



WI SAF STATEWIDE CONFERENCE – WET FOREST MANAGEMENT

October 28 & 29, 2026

Tundra Lodge and Convention Center, Green Bay, WI

OCTOBER 28

7:30 am **REGISTRATION**

8:30 am **WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Allan Braun (WI SAF and NRCS)

8:40 am **WISCONSIN DNR FORESTRY UPDATE**

Jake Walcisak (WDNR Forestry Deputy Div Administrator)

9:15 am **FORESTED WETLAND MGMT FROM A TRIBAL PERSPECTIVE**

Travis Swanson (Forest Ecology Program Coordinator, GLIFWC)

9:45 am **BREAK**

10:15 am **NORTHERN LOWLAND HARDWOOD FORESTS: LEARNING FROM
EXPERIENCE, MANAGING FOR CHANGE**

Martha Sample (Climate Adaptation Specialist, University of Minnesota)

10:50 am **BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST MGMT AT THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER**

Andrew Meier (Forester, Mississippi River Exp. Sec., USACE, St Paul District)

11:25 am **INTEGRATING FORESTED WETLANDS AND PEOPLE ALONG THE LOWER
WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY**

Mark Cupp (Exec Director, Lower Wisc, State Riverway Board)

12:00 pm **LUNCH**

1:00 pm **WI SAF UPDATE**

1:20 pm **WISC FORESTRY REVITALIZATION ACT AND WISC FORESTS**

To Be Determined

1:55 pm **UPDATE ON WISC BMPs FOR WATER QUALITY**

Nolan Kriegel (WDNR Forest Hydrologist)

2:30 pm **BREAK**

3:00 pm **BEAVICULTURE: INTEGRATING BEAVERS AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

Clay Frazer (Principle Ecologist, Native Range Ecological, LLC)

3:35 pm **WETLAND FOREST HABITAT TYPE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR
NORTHERN WISC**

Colleen Matula (WDNR Forest Ecologist/Silviculturist (retired))

4:10 pm **UPDATE ON WHITE CEDAR RESEARCH IN THE LAKE STATES**
To Be Determined

4:45 pm **CONCLUDING COMMENTS**

5:00 pm **SOCIAL HOUR**

6:00-8:00 pm **BANQUET AND AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

OCTOBER 29 – FOCUS ON ASH

7:00 am **BREAKFAST**

8:00 am **WI SAF STATE MEETING**

9:05 am **BLACK ASH AND ITS TRIBAL IMPORTANCE**
Bobbie Webster (WDNR Trillion Trees Coordinator)

9:40 am **TREE PLANTING FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND EMERALD ASH BORER
IN THE LAKE STATES: MOTIVATIONS AND STATE OF THE PRACTICE**
Jamie Mosel (U-Minnesota, Forest Ecology Program Coordinator, CLIFWC)

10:15 am **BREAK**

10:50 am **BREEDING ASH FOR IMPROVED RESISTANCE TO THE EMERALD ASH
BORER**
Nicholas LaBonte (USDA-Forest Service Regional Geneticist)

11:25 am **FORESTRY AS WETLAND RESTORATION**
Tracy Hames (Executive Dir, Wisc Wetlands Association)

11:55 am **PARTING WORDS**

12:00 pm **CLOSE**