



## USDA Forest Service National Forest System Briefing Paper

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Date: April 28, 2009

### Topic:

Wyland Forest to the Sea Event June 11, 2009 in the People's Garden

### Issue:

On June 11, 2009, world renowned artist Wyland, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will launch a national *Forest to the Sea in a Changing Climate* education campaign. The kick-off event will take place at the People's Garden on the National Mall with Wyland, students from the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities and local schools painting a series of murals exploring how kids can have a positive impact on local watersheds from the forests to the sea.

### Background:

The goal of the new partnership and educational campaign will bridge the worlds of art and science to inspire people of all ages to become better stewards of our precious water resources. The Wyland Foundation, USFS, and NOAA will be creating proactive, highly visible, interactive opportunities to teach kids about the importance and interconnectivity of water, from the mountain forests and rangelands all the way to the ocean. This event is part of a larger effort to celebrate World Ocean Day on June 8, 2009 and National Get Outdoors Day on June 13, 2009.

This event will be covered extensively by national media. Organizations and guests invited by the Wyland Foundation will include: The President and Vice President of the United States of America and their families, Washington DC Mayor Fenty, Hawaii Senator Inouye, Hawaiian House Representative Abercrombie, Al Gore, Under Secretary of Commerce and Administrator of NOAA Jane Lubchenco, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, National Geographic and Discovery Channel.

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