



Visions of



The 2019-2020
Annual Report of the
Agriculture and Forestry
Education Foundation



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Spokane, WA 99224

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leaders@agforestry.org



Last year’s annual report was one of my first official communications as Executive Director. The message I shared was that better equipping our leaders to succeed through change and disruption is an opportunity for AgForestry. No one expected COVID-19 would give us a hard shove to deliver a few months later.

Hindsight is 20/20. Looking back, our decision to “lie fallow” for one year was the only choice for the program and our participants. Can you imagine if we brought Classes 42 and 43 together right now? Mildly put, their experience would be compromised.

We’re proud of how we’re using this time to innovate. We launched a new webinar series. We continue to develop Classes 41 and 42 with distance-based activities including a brand new mentoring program that leverages the experience of our alumni. Our ongoing stakeholder outreach is revealing program enhancement opportunities and ways we can create value beyond the traditional program. Each pursuit is focused on creating engagement, building our capacity, and testing concepts and approaches that will allow us to pivot to what the future demands.

We are working as hard as we ever have, but not every organization has the luxury of pausing its core business to adapt. For that we are grateful to you. Because of your support and faith in AgForestry we will emerge from this fallow season positioned to achieve our mission for another 40 years.

Matt Kloes (Class 36)
Executive Director



First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for your continued support during these unprecedented times. As you know, AgForestry relies on generous donors, alumni and friends like you to keep this program going strong.

This country has never experienced anything like COVID-19. I am so proud of Matt, Kara, Hannah, Julie and Melissa for their hard work, dedication, and perseverance through this pandemic. We had to pause

Classes 41 and 42, but Kara and Hannah were able to find ways to keep these participants actively involved and learning.

As we move into 2021, my hope is we can get back to some normalcy and continue moving AgForestry forward. The number one thing I learned in this program is that despite our differences, we can find middle ground. These times are calling for that more than ever. We need AgForestry more now than we ever have.

Thank you for your continued support,
Cheers!

Mark Wieseler (Class 37)
AgForestry Board Chair

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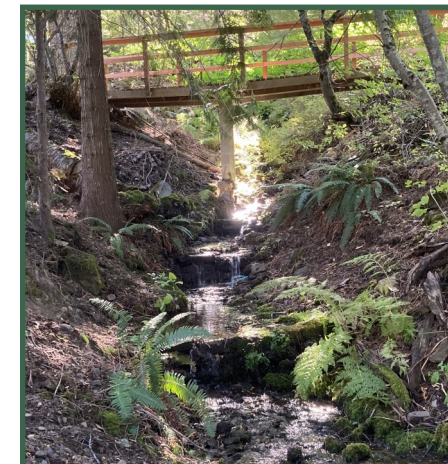
Matt Kloes	Executive Director
Hannah Poush	Program Director
Kara Kaelber	Program Manager
Melissa Skomer-Kafton	Events and Outreach
Julie Grenfell	Administrative Support

Mission

We cultivate leaders in agriculture, forestry and natural resources who communicate, collaborate, inspire and serve.

Vision

To positively impact and enrich lives and communities in Washington State and throughout the world with leading edge solutions for challenges faced by agriculture, forestry and natural resources.



Springs in the Blue Mountains, by Gentry, age 10, son of Ashley Hatfield, Class 41

Do you know someone who is a good fit for the AgForestry Leadership Program?

Visit agforestry.org/candidates

- Recommend a prospect
- Request program information
- Download a printable brochure
- Check eligibility requirements
- Find out how to apply
- See class outlines

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AgForestry Board Member Profile



Craig Crider (2018-2020 term)
Non-Alumni Board Member
Kennewick
Agricultural Lender, Northwest Farm Credit Services

Why do you serve on the AgForestry Board? To assure the continual opportunity for personal growth, quality education, and proven leadership development for those involved in the agriculture and forest products industry. Across the spectrum of

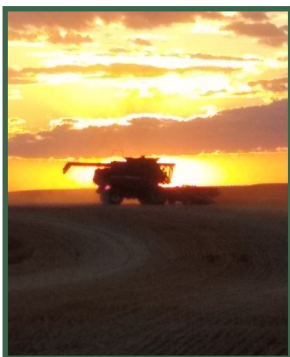
these industries, we need individuals representing us with strong communication skills, the ability to listen and understand the views of others, a desire to reach mutually beneficial decisions, and a passion to protect our natural resources for the benefit of mankind today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

How has AgForestry impacted your life? Serving as a board member has broadened my perspective and deepened my understanding of the positive impact the AgForestry Leadership Program has on individual participants, and through them, our local communities, state and world. Nearly all board members are alumni and through each of them I have witnessed the professionalism, courtesy of debate, enthusiasm, and unwavering focus on furthering the program for the benefit of generations to come.

