022, following a series of public meetings and field trips. The project's primary purpose has been refined since the initial scoping notice to focus on restoring a healthy and resilient forest ecosystem while at the same time generating sawlogs much needed by the milling infrastructure. This project is being performed under an Emergency Action Determination consistent with Public Law 117-58 and therefore is not subject to the project-level pre-decisional administrative review process, meaning there will be no objection period.

AFRC thanks the Bitterroot Forest for planning to treat this large fire prone landscape, and we look forward to its expedited implementation. /Tom Partin

New Stewardship Agreement and Project Planning Move Forward in Eastern Oregon

Malheur National Forest. On June 3, the Forest announced a new 20-year Stewardship Agreement with Iron Triangle LLC. The agreement establishes a framework for landscape scale forest restoration, hazardous fuels reduction, timber harvesting, watershed improvement, and habitat restoration across the national forest.

“It is critical to have forest products infrastructure available within our local community. This agreement gives us and our partners the stability to plan and deliver restoration at the scale these landscapes require,” said Malheur National Forest Supervisor Ann Niesen. “It’s about reducing wildfire risk, improving watershed health, and supporting the communities that depend on these forests.”

Authorized under the 2014 Farm Bill, the agreement anticipates approximately 5,000 acres of treatment and 25 million board feet (MMBF) of timber annually. Actual levels will depend on environmental analysis, project planning, funding, and market conditions. Each project must complete NEPA review before operations begin.

The Malheur’s timber outputs over the past five years have been inconsistent, ranging from 13 MMBF in FY2022 to 64 MMBF in FY2023. If the Forest's tentative outyear projections are achieved, the 20 year agreement would account for roughly 45 percent of annual timber outputs. Those projections remain uncertain, however, as forest management on the Malheur continues to be constrained by the Eastside Screens, particularly the “21 inch Rule.” How the Eastside Screens are addressed through the ongoing Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision will weigh heavily on the Forest’s future program of work.

Ochoco National Forest. The Forest hosted a community field trip on June 2 to introduce the Paulina North Slope, Upper Trout, and Bridge Creek vegetation management projects. The tour was attended by forest industry representatives and Crook County officials.

The projects were developed in response to Executive Order 14225, Immediate Expansion of American Timber Production. The North Slope project includes approximately 7,830 acres of commercial harvest, and Upper Trout and Bridge Creek include roughly 10,000 acres of commercial harvest. Discussions during the tour focused on harvest prescriptions, operations in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas, species composition, and average sawlog diameters targeted for removal.

The Forest plans to release Environmental Assessments for both projects in October. Successful implementation will be challenging as eastern Oregon continues to grapple with long haul distances, a limited number of processing facilities, and requirements to remove low value material from the Forest.

AFRC will continue monitoring both projects as they move through environmental review and implementation. *Irene Jerome*

Federal Timber Purchasers Coalition (FTPC) Meets in Denver



The Federal Timber Purchasers Coalition (FTPC) held its inaugural meeting in Denver, Colorado from May 12-13.

FTPC, formerly known as the Federal Timber Purchasers “Committee,” was formally created to serve as a national unified voice of federal timber purchasers and contractors. The Coalition is focused on improving the effectiveness, scale, and contract design and implementation of Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) timber programs through partnership and communication with the agencies, and through education and advocacy before Executive and Legislative officials.

On Tuesday, May 12, FTPC hosted an “industry only” meeting that allowed federal timber purchasers and contractors from around the country to identify, discuss, and prioritize common issues, challenges, and opportunities for change.

On Wednesday, May 13, industry and Forest Service and BLM leaders hosted a day-long “joint meeting” to work together to solve technical and contractual challenges to help improve stewarding federal forests and the working relationship between the federal agencies and public-private partners on the ground.

The joint meetings result in actionable items and follow-ups for both the industry and the agencies to continue working on together. Among the technical items discussed were proposed revisions to the Forest Service’s Manual and Handbook directives, opportunities to improve the Forest Service’s timber sale appraisal methods, and strategies to help the Forest Service execute long-term timber sale contract requirements. More than 70 people attended the joint industry-agency meeting this year – a record high.

Since its creation in the 1960s, the Committee – now the Coalition – was managed under the umbrella of various forest products industry trade associations, including most recently by the Federal Forest Resource Coalition (FFRC). In January 2026, the FFRC Board of Directors voted unanimously to transition FFRC into FTPC complete with an organizational name change, updated Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, and a new governance structure.

