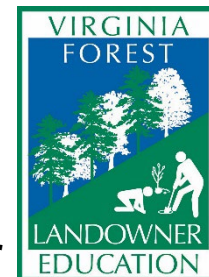


# Introduction to Forest Carbon Markets Conference

March 3, 2023 – Brightwood Community College, Chester



Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
8:00 – 8:45	Registration/Check in	
8:45 – 9:00	Introductory remarks	Jennifer Gagnon & John Magruder
9:00 – 10:00	Introduction to Forest Carbon Opportunities for Family Forest Owners in the United States	Melissa Kreye
10:00 – 10:30	Verra and High-quality Carbon Credits	Max Grigri
-----BREAK-----		
10:45 – 11:15	Features of Carbon Market Programs: Framework for Landowners in Virginia	Kurt Stephenson & Stella Schons
11:15 – 11:35	Family Forest Carbon Program – Virtual	Sarah Hall
11:35 – 11:55	Applying a Portfolio Approach to Your Land – Carbon and Beyond (ACRE) – Virtual	Chandler Van Voorhis
11:55 – 12:15	Making Conservation Profitable – Forest Carbon Works	Jason Woodfin
-----LUNCH-----		
1:15 – 1:35	ANew Climate LLC Introduction to Forest Carbon Project Development Services	Tommie Elder
1:35 – 1:55	An Introduction to NCX’s Harvest Deferral Program – Virtual	Lillian Hogan
1:55 – 2:15	Rappahannock Carbon: Healthy Watersheds and Forests in the Rappahannock River Watershed	Bryan Hofmann & Colin Fraser
-----BREAK-----		
2:30 – 3:00	Panel Discussion: Forest Carbon Markets Experiences Landowners Natural Resource Professional	Dick Porterfield Neil Clark Glen Worrell
3:00 – 3:15	Recap	Melissa Kreye
3:15	Evaluations/Dismissal	

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## Speaker Bios

### **Neil Clark, Virginia Cooperative Extension**

Neil Clark is Extension Forester for eastern Virginia and interim Extension Agent for Southampton County. Neil's current responsibilities include conducting forestry educational programs for landowners, loggers, youth, decision-makers, and natural resource professionals. Prior to joining Virginia Cooperative Extension, Neil worked for the USDA Forest Service in ground-based remote sensing techniques for tree stem characteristics and forest health indicators. Neil received a B.S. in Forestry and Wildlife in 1994 and an M.S. in Forestry in 1998, with a concentration in remote sensing.

### **Tommie Elder, Anew**

Tommie Elder is the Director of Forest Carbon Origination, ANEW. Tommie joined Anew in 2022 to lead early-stage forest carbon project development across North America. Tommie builds partnerships with forest owners and managers to capture revenue from the sale of forest carbon credits in voluntary or compliance markets. Prior to Anew, Tommie served as the Director of Investor Relations for The Forestland Group where she focused on product development, fundraising, and marketing. She led the design, launch, and fundraise of a new financial vehicle and spearheaded TFG's impact portfolio. Tommie established the Conservation Finance Program at the USDA Forest Service to leverage private capital for the stewardship of public forests. She helped structure multiple transactions that delivered new funding for important priorities like wildfire risk reduction, sustainable recreation infrastructure, and watershed enhancement. Tommie also worked for Forest Trends building capacity for participation in a broad array of local and international environmental markets among communities in Latin America and East and Southern Africa. Tommie holds a master's in forestry from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies where she focused on forest finance, and a Bachelor of Science in Human & Organizational Development from Vanderbilt University where she minored in Spanish. Tommie began her career at the Environmental Defense Fund supporting cattle farmers transitioning to rotational grazing in the Chesapeake Bay.

### **Colin Fraser, First Earth**

Colin grew up in rural north Alabama, a perfect place to develop a lifelong appreciation for the natural world. After graduating from the University of Virginia in 2010, Colin embarked on a career in the equestrian industry, working as a horse trainer and farm manager. After a few years, he felt driven to pursue a career where he could have a positive ecological impact. In 2022, Colin joined First Earth 2030, after working in the voluntary carbon market for several years. Colin lives on a farm in Fauquier County and spends every possible minute outside fishing, hunting, gardening, and tending to a growing flock of chickens.

### **Max Grigri, Natural Climate Solutions, Verra**

As a Senior Program Officer, Natural Climate Solutions, with Verra, Max oversees project reviews and collaborates on critical updates to the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Program with a focus on Integrated Forest Management project activities. Before joining Verra about two years ago, Max managed a forest ecology research lab focused on forest-climate interactions and carbon cycling. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Ithaca College and holds a Master of Science in Biology from Virginia Commonwealth University.

### **Sarah Hall, American Forest Foundation**

Sarah resides in the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania and earned a B.S. in Biology with minors in Chemistry and Environmental Science at Millersville University. She is the National Director of Forestry for the Family Forest Carbon Program at the American Forest Foundation. Sarah is a legislatively appointed member of the Pennsylvania Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Council, board member of Forests for Monarchs, and a former member of the Hardwoods Development Council and the Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee. In her spare time, she enjoys fly fishing, doing river clean-ups, gardening, and spending time outdoors with family and friends.