What would you tell someone who is interested in applying for AgForestry? Congratulations on reaching an absolutely correct decision. By participating in this program you are joining a family of past and present AgForestry Class Members, each one taking pride in the mantra of each class that they were "The Best Class Ever". Throughout my years on the board I have heard numerous testimonials and believe that this program will provide a life-changing opportunity. Embrace the opportunity and enjoy the ride.



Bees from Dennis Swinger, Lind



Sheep from Julie Grenfell, Cheney

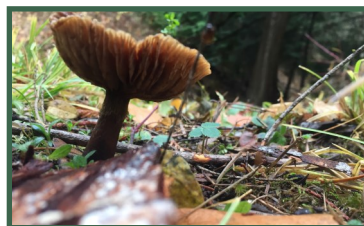


Harvest in Lamont by Sandi Swannack

Four ways to contribute to AgForestry without opening your wallet

- 1. Tell the AgForestry Story.** Talk to a future leader about what the program could mean to them, their industry and community. Visit agforestry.org/candidates for eligibility requirements and how to apply.
- 2. Volunteer.** Lend a hand at an event, trade show or reception.
- 3. Join the Alumni Council.** Help shape future events and projects for AgForestry graduates.
- 4. Serve on the Board of Directors.** Three year terms open every year in November.

Contact AgForestry at leaders@agforestry.org or (509) 926-9113 to get involved.



Employer and community match programs make donations grow!

\$7,506 in Contributions **\$8,306 in Matching Funds**

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Karen Temen (22) & Wesley Wasson	

= \$15,812

in total contributions!

AgForestry Board Member Profile



Kevin Paulson (2018-2020 term)

Class 21

Spokane

Retired, US Trust Bank of America Farm and Ranch Services

Wheat Farmer

Owner/operator, Legacy Farm and Ranch

Why do you serve on the AgForestry Board? I have been on the AgForestry Board to not only pay it forward, but to help AgForestry continue developing agriculture leaders in the short-term and long-term. Being on the board is a

commitment to developing future leaders, and providing curriculum pertinent to agriculture businesses, producers, and communities in which members live and work.

In what ways do you serve your community and industry? Over the years I have been involved with other organizations including serving as President of the Spokane Ag Expo. I am a member of Toastmasters and have served in many of the chapter offices. I was involved with the Spokane County Citizens Alliance for Property Rights serving as President for several years. I am also a member of the Washington Wheat Growers, Washington Pea and Lentil Association, and remain firmly committed to the success of our local agriculture communities.

I am a charter member on the Spokane County Voluntary Stewardship Program committee, which works with the Spokane County Conservation District to develop working guidelines for managing critical watershed areas. SCC receives federal and state funds to direct towards farmers willing to implement stewardship projects to prevent erosion on their farms.

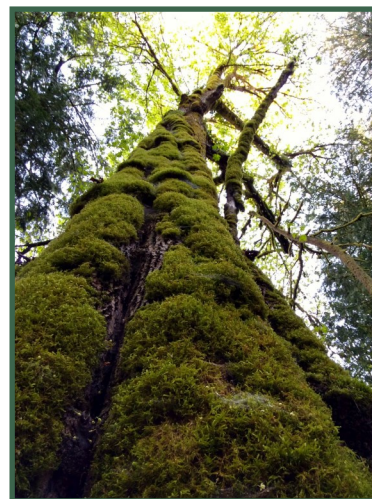
What would you tell someone who is interested in applying for AgForestry? AgForestry has helped me to see the world through the eyes of others. Leaders are at many different stages of development. When it is your time to be the leader, do you have the skills needed to be successful? Learning to listen to others is a very important skill developed in AgForestry. Are you able to actually put your feet in someone else's shoes and see the issue from a perspective you didn't really understand? AgForestry is developing leaders who listen, facilitate, and help others find areas of mutual interest, which leads to the mutual respect needed for community improvement projects to be completed.



Class 41 enjoyed the sights, sounds and flavors of Cambodia and Vietnam during the International Seminar in January

Our Donors

These giving partners are recognized for their contributions between 7/1/2019-6/30/2020. Please contact the AgForestry office if you donated and are not listed. The number after a name indicates class number.



Big Leaf Maple in Thurston County
by Käerlek Jänislampi

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In Memory of Randall Greggs (12)

Linda Greggs

AgForestry