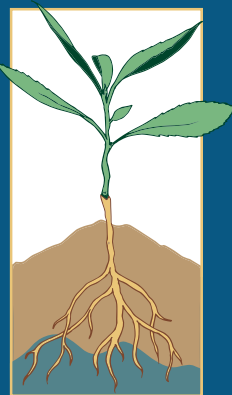


SAF
26
NATIONAL
CONVENTION
Tacoma, WA
October 6-9



Rooted Future: Growing in a Dynamic World

safconvention.org

Register by August 15 for early-bird rates!



SAF Takes Flight to Tacoma

Known as the “City of Destiny,” Tacoma, Washington offers attendees a variety of options to explore forest and natural resources management.

“This year’s SAF National Convention is centered on connecting with one another in a place rich with traditions, grand landscapes, and a drive for innovation: a diverse and fascinating setting that reflects the uniqueness of us all. I believe this is especially important to recognize as we navigate the many national and global dynamics that affect our daily lives as well as our broader careers. I look forward to the opportunity to connect with everyone at Convention, knowing that these shared experiences strengthen our community and help us grow a bright and flourishing future together.”

—**Noelle Arena**, program chair
2026 Committee on National Convention Programs

“I am honored to welcome you to Tacoma for the 2026 National Convention. Our diverse forest types, from the Pacific coast to the Cascade mountains, reflect the many ways there are to be a forester. I can’t think of a better setting for the moment our profession finds itself in: when it seems so much is in flux, so much is possible. This year’s Convention is sure to leave you energized and inspired as we tend to that possibility.”

—**Brady Dier**, general chair
2026 Committee on National Convention Programs

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

GOLD SPONSORS



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WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
School of the Environment



Interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at SAF26? Visit safconvention.org or contact us at events@safnet.org.



Explore New Opportunities!

SAF26 is the largest event of the year for forestry and natural resources professionals!

EXPERIENCE OVER 200 SESSIONS COVERING TOPICS THAT INCLUDE:

Agroforestry • Bioenergy, Climate, and Carbon • Business Acumen • Economics, Policy, and Law • Forest Ecology • Forest Health and Genetics • Forest History, Philosophy, and Ethics • Forest Production and Utilization • Forest Technology • International Forestry • Inventory and Biometrics • Leadership Development • Recreation and Wilderness Management • Soils and Hydrology • Sustainability and Certification • Urban and Community Forestry • Water Resources • Wildlife Management • *And More!*

POSTER SYMPOSIUM

Connect with students and professionals on October 7 at the SAF26 Poster Symposium! Learn from and connect with authors and presenters from across the country as they highlight research and case studies within the many disciplines of forestry and natural resources.

SCIENCE FLASHES

Learn in a flash with these 10-minute presentations that take the audience on a quick trip into forestry and natural resources topics.

WORKSHOPS

Jumpstart your Convention experience with a pre-Convention workshop. Gain hands-on practical experience with forest modeling and data, prescribed burn planning, and video postcards.

2026 SUB-THEMES

Adapt, Innovate, Advance
Stewardship Across Generations
The People's Forest
Linking Ecosystems and Economics

300+
SPEAKERS

UP TO 32
CFE CREDIT
HOURS

Register today at safconvention.org. The technical session schedule will be ready by early July.

Plenary Sessions

Explore the rooted future of forestry throughout the week during our three keynote sessions.

PLENARY I Tuesday, October 6, 4:30–5:30pm

Voices of the Forest: Past, Present, and Future Stewardship

This panel brings together perspectives from across generations to explore the evolving practice of forest stewardship and the people who shape it. The discussion will examine how the forestry profession has adapted to shifting societal values, economic pressures, and environmental challenges, while also identifying strategies to navigate what lies ahead. By connecting a variety of voices and experiences, this session aims to foster collaboration and inspire innovative approaches to sustaining forests and natural resources for future generations.