FTPC is now governed by a five-person, voluntary, working Board of Directors with national reach and representation, including:

- **Travis Joseph**, FTPC President-elect of the Board, President/CEO of the American Forest Resource Council
- **Tim O’Hara**, FTPC Vice President-elect of the Board, President of the Forest Resources Association

- **Ben Wudtke**, FTPC Board Member, Executive Director of the Intermountain Forest Association
- **Max Braswell**, FTPC Board Member, Executive Vice President of the Arkansas Forestry Association
- **Richard Schwab**, FTPC Board Member, Schwab Brothers Hydraulics, representing the American Loggers Council

FTPC's next meeting, the FTPC Fall Meeting, is expected to be hosted near the Black Hills National Forest in early October. To get involved, attend a meeting, or become an FTPC member, please contact Travis Joseph (tjoseph@amforest.org). / *Travis Joseph*

Washington DNR Update

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is on track to sell the lowest volume of timber in 26 years, reducing revenue to schools, counties, universities, and other trust beneficiaries while creating serious financial challenges for the agency itself.

In recent media reports focused on the plight of [rural school districts](#) and DNR's [dwindling operating accounts](#), Commissioner Dave Upthegrove has claimed his decisions to set aside more state trust lands are not to blame for reduced revenues.

However, these claims don't match clear evidence of unilateral actions by Upthegrove that deliberately devalue state trust timber sales by pulling planned harvest units from sales after years of planning and environmental review, reducing revenue for schools, counties, universities, fire districts, libraries, and other trust beneficiaries.

In practice, that means removing planned harvest units containing valuable timber from sales before auction, reducing sale volume, and lowering the revenue generated for trust beneficiaries and the agency.

The Starwagon timber sale in Thurston County provides a clear example of how these decisions reduce the value of trust assets and the revenue they generate for beneficiaries. Publicly available DNR sale documents show the sale was [repeatedly reduced](#) between the original 2024 proposal, the revised 2025 proposal, and the final 2026 auction package, significantly lowering both timber volume and projected revenue to beneficiaries and DNR.

The findings come as DNR timber sales have fallen to record lows and as Commissioner Upthegrove continues advancing plans to remove nearly 80,000 acres of state trust lands from working forest status.

Using the final 2026 auction price of \$635.89 per thousand board feet, we estimate DNR left approximately \$3.8 million in gross sale value unrealized by repeatedly removing planned harvest units from the Starwagon sale.

The reductions hit trust beneficiaries and DNR itself through reduced projected distributions to DNR management accounts. For example, at the final auction value, Washington State University lost an estimated \$901,687 in projected timber revenue distributions.

As DNR [closes campgrounds](#) due to lack of funding, management accounts that fund agency operations and forest management activities also suffered over \$1 million in losses, including approximately \$473,723 to the Forest Development Account and \$602,241 to the Resource Management Cost Account.

Because the Starwagon timber sale included county trust lands in Thurston County, local beneficiaries affected by the reduced sale include local schools, fire districts, county roads, Timberland Regional Library, and other public services. Both Thurston County and Timberland Regional Library are already confronting budget shortfalls, making the loss of trust revenue even harder for communities to absorb.

Under the Washington State Constitution and state law, state trust lands are to be managed to generate revenue for defined beneficiaries, including public schools, counties, universities, fire districts, libraries, and other essential public services. Revenue generated from sustainable timber harvests also funds DNR's own operations, staffing, and forest management activities.

The Starwagon sale reflects broader concerns about the direction of DNR trust land management under Commissioner Upthegrove, including efforts to reduce planned harvest levels, delay sales, and remove working forests from active management.

AFRC recently-launched "[77,000 Acre Commissioner Order – Community Impact Calculator](#)," an online tool that allows the public to evaluate how Commissioner Upthegrove's proposed set asides of state trust lands affect beneficiaries and local communities across Washington. The calculator, available through the Washington Communities and Schools Network, uses DNR GIS data to identify affected acres by county and trust and estimate impacts to local services and beneficiaries. /Heath Heikkila

AFRC Expands Professional Development with Leadership Forum

AFRC is expanding and rebranding its Emerging Leaders Program as the new AFRC Leadership Forum, reflecting the program's evolution into a broader professional development opportunity for forestry and forest products professionals across the industry.

Since launching in 2017, the Emerging Leaders Program has brought together participants from across the West for deeper discussions about forest policy, public affairs, litigation, advocacy, communications, and active forest management. Over time, the program has grown beyond its original focus on early career professionals and developed into a larger forum for industry education, networking, and leadership development.

