

## Speaker Biographies:

### **Tim Baker, Forest Silviculturist, USDA Forest Service, Hiawatha National Forest**

Tim earned his B.S. degree in “Forestry & Wildlife Management” from Rutgers University in 1975. He started with the Forest Service in 1976 on the Ottawa National Forest, leading the local Youth Conservation Corps crew. As a forestry technician, he did spring tree planting, timber stand improvement and timber marking, including high-quality northern hardwoods for uneven-aged management. In 1978 he moved to Munising and the Hiawatha National Forest, supervising the timber marking crew and sale layout, doing timber sale appraisals, timber sale contract building and some sale administration. He also wrote the timber sections for Environmental Assessments and led several interdisciplinary NEPA teams. He was the West Zone Supervisory Silviculturist from 2002-2012 directing all reforestation and TSI activities, and is currently the Forest Silviculturist in Gladstone, serving as the Program Manager.

### **Charlie Becker, Senior Resource Manager – Lake States, Plum Creek Timber Company**

Charlie earned B.S. and M.S. Degrees in Forestry from Michigan Tech (84/86) and began his career with Mead Corporation in Escanaba. He started as a Research Forester involved with containerized seedling production and plantation establishment issues. In 1994, Charlie became a supervisor in land management and timber harvesting operations for Mead in the Central Upper Peninsula. He remained in that role through various ownership changes of the land which is now owned by Plum Creek. In 2012, Charlie became the Lake States Senior Resource Manager for Plum Creek.

### **David Carey, Senior Laboratory Manager, USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station.**

David Carey received his B.S. in Microbiology from The Ohio State University in 1993. He has been employed by the US Forest Service since 1992 beginning as a part time student and working his way up to a senior research laboratory manager. His technical expertise ranges from grafting, cell culture, and micro-propagation to DNA marker analysis including construction of an AFLP and SSR based genetic linkage map of American Beech. He has co-authored several research manuscripts on topics such as grafting, genetic relatedness, resistance to invasive pathogens in forest trees, and the use of DNA based markers for quality control. His focus is on host resistance to invasive pests and pathogens that has included research on Dutch Elm Disease, Emerald Ash Borer, and Beech Bark Disease. He is excited about the prospect of using science and technology to make a real difference on the ground.

Mr. Carey is also active in his community and has served on its volunteer shade tree commission since 2008. He is an advocate of using trees as biological buffers to make his home city of Delaware, Ohio a better place to live.

### **Dave Fehringer, Associate Regional Director, Great Lakes Region, The Forestland Group**

Dave earned a BS in Forestry from MTU, 1984, followed by 2 years of post-graduate studies and teaching assistantship at MTU in Wildlife Management. Dave began his career with Lake Superior Land Company’s 230,000 ac. Keweenaw Peninsula lands as a field forester in 1986. He became district manager of same land base in 1995 under Champion International Corporation, which was purchased by International Paper in 2000. Dave moved to The Forestland Group in 2003 as Assistant Regional Director, Great Lakes Region.

### **Robert L. Heyd, PhD., Forest Health Management Program Manager, Forest Health and Monitoring Unit, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Resources Division.**

Bob earned a M.S. in forest ecology, and PhD in forest entomology at Michigan State University, and has served 35 years in MDNR’s Forest Health Program in Marquette.

**Dr. Christel Kern is a Research Forester and a certified silviculturist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Northern Research Station in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.** She received both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Her research focuses on northern hardwood silviculture and ground-layer plant ecology, but also studies vegetation and fuel management of red pine ecosystems. Much of her research draws from long-term studies on experimental forests, such as the Dukes Experimental Forest on the Hiawatha National Forest in Upper Michigan. Outside of work, Christel enjoys spending time with her kids and training for athletic events.

**David Neumann, Silviculturist, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Resources Division.**

David earned a B.A. in journalism and a B.S. in forestry in 1992/1993, and a M.S. in forestry in 1997 from Michigan State University. He began his career working full time as a consultant forester in southern Lower Michigan, briefly for Tree Tech Forestry Consultants, and then as a self-employed consultant. He also worked part time as a research technician for MSU. He joined the DNR in 1999 working as a private land Service Forester, and in 2006 to the present as a silviculturist.

**Scott Pugh, Forester, USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Forest Inventory & Analysis Program, Forestry Sciences Lab, Houghton, MI.**

Scott Pugh is the FIA program analyst for Michigan working from the Houghton, MI Forestry Sciences Lab. He has worked in the FIA program since 1997 with priorities focused on forest research, information technology, and FIA technical support and training. Scott has a B.S. from Michigan Technological University and an M.S. from the University of New Hampshire, both in Forestry.

**Al Saberniak, (retired) Silviculturist, USDA Forest Service, Region 9,**

Al Saberniak is a full time grandpa and husband and part time consultant forester. Al retired from the Forest Service after 36 years having worked as reforestation forester in Minnesota, over 30 years as Silviculturist on the Hiawatha, and closing out his career as Regional Silviculturist at Region 9 headquarters in Milwaukee.

**Tom Seablom, Timber Management Specialist, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Resources Division, Western Upper Peninsula District.**

Tom earned a B.S. and an M.S. in Forestry from Michigan Tech in '00/'02, and started his career working as a Forest Technician for the FIA program with the USDA Forest Service out of Alberta, MI. Tom joined the DNR in January of 2004 as a Roving forester for the West U.P. He transferred to a unit forester position at the Ishpeming Field Office as in 2008, and became the West U.P. Timber Management Specialist in October of 2011.

**Linda Williams, Forest Health Specialist – Northeastern Wisconsin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.**

Linda Williams is a Forest Health Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, currently covering 17 counties in northeastern Wisconsin. She works with land managers on state, county, industrial, municipal, and private lands, to identify insect and disease problems in forests, and to provide management options. She has been with the Wisconsin DNR for 15 years.

**Mike Walters, Associate Professor of Applied Forest Ecology at Michigan State University.**

Mike received his Ph. D. from the University of Minnesota in 1994 and was Assistant Professor of Silviculture at the University of Northern British Columbia from 1995-1998. Since arriving at MSU in 1998 Mike has focused his research program on issues of forest management concern, especially in the area of northern hardwood regeneration and his teaching on forestry field studies and silviculture.