



FOREST HISTORY
Society

| June 2025

The Forest Timeline

President's Message

It's hard to believe we've already passed the longest day of the year. In many ways, June also marks a high point at the Forest History Society, as we celebrate our annual Day of Giving and approach the close of our fiscal year.

Our **Day of Giving** falls on June 12, the date the Forest History Society was officially founded 79 years ago. In the photo included, you'll see our original logo from when we were known as the Forest Products History Foundation. Featuring a log driver set against a saw blade, the design reflects our roots in the forest products industry and our ongoing commitment to forest history and scholarship.



As we wrap up our fiscal year and look ahead to our 80th anniversary, I want to thank you for your continued support. Your generosity makes everything we do possible—from hosting webinars and providing reference services to celebrating exceptional scholarship in forest and environmental history, FHS continues to provide a vital link to the history of our forests and natural resources. This year, we also co-hosted the Yale Forest Forum series, and we're delighted to publish the first in a series of blog posts written by Yale School of the Environment graduate students.

If you have not renewed your membership contribution for this fiscal year, I urge you to do so by June 30th! If you have already done so, please consider a second gift to our Day of Giving campaign where every dollar donated is matched dollar-for-dollar and is fully tax-deductible!

From all of us at FHS, please accept our deepest thanks.

Tania

Give Today

FHS Acquires New Records

Anthony Godfrey served as the president of U.S. West Research, Inc., a public history and cultural resource management firm located in Salt Lake City. He has researched and written extensively on Native American, American Western, and US Forest Service history throughout his career. He recently donated 133 boxes of his collected research materials of both primary and secondary resources to the FHS archives. This includes original interviews, photographs, copies of government documents and files, reports, pamphlets, presentations, journal articles, newspapers, maps, and more.

Many of the materials are from his historical research contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to document nineteenth- and twentieth-century tribal forestry on reservations. Other materials relate to his publications produced for the US Forest Service, including histories of Regions 5 (California) and 2 (Rocky Mountains) and national forest histories including the Hiawatha, Manti-La Sal, Sawtooth, and Black Hills.



Wind Cave National Park, South Dakota. July 1961.

FHS Announces 2025 Fellowship Recipients



F. K. Weyerhaeuser Fellow

This year's recipient of the F. K. Weyerhaeuser Forest History Fellowship is **Spencer Rhea**, an Ecology PhD candidate in the Department of Biology at Duke University, and his project "Landscape legacies meet sea level rise: the impact of historical forestry and land use on ghost forest formation and forest carbon." Rhea's proposal offers a deeply thoughtful historical-ecological study of ghost forest formation and legacy land use in North Carolina.



Walter S. Rosenberry Fellow

This year's recipient of the Walter S. Rosenberry Fellowship is Xuexin Cai, a PhD student in the Department of East Asian Languages & Culture at Columbia University, for his project "Between Wasteland and Wilderness: Rubber, Nature, and the Making of Tropical China, 1945-1998." Cai's dissertation is a highly original, sophisticated project that brings together multiple interpretive frameworks and bodies of evidence to examine tropical forestry in southern Yunnan, one of the most important (and understudied) ecosystems in the world.

Yale Students to Provide Guest Blog Posts this Summer



This past spring, FHS President Tania Munz and FHS co-hosted the Yale Forest Forum at the Yale School of the Environment. The [Yale Forest Forum](#) serves as the special events hub of YSE's The Forest School. Five students enrolled in a graduate seminar that accompanied the forum called "[A History of People, Forests, and Forestry](#)," which ran from January 23 to April 3. Tania facilitated the series with Mark Ashton and Gary Dunning of The Forest School at YSE.

The students have written blog posts that we'll be publishing throughout the summer. Each student was asked to select a presentation and write an essay reflecting on what they learned.

Maegan Bogetti chose "Karuk Forest and Fire Management: A Conversation with Bill Tripp and Tania Munz." Bill is the Director of Natural Resources and

Environmental Policy, Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources. You can read Maegan's blog post, "A New Fire Future: Restoring Indigenous Sovereignty and Fighting Megafires Through a Return to Cultural Burning Practices," on our website now!

We are grateful to each of the students for their contributions and hope you enjoy them!

[Read the Blog](#)

Meet Josefina!

Josefina Pohlhammer is our newest *Steven Anderson Intern in Forest History* at FHS. Josefina is a current Master's student in Public History at NC State University, and she is helping us this summer to create a new physical exhibit which will be on display and open to the public in the Michael and Karen Kelly Exhibit Hall.

The exhibit will highlight the three largest archival collections held by FHS: the records of Weyerhaeuser Company, the Society of American Foresters, and the American Forestry Association (now American Forests). All three organizations are celebrating anniversaries in 2025: 150 years for American Forests, and 125 years for both Weyerhaeuser and SAF. This new exhibit will mark important milestones in forest and conservation history while also telling the histories of each organization by highlighting key archival materials to the general public. The exhibit aims to foster a critical reflection on the intersections of industry, science, and advocacy in forest management.

Of her time at FHS, Josefina says: "This internship has been quite different from my previous work experiences, and I'm enjoying it! It's very exciting to learn how to navigate the archives and explore the vast collections available for developing the exhibit I'm working on. I hope the final result will be both engaging and a strong reflection of the materials preserved by the Forest History Society."

Prior to Josefina's time at NC State, she served as an intern with the National Park Service in Washington, DC and a Park Ranger at Tantauco Park in Chiloé, Chile.

This Month in Forest History



- **June 12, 1941:** The Weyerhaeuser Timber Company dedicates the nation's first tree farm, [Clemons Tree Farm](#), in Grays Harbor County, Washington.

Also in June:

- **June 1, 1919:** The first organized and sustained airplane forest fire patrol is undertaken by the US Forest Service in California.
- **June 4, 1897:** The [Organic Act of 1897](#) is enacted under President William McKinley. The act sought to improve and protect forests, secure favorable water flows, and furnish a continuous supply of timber for citizens of the U.S.
- **June 12, 1946:** Following a year's discussion between officials of the Minnesota Historical Society, history faculty at the University of Minnesota, and members of his family, F. K. Weyerhaeuser wrote to Kenneth Brill, president of the Society: "I take great pleasure in sending you herewith a check for \$16,666.67 which is a gift from the Weyerhaeuser Family for the purpose of creating a [Forest Products History Foundation](#) as an activity of your Society."
- **June 20, 1960:** The [National Grasslands](#) are established.

From the Archives



West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co. water bomber in action, August 1960. Aircraft is a PT-13 Stearman (Boeing-Stearman Model 75). Dare County, North Carolina.

[Explore More](#)

Final Days!

Until midnight on June 30th, [every gift you make to the Forest History Society](#) will be DOUBLED through our Matching Gift Campaign! Thanks to a few generous donors, we've been challenged to raise \$50,000! We are almost there with only \$5,500 to go. Act now and your contribution will go twice as far, ensuring that our critical work. Every dollar counts, and together, we can ensure that the stories of our forests are preserved for years to come.

Your support today will help us:

- Safeguard irreplaceable archives that chronicle the history of forests and conservation.

- Inspire new generations through educational programs that connect people to the legacy of our natural world.
- Advance research that informs sustainable forestry practices for a healthier planet.

Donate now at foresthistor.org/donate or mail your gift postmarked by June 30th to Forest History Society, 2925 Academy Road, Durham, NC 27705.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to preserving our forest heritage. With your help, we'll continue to tell the stories that matter—for our planet, our history, and our future.

Donate Now



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