The new AFRC Leadership Forum is intended to serve AFRC members, employees, and partners at every career stage. Organizers say the goal is to create a program participants return to year after year, with each forum featuring timely discussions and practical insight into the issues shaping forestry, logging, and wood products.

AFRC

LEADERSHIP FORUM

The 2026 AFRC Leadership Forum will be held September 30 at the Peppermill Resort in Reno, Nevada. The program will include a full day of presentations and discussion, along with an evening networking reception with the AFRC Board of Directors.

Topics currently planned for the 2026 forum include the changing U.S. Forest Service, ongoing NEPA and regulatory reforms, litigation and project durability, political developments in Washington, D.C., and the growing role of artificial intelligence in industry communications and advocacy.

Additional details, lodging information, and a full agenda will be released next month. Those interested in learning more can contact Nick Smith at nsmith@amforest.org or 503-515-4206. /*Nick Smith*

AFRC Welcomes Summer Intern Emily Krauss



AFRC is thrilled to announce Emily Krauss is joining the Team as a Summer Intern. A graduate of Pleasant Hill High School (Oregon), Emily is returning home after finishing her freshman year at Wesleyan University, where she is pursuing a double major in Government and Economics with a minor in Data Analysis. Emily is planning to attend law school after her undergraduate studies.

Outside of school she loves playing volleyball, hiking, reading, and spending time with her family. Growing up in Oregon, Emily frequently visited Oregon’s forests and enjoyed the incredible recreational opportunities that shape much of the Pacific Northwest, while also gaining an appreciation for sustainable forest practices - including the importance of wildfire management and timber harvests that support rural communities.

Emily spent the last two summers as a Swanson Group Human Resources intern where she gained valuable insight into the industry and day-to-day mill operations.

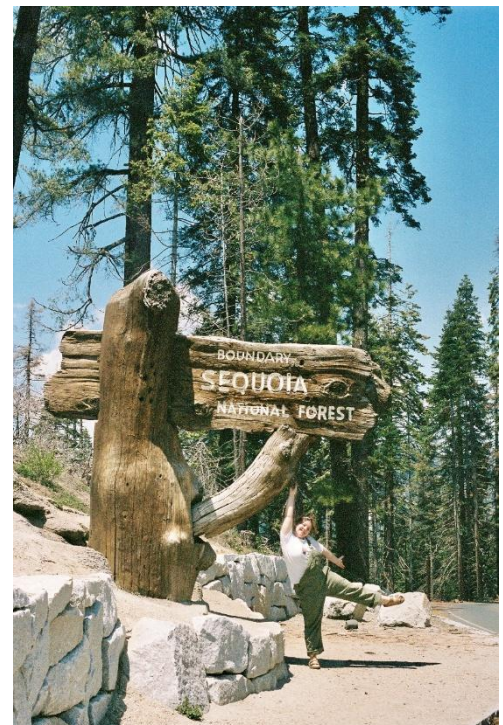
She is excited to be joining AFRC this summer where she will learn more about the forest products industry, conduct policy and legislative research, and contribute to projects that support Team AFRC and its members. /*Travis Joseph*

AFRC Welcomes Summer Law Clerk Claire Sebree

Claire Sebree joins AFRC as a Summer Law Clerk after completing her second year at the University of Oregon School of Law. Claire is from the San Francisco Bay Area, where she grew up exploring the outdoors and reading avidly.

Inspired by summers at Lake Tahoe and road trips to national parks, she studied at the University of California, Berkeley, and earned a B.S. in Society and Environment with a concentration in U.S. Environmental Management and Policy, and a minor in Conservation and Resource Studies. At Berkeley, Claire discovered her passion for connecting and explaining scientific and legal concepts. In her spare time, she conducted agro-ecological research on dry farming techniques and was a leader of Cal’s improv comedy group. After graduating, she moved to Eugene to study environmental law.

While at Oregon, Claire has worked as a Fellow at the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center on the Sustainable Land Use Project and the Conservation Trust Project. She has been actively involved in the Domestic Violence Clinic,



and currently serves on the Dean's Committee of Community and Inclusion. Claire has also been a general member of Land Air Water, the National Lawyers Guild, OUTLaws, the Women's Law Forum, and the Student Bar Association. During her first summer in law school, she worked with the Center for Food Safety, an agricultural and environmental nonprofit. Through this opportunity and environmental coursework, she has developed strong interests in land use law, resource management, and environmental justice.

In her free time, Claire enjoys D&D, good coffee, gardening, game nights, and making others laugh. She is so excited to join AFRC, build on her legal writing skills, and participate in advocacy for sustainable forest management and wildfire resilience with such a talented team. /*Claire Sebree*