**Bryan Hofmann, Friends of the Rappahannock**

Bryan joined Friends of the Rappahannock in 2013 and is currently their deputy director. Since 2016, he has also coordinated the Rappahannock River Roundtable conservation collaborative. Bryan has bachelor's degrees in political science and economics from Xavier University and a master's degree in environmental science from the Miami University's Institute for Environment and Sustainability. Bryan serves on multiple boards and technical advisory committees including the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP), Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program (VACS), and the Rapidan Institute. He is passionate about urban and community forestry and planting riparian buffers. In his spare time, you will find him kayaking or fly fishing the local streams in Orange County, Virginia.

**Lillian Hogan, National Capital Exchange**

Lillian Hogan leads the Landowner Success Team at NCX. She has been with NCX for about two years. Since joining the team, she's built strong working relationships with landowners and foresters alike. She and her team help support landowners through the enrollment process, better understand eligibility requirements, and engage with foresters eager to offer new solutions to their clients. Lillian earned her BA in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University and currently resides in Indianapolis, IN.

**Max Grigri, Natural Climate Solutions, Verra**

As a Senior Program Officer, Natural Climate Solutions (NCS), with Verra, Max oversees NCS project reviews and collaborates on critical updates to the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Program with a focus on Integrated Forest Management project activities. Before joining Verra about two years ago, Max managed a forest ecology research lab focused on forest-climate interactions and carbon cycling. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Ithaca College and holds a Master of Science in Biology from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Melissa M. Kreye, Penn State**

Melissa is an Assistant Professor of Forest Resources Management in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management and an Extension Specialist at Pennsylvania State University. Her extension programs include the Forest Owner Carbon and Climate Education program and Effective Environmental Outreach Strategies. Recent research projects examine landowner interest in forest carbon payments and opportunities to use prescribed fire as a forest management tool.

**Dick Porterfield, Woodland Owner**

Richard Porterfield and wife Rita actively manage 360 acres of forest land in King William and King and Queen counties. Porterfield Forest LLC has utilized various USDA programs in the past and has forest lands currently enrolled in the NCX carbon program. Dick Porterfield will discuss why he choose NCX and his experience with NCX. Dick Porterfield has a BS from the Ohio State University, MS from North Carolina State University and a PhD from Yale University. Dick has been a faculty member at several Universities, Executive Vice President at Champion International and is past Dean at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia.

**Stella Schons, Virginia Tech**

Stella Schons is an assistant Professor of International Forest Economics and Management. She has a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the *Universidade Estadual de Campinas* (UNICAMP), a joint master's of environmental management and master's of business administration from the Yale School of the Environment and the Yale School of Management, and a Ph.D. in Forestry from Virginia Tech.

Stella's research program is focused on natural resources use and management decisions as well as on policy that aim at conservation and development. Her work includes deforestation decisions in response to land use policies and community fisheries management in the Brazilian Amazon, and tree planting decisions in agricultural lands for fiber production in India. Recently and in the United States, she has been working with incentives to maintain and increase the urban tree canopy on public rights-of-way in underserved communities and with forest carbon contract design, aimed at non-industrial private landowners.

**Kurt Stephenson, Virginia Tech**

Kurt is a Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech. He teaches environmental and natural resource economics and his research interests include environmental markets, market-based incentives, and water resources policy. Stephenson is actively engaged in outreach activities and currently serves on a number of state and regional advisory committees.

**Chandler Van Voorhis, ACRE Investment Management LLC**

Chandler Van Voorhis is the co-founder and managing partner at GreenTrees, the market leader in reforestation and carbon removal in the U.S. At GreenTrees, he drives the organization's efforts to address climate change through reforestation. Under Chandler's leadership, GreenTrees has engaged more than 600 landowners ranging from 10 to 3,500+ acres, planting 130,000+ acres of trees. To date, the project has generated carbon offset credits equivalent to removing more than 6.2 million metric tons of carbon from the Earth's atmosphere, making GreenTrees the largest nature based voluntary carbon project in the United States.

With over 20 years of industry experience, Chandler is a leading expert in conservation and ecological markets. In 2002, he was awarded the ChevronTexaco Conservation Award, the nation's most distinguished private conservation award. He has made appearances as a guest lecturer at Princeton and Yale, hosted a TEDx Talk and has authored several publications on the emergence of natural capital. Prior to GreenTrees, Chandler was the co-host of GreenWave Radio, a nationally ranked syndicated radio talk show on business and the environment.

Chandler is the former president of the Alliance for Environmental Education, an international non-profit organization that specializes in environmental education for students in grades K-8. He currently serves on the advisory boards of the International Emissions Trading Association's (IETA) Markets for National Climate Solutions and RenewWest. Chandler is also an active member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America.

**Jason Woodfin, Forest Carbon Works**

After graduating from Virginia Tech in 2000, Jason began his forestry career as a research technician at Westvaco's forest science lab in Summerville, SC. Since returning to Virginia a few years later, he has worked primarily in consulting forestry, managing family and TIMO owned forest land. He has also worked in arboriculture as a plant healthcare specialist, with emphasis on fighting Emerald Ash Borer. He joined Forest Carbon Works in 2022, with an interest in working with landowners throughout the region on meeting their forest management goals.

**Glen Worrell, F&W Forestry**