Moderator: Sam Cook, *College of Natural Resources – North Carolina State University*

Panelists: Marc Cannon, *Weyerhaeuser*; Vicki Christiansen, *Retired – U.S. Forest Service*; Asija Rice, *CF, Center for Heirs' Property*

PLENARY II Wednesday, October 7, 10:30am–12:00pm

Pushing Up the Sky: Celebrating 50 Years of the Intertribal Timber Council

Discover how Indigenous nations transformed a landmark court victory into a renaissance of self-determination. Join Dr. Gary Morishima (ITC co-founder) and Cody Desautel (Colville Tribes/ITC President) for an inspiring fireside chat on taking back forest management, blending Traditional Ecological Knowledge with science, and the future of Tribal sovereignty.

Moderator: Brady Dier, *Washington Department of Natural Resources*

Speakers: Gary Morishima, *Intertribal Timber Council/Quinault*; Cody Desautel, *Intertribal Timber Council/Colville*

PLENARY III Thursday, October 8, 1:30–3:00pm

Beyond the Canopy: Looking Towards a Brighter Future

How do we steward forests in a rapidly changing world? This panel brings together experts from across the forestry profession to explore the intersections of technology, workforce, markets, and society. Panelists representing various career stages and sectors will discuss how they are creating opportunities for the next generation to be part of our field, and how that field adapts to shifting environmental conditions and changing public expectations, all while remaining grounded in the core principles of stewardship. This session aims to highlight our collective responsibility in building a resilient future for forestry.

Moderator: Kayla Stuart, *University of Tennessee*

Panelists: Lilian Dinkins, *DC Women in Conservation Policy*; Jerry Ingersoll, *Forest Service Job Corps (retired)*; Blake Manley, *Western Forestry and Conservation Association*; Ilyssa Manspeizer, *LandForce*



Discover the Evergreen State!

Planned by Washington SAF, learn how forestry is managed in Washington and the Pacific Northwest area by joining any of these ten technical field tours offered before, during, and after convention. For full tour details, visit safconvention.org.

TUESDAY TECHNICAL TOURS

Washington Forest and Fish Through the Lens of the Small Forest Landowner

Experience Washington's forests firsthand on this exclusive, "boots-on-the-ground" tour of an award-winning family Tree Farm. Discover the history and impact of the landmark Forest and Fish Agreement and engage in expert-led discussions on navigating forest practices for small landowners. Don't miss this unique opportunity to see sustainable forestry in action.

Nisqually Community Forest and Nisqually Indian Tribe

Discover the future of forestry on this exclusive full-day tour of the Nisqually Community Forest (NCF). Co-managed with the Nisqually Indian Tribe, this 5,500-acre, nonprofit demonstration forest showcases cutting-edge ecological forestry, boosting climate resilience, salmon habitat, and local economic benefits. See firsthand how this innovative Tribal-community partnership transcends short-rotation industrial forestry to create a thriving, resilient landscape.

Military Silviculture Systems and Unique Western Washington Forest Ecosystems

Experience the unique challenge of managing rare Ponderosa pine and Oregon white oak ecosystems on an active military reservation. This exclusive tour showcases innovative forestry, from restoring Washington's last large white oak savanna to overcoming high-invasive environments for successful seedling survival. See firsthand how to balance critical military training needs with sustainable timber management and forest health.

Mixed Species and Spacing Plantations: Early Stand Responses

Participants of this silviculture-focused tour will visit the University of Washington's experimental forest "Pack Forest," a 4,300-acre forest composed of over 190 stands. Tour stops will explore both recently established and older (1930 and 1970s) species trials addressing the movement of species for silvicultural purposes. Participants will learn about the establishment and intermediate silviculture treatments needed to create species and structural diversity through variability in species plantation mixtures.

Advancing Cable Logging: Innovation, Safety, and Sustainable Operations

This full-day tour will introduce attendees to the latest steep-slope harvesting technologies being used across the Pacific Northwest. Participants will see firsthand how modern cable logging systems, winch-assist equipment, and data-enabled harvesting tools are improving safety, environmental performance, and operational efficiency in steep terrain. We'll highlight both ground-based and skyline systems and discuss how these technologies are helping foresters, operators, and landowners meet today's challenges in sustainable timber harvesting.

All tours are \$90 per attendee and include lunch and snacks. For more tour details, visit safconvention.org.

Sierra Pacific Industries Shelton Mill

This tour will include viewing the log yard, dual-line sawmill, and fabrication shop. We will discuss log procurement in WA, lumber manufacturing at the stud mill, and the benefits of our own fabrication shop on site to serve our mills. We will also talk about workforce development in the fab shop, including youth programs and apprenticeships, partnerships with Skills USA, and focus on internal training.

WEDNESDAY TECHNICAL TOUR

Elbe Hills State Forest

Explore the dynamic Elbe Hills State Forest and join us for an action-packed tour of a working forest in a Spotted Owl Management Unit. Discover how we balance sustainable timber harvesting with habitat conservation, explore diverse recreation sites, and see post-fire reforestation in action. From innovative fish-passable engineering to modern silviculture, see firsthand how we manage for a healthy, working landscape.

THURSDAY TECHNICAL TOUR

Cascade Hardwood Sawmill Tour

Go behind the scenes of a premier hardwood sawmill to experience the journey of Red Alder from log to lumber. See cutting-edge Microtech CT scanning, precision breakdown, grading, and finishing in this comprehensive, up-close manufacturing tour.

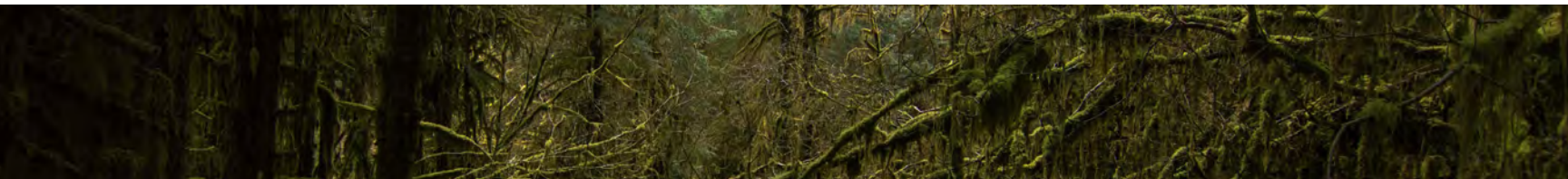
FRIDAY TECHNICAL TOURS

Growing Forests: The Science of Reforestation at Scale

This tour gives attendees a rare, end-to-end view of the seedling pipeline for industrial reforestation in the Pacific Northwest: seed orchard, seed collection, seed processing, nursery growing and different stock types, culturing seedlings for outplant, storage, delivery, and finally planting. Tour location will be Weyerhaeuser's Rochester Nursery and Mima Bareroot Nursery facilities.

Urban Forestry Challenges and Opportunities in the South Puget Sound Region

Urban Forestry in the South Puget Sound region involves a spectrum of urban forestry efforts, from expanding tree canopy in under-served areas to using ecological forestry practices for forest management in the wildland urban interface (WUI). This tour is of interest to forestry professionals who want to learn how local professionals are addressing urban forestry and WUI challenges to ensure healthy and vibrant forests for communities in the Pacific Northwest.



Grow, Engage, and Connect in the SAF26 Expo Hall

Our 2026 partners represent the latest and greatest in the forestry and natural resources profession. Connect and collaborate with our sponsors and exhibitors in the following ways.

OPENING RECEPTION

Kick off this year's convention at the SAF26 Opening Reception! Network with sponsors and exhibitors and engage with colleagues while enjoying tastes of the Pacific Northwest in the exhibit hall.

INNOVATION ZONES

Experience hands-on learning opportunities with our popular innovation zones! These 30-minute sessions, eligible for CFEs, are scheduled during breaks and allow convention partners to demonstrate their latest tools, tech, and educational resources to attendees. Each innovation zone will have a theme within those bounds: tools-of-the-trade, technology, and education.

CAREER FAIR

Looking to expand your team or develop your career? Connect with leading organizations actively seeking new talent in forestry and natural resources at our dedicated Career Fair.



Interested in representing your organization at SAF26?
Visit safconvention.org for more information and to reserve your exhibit booth.

Network and Socialize

Connect with students and professionals at meet-ups, receptions, and socials throughout the week.

ALUMNI RECEPTIONS

This annual tradition is a great way to connect and engage with alumni from your alma mater!

CERTIFICATION SOCIAL

Are you SAF Certified? If so, join us for the 3rd annual SAF Certification Reception. This private event offers the opportunity to connect with other professionals who hold one of SAF's renowned certifications. Enjoy appetizers and a cash bar, and make sure to stick around for our annual group photo!

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST SOCIAL

Current and future Community of Interest members are invited to join the Forest Science and Technology Board and Community of Interest officers to learn more about Community opportunities and discuss new trends in research and technology.

DONOR GRATITUDE RECEPTION

Help us recognize our generous donors and share how their giving is making a positive impact on the programs and people of SAF. Please note, this event is invitation-only.

FELLOWS BREAKFAST

Are you an SAF Fellow? Join this annual tradition for SAF Fellows to celebrate this extraordinary accomplishment and network with other Fellows from across the country.





PEOPLE, POLICY, AND POPCORN

Engage in timely conversations on the people, partnerships, and policies shaping the future of forestry. Connect with leaders from across the profession for dynamic discussions on agency priorities, emerging leadership, storytelling, and the growing role of partnerships and corporate sustainability in advancing forest stewardship. Sessions will feature perspectives from practitioners, policymakers, and innovators working to strengthen forests and communities in a rapidly changing landscape.

POLICY SOCIAL

Hosted by the SAF Committee on Forest Policy, this social is open to all attendees interested in discussing forest policy and networking with policy influencers.

QUIZ BOWL

Bracket play meets pub-style trivia in our annual collegiate forestry competition. Cheer on universities and colleges from across the country as they battle over forestry and natural resources questions to earn the coveted quiz bowl trophy. Want to join the action? Sign up early at safconvention.org as team slots fill up fast!

SAF CONNECT: LEADERSHIP BRIEF

At SAF Connect, hear directly from SAF CEO Terry Baker, SAF President Tara Bal, CF, SAF Vice President Tom Fox, and SAF Immediate Past President Bettina Ring on important messages and topics. This exclusive event provides insight on trending topics and preeminent activities within the organization and sector.



For more information, visit safconvention.org.

SAF26 CELEBRATION

To close out the second-to-last day of convention, join convention attendees at an annual celebratory event with fun, food, and friends.

SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE: BID, WIN, AND GIVE BACK

The annual silent auction is a longstanding fundraising tradition at SAF National Convention. Visit the auction in the expo hall to buy raffle tickets and bid on a variety of items. Best of all, every dollar raised through the auction supports SAF's grants and scholarship programs, giving directly back to the forestry community. Members, local units, and partners are invited to be part of the fun by donating gift baskets, handcrafted items, tools and apparel, gift cards, specialty foods, experiences, and more. To contribute or learn how to get involved, visit safconvention.org.

STUDENT MEETUP

Connect and interact with students from across the country at this year's Student Meetup, hosted by SAF's Student Executive Committee.

STUDENT SOCIAL

Mingle and connect with other students for a night of trivia, games, and pizza at the Student Social.

Have a guest attending the conference with you and looking for an activity? Visit safconvention.org for more details on our companion tour offerings this year.





WOMEN IN NATURAL RESOURCES MEETUP

Join a community of women in forestry and natural resources at the Women in Natural Resources Meet-up! Hosted by the Women's Forest Congress, this networking and educational event will provide you with the tools needed for better engagement in the profession.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MEETUP

Engage and learn from other young professionals at this education and networking roundtable session hosted by SAF's Young Professional cohort.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SOCIAL

Network with other young professionals from across the country at the second annual Young Professionals Social.



Lodging

We strongly encourage all attendees to stay at one of these hotels at the secured discounted rates.



MARRIOTT TACOMA DOWNTOWN

1538 Commerce St, Tacoma, WA 98402

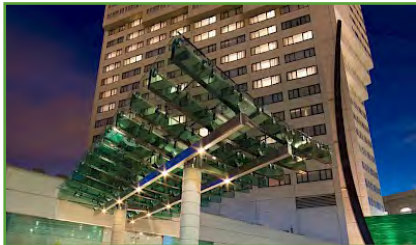
Discounted group rate is \$186/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. The deadline to reserve a room is September 10.



COURTYARD MARRIOTT TACOMA DOWNTOWN

1515 Commerce St, Tacoma, WA 98402

Discounted group rate is \$189/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. The deadline to reserve a room is September 4.



HOTEL MURANO

1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402

Discounted group rate is \$192/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. The deadline to reserve a room is September 12.

Visit safconvention.org for more information and to reserve your hotel rooms online. Make your hotel reservations by the deadlines listed for guaranteed discounted rates. Rooms at the discounted group rate are limited at all properties.



Registration Rates

Register early and save! The early-bird deadline is August 15.

2026 REGISTRATION RATES

Registration Type	Early Rates	Regular Rates	On-Site Rates
Member	\$515	\$585	\$650
Member <i>Retired and Golden</i>	\$465	\$530	\$580
Student <i>member and non-member</i>	\$210	\$240	\$265
Non-Member	\$690	\$795	\$875
Classroom Rate <i>up to 15 students at one school</i>	\$2,615	\$3,000	\$3,250
Agency Rate <i>up to 5 employees of a single government agency</i>	\$2,225	\$2,780	\$3,120
One Day <i>Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday</i>	\$260	\$300	\$335
Guest	\$100	\$115	\$125

REGISTRATION INCLUDES

access to all in-person activities including the opening reception, plenaries, concurrent sessions, socials, SAF26 Celebration, and exhibit hall. Ticketed events include pre- and post-convention workshops and technical tours, as well as the Fellows breakfast.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund requests must be received by September 11, 2026. A \$75 administrative fee will be deducted from the total refund due.

GUEST REGISTRATION

Guest registration is only for those that DO NOT qualify under another registration category.

Can't attend the entire convention?

Purchase a one-day registration for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday.

For more information and to register, visit safconvention.org.

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Check out what's on deck for SAF26. For more details, visit safconvention.org. Schedule is subject to change.

Tuesday, October 6

7:00am – 4:00pm Technical Field Tours and Workshops

4:30 – 5:30pm Plenary I

5:30 – 7:30pm Opening Reception and Expo Hall

7:30 – 10:00pm Quiz Bowl

Wednesday, October 7

8:00–9:30am Scientific and Technical Sessions

9:30–10:30am Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones

10:30am–12:00pm Opening Ceremonies and Plenary II

12:00–1:30pm Lunch Break and Exhibits

1:00–2:30pm Poster Symposium

1:30–2:00pm SAF Connect: Leadership Brief

1:30–3:00pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

3:00–4:00pm Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; People, Policy, and Popcorn

4:00–5:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions; Student Meetup; Forest Landowner Support Meetup

5:30–7:00pm Donor Gratitude Reception

7:00–9:00pm Alumni Receptions

Thursday, October 8

7:00–8:00am Fellows Breakfast (invite only)

8:00–9:30am Scientific and Technical Sessions

9:00am–5:00pm Expo Hall open

9:00am–1:00pm Career Fair

9:30–10:30am Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; People, Policy, and Popcorn

10:30am–12:00pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

11:00am–12:30pm Women in Natural Resources Meetup

12:00–1:30pm Lunch Break and Exhibits

1:30–3:00pm Plenary III, Awards Parade, and Passing of Torch

3:00–4:00pm Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; People, Policy, and Popcorn

4:00–5:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions; Young Professionals Meetup

5:30–6:30pm Past Presidents Reception

6:00–7:00pm Communities of Interest Social; Student Social; Policy Social

7:00–9:00pm SAF26 Celebration

Friday, October 9

9:00–10:30am Scientific and Technical Sessions

9:30–11:00am People, Policy, and Popcorn

10:30–11:00am Refreshment Break

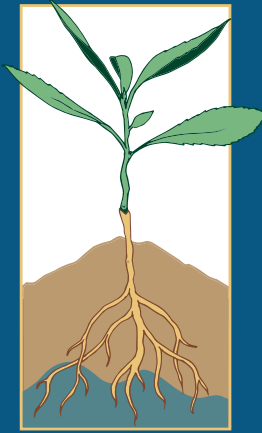
11:00am–12:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

12:00–5:00pm Technical Field Tours

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Rooted Future: Growing in a Dynamic World