



May 2007 Update

ASSOCIATE CHIEF COLLINS EXPLORES A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON FORESTRY

Associate Chief Sally Collins addressed participants of the biennial National Silviculture Workshop this month in Ketchikan, Alaska. In a keynote speech, Collins reflected on ecological and economic trends in forestry that place the supply and delivery of ecosystem services at risk, prompting a discussion of how forests can be valued for all of the benefits they provide. She explained how the notion of valuing services helps reframe forest management: "Ecosystem services places people and their needs at the center of ecosystems," she said. "It is not about managing nature for nature's sake, but rather about valuing the benefits people get from ecosystems." Collins closed with her list of ten things the Forest Service is doing - and can do - in the spirit of ecosystem services, highlighting the contributions of leadership, language, and learning to a future outlook on forestry and the environment.

🌿 You can read the Associate Chief's remarks and other speeches at www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/speeches.

Farm Bill update

Last month USDA Secretary Johanns began to deliver proposed legislative language to Congress for the 2007 Farm Bill. The Conservation Title includes authorities to facilitate private sector markets for ecosystem services: Subtitle J, Market Based Approaches to Conservation, authorizes the Secretary to establish a standards board to develop uniform standards for quantifying environmental credits generated from land management activities. The proposed Farm Bill language is available at: www.usda.gov/farbill.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SHARING INDIGENOUS WISDOM: AN INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, MADISON WI, JUNE 11-15: The College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute will host a conference in June that features the Menominee sustainable development tradition. A series of case studies will encourage discussion about incorporating traditional ecological knowledge and values in sustainable forest management and research. The conference will host the North America regional meeting of the IUFRO Task Force on Traditional Forest Knowledge. For more information visit www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org.

SEMINAR AT THE FOREST SERVICE, WASHINGTON DC, TUESDAY JUNE 19 12:30-1:30: Taylor Ricketts, Director of Conservation Science at the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), will discuss efforts to map and estimate the value of ecosystem services. Ricketts is a co-founder and director of the Natural Capital Project, a partnership between WWF, Stanford University, and The Nature Conservancy that uses maps and other new tools to help incorporate ecosystem service values into decision-making. Ricketts' presentation is part of an ecosystem services seminar series hosted by Cooperative Forestry. To learn more about this and other seminars in the series, visit: www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/seminars.

🌿 Visit our website to learn about other upcoming events...

RESOURCES

JUST RELEASED — RESTORING NATURE'S CAPITAL: AN ACTION AGENDA TO SUSTAIN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: Building on the significant findings of the 2005 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, The World Resources Institute (WRI) presents five action areas that collectively address the need to reverse ecosystem degradation. The report draws on the insights of 17 contributing authors to illustrate how businesses, governments, and civil society can redefine governance in a way that safeguards ecosystem services. WRI will release a second report, *Integrating Ecosystem Services into Development Decisions: A guide for decision makers*, this summer. www.wri.org

IPCC PUBLISHES NEXT TWO REPORTS IN ITS FOUR-VOLUME ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE: The IPCC continues its 2007 assessment of climate change with the release of two reports on adaptation and mitigation options. Scientists conclude that forest-related mitigation can considerably reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon dioxide removal at low cost; forest-related mitigation can also generate substantial co-benefits in terms of employment, income generation, conservation, renewable energy supply, and poverty alleviation. Report summaries are available online. www.ipcc.ch

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