



NEWS

Forest Service and Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry sponsor Yale Forum on Ecosystem Services

On March 23, a Yale Forest Forum will bring landowners, industry, government, and the conservation community together to explore ecosystem service payment schemes and market mechanisms. The open forum will be held at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, New Haven, CT. A small workshop following the forum will engage investors and potential buyers in a discussion about attracting institutional investment in ecosystem services. Download a flyer at: www.yale.edu/gisf. Questions can be sent to Mary.Tyrrell@yale.edu.

Agricultural Outlook Forum addresses the future of conservation markets

Market-based conservation and environmental credit trading were topics addressed at the USDA 2006 Agricultural Outlook Forum, *Prospering in Rural America*, held this month. During a session moderated by Undersecretary Mark Rey, discussants addressed market development and opportunities for the agriculture and forestry sectors. More information about the forum is available at www.usda.gov.

Market-based conservation: Minister of Environment shares Costa Rica's experience with the Forest Service

The Forest Service recently welcomed Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, Costa Rica's Minister of Environment and Energy, during his visit to Washington D.C. During an open seminar Mr. Rodriguez described the emergence and success of Environmental Service Payments, the country's main financial mechanism for promoting forest protection and sustainable use. A video recording of Mr. Rodriguez's presentation can be obtained by sending an email to zbowden@fs.fed.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Environmental Credits Generated Through Land-Use Changes, Baltimore MD, March 8-9:

This workshop focuses on market-based approaches to land management and the challenges of carbon sequestration and water quality credit trading. Jointly sponsored by Texas A&M, The Environmental Trading Network, and Environmental Defense, with funding from US EPA. A preliminary agenda is available at: www.envtn.org/LBcreditsworkshop.

Ecological Assets in Business 2006, Palo Alto CA,

March 13-14: EPRI Solutions, an affiliate of the Electric Power Research Institute, is offering a multi-industry workshop on corporate ecological asset strategies. Learn more at www.eprisolutions.com.

Presentation at the FS Tuesday, March 21 12-1 PM:

James Boyd, Senior Fellow and Director of Energy and Natural Resources at *Resources for the Future*, will provide an overview of his research on non-market valuation and the development of an Ecosystem Services Index at the Forest Service Yates Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC. This is a brown-bag lunch discussion hosted by Cooperative Forestry and the Forest Service Ecosystem Services Advisory Group. Please RSVP by sending an email to began@fs.fed.us.

RESOURCES

Forest carbon registry review available February 24

The Forest Service has completed a background paper on forest carbon registries and protocols. The document reviews and compares a selection of carbon programs and provides information for states interested in forest carbon registries. Send copy requests to jessicacall@fs.fed.us.

Report estimates value of Canada's boreal region carbon bank account to be \$3.7 trillion

Research by the Pembina Institute for the Canadian Boreal Initiative aimed at identifying and measuring the physical conditions and full economic value of the region's natural capital and ecosystem services. Researchers estimated the total non-market value of boreal ecosystem services in the year 2002 to be \$93.2 billion, or \$159/hectare. You can read *Counting Canada's Natural Capital: Assessing the real value of Canada's boreal ecosystems* at: www.borealcanada.ca.

COMING SOON...

The Forest Service is working on a new ecosystem services website that will feature important links, communication tools, and updated information about resources and events.

Check our Cooperative Forestry website for the latest information about the **Valuing Ecosystem Services** site: www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop.

Do you have news or events to share?

Send a brief description by email to began@fs.fed.us