

Forestry

PNWER 2017 Annual Summit
Portland, Oregon
Monday, July 24
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Co-Chairs:

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region



Travis Joseph

President

American Forest Resource Council

Travis was born and raised in Springfield, Oregon but spent eight years in Washington D.C. working for the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a senior legislative aide to an Oregon congressman, a senior policy advisor on the House Natural Resources Committee, and the Director of Northwest Policy for the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Travis returned to Oregon to pursue his passion for healthy public forestlands and creating economic opportunities in rural communities. As President and CEO, Travis manages the budget, staff, communications, government relations, and overall strategy of the Association. Travis earned his bachelor degree in history and international studies from the University of Oregon and a master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science in environment and development.



Rep. Mike Cuffe

Representative

Montana State Legislature

Mike Cuffe is a native of Lincoln County, Montana. He graduated from Lincoln County High School and earned his degree in Journalism from the University of Montana at Missoula. Mike started his career as a journalist working in the newspaper business in Libby, Montana. These skills eventually enabled him to participate in politics on a national level as a staffer for a Montana Congressman in Washington DC. Upon his return to Montana, Mike was recruited by the timber industry and achieved top management positions throughout his extensive career in the development of the wood products business in Lincoln County. Mike returned to his communications background and successfully ran Big Sky Publishing in Eureka, Montana.



Valerie Johnson

Manufacturer

DR Johnson Lumber Co.

Valerie Johnson is a fifth generation Oregonian and a second generation co-owner and President of the company her parents founded in 1951, D.R. Johnson, in Riddle Oregon. Throughout her life Valerie has worked in numerous capacities in the wood products industry, first selling lumber and glulam beams for over a decade for the family company and then continuing in lumber sales after moving to the Portland area in 1983. For many years she was involved in grass roots efforts championing better, more balanced forest management on federal lands.

In 2015 the CLT's manufactured by D.R. Johnson Wood Innovations were the first CLT panels in the U.S. to receive structural certification by APA—The Engineered Wood Association.

Valerie currently serves on the Board of Advisors for the College of Forestry at Oregon State University, the Board of Directors of the American Forest Resource Council, the Oregon Forest Industry Council, and the Western Resources Legal Center, the nation's first legal education program training law students to advocate for natural resource industries. She is the most proud to be the mother of Katherine, a College of Forestry student at Oregon State University.



David Kenny

President & Executive Director

Oregon Best

David Kenney has led Oregon BEST since 2008. Prior to joining Oregon BEST, David held a wide range of roles during a 12-year tenure at Intel Corporation, including finance, project management, and business/organizational operations. He helped build Intel Solution Services — a technical consulting organization — to an organization operating in more than ten countries worldwide. He also co-founded and led the Intel Employee Sustainability Network. Before joining Intel, he was a Senior Consultant with Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group in Portland, working with federal and local government clients. He holds an MBA and Certificate of Public Management from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. David Kenney was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce in 2014 and 2016 to serve on the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE).



Anthony Davis

Associate Dean

Oregon State University

Anthony S. Davis began his term as Associate Dean for Research for the OSU College of Forestry on July 1, 2016. Dr. Davis is responsible for the strategic development and execution of innovative, effective, and respected research programs to help achieve the research mission of the College, Forest Research Laboratory, and the Institute for Working Forest Landscapes.

Dr. Davis was previously at the University of Idaho, where he served as the director of the Center for Forest Nursery and Seedling Research and as an associate professor of native plant regeneration and silviculture in the Department of Forest, Rangeland, and Fire Science. Under Davis' guidance at Idaho, the Center for Forest Nursery and Seedling Research became a world-recognized leader in forest nursery science. Davis, who earned his doctorate at Purdue University, has conducted research to improve nursery production practices of native plants, restoration of degraded forests, and study the effects of environmental stresses on seedling growth and development.

Thomas Robinson



Architect

Lever Architecture

Thomas Robinson founded LEVER Architecture in 2009. His work explores the link between architectural experience and material innovation. His 16-person practice is pioneering the use of Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) in the US with Framework—a project slated to become the first mass timber high-rise in the US and a recipient of the U.S. Tall Wood Building Prize Competition. Other significant completions include Albina Yard, the first building in the U.S. made from domestically-fabricated CLT; student housing for the Pacific Northwest College of Art; and the L'Angolo Estate winery. His firm recently received the Architectural League of New York's Emerging Voices Award and has been recognized for design excellence by AIA Chapters in Portland, the Northwest Region, and Los Angeles. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley and a Master in Architecture with Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.



Rodney Smoldon

Colville National Forest Supervisor

U.S. Forest Service

Rodney Smoldon, a 30-year Forest Service employee is the Forest Supervisor of the Colville National Forest in northeastern Washington. He is experienced working with a diversity of resource issues and places a priority on building strong internal and external relationships. Rodney also demonstrates strong leadership skills from his time spent as a District Ranger and Deputy Forest Supervisor. These skills help to continue the important and innovative work of the Colville NF and its partners and communities. An eastern Washington native, Smoldon graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1985 with a degree in recreation and leisure services. Smoldon began his career on the Colville in 1985 working as a forestry technician on the Kettle Falls District. Prior to leading the Colville National Forest, Smoldon was a recreation program manager on the Klamath National Forest in California and a District Ranger on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Cle Elem, Washington.



Russ Vaagen

Vice President

Vaagen Brothers

Russ serves as the Vice President of Vaagen Bros. Lumber in Colville, WA. Vaagen Bros. is a sawmill and forest management company that started in the early 1950's and he is part of sawmill leadership that has spanned 4 generations. He is a proud graduate of Washington State University where he received degrees in Business Management and Human Resources. Vaagen Bros. has a strong focus on restoring forests and to that end Russ spends a great deal of time with the local collaborative group on the Colville National Forest and serves as the President of the Board for the Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition. He also serves as the Chairman of Timber Products Manufacturers Association, a Spokane-based HR, Legal, and Benefits association for small and medium-sized forest products businesses. Russ is also a member of the board for Sustainable Northwest based in Portland. Russ spends time working on addressing the issues facing the USFS and our National Forests while also working to make sure that the Vaagen mills are producing the right products at the right rates. While not in the office, the woods, or the mills, Russ spends time with his 4 year old daughter and the rest of his family on the lake boating, camping, snowmobiling or watching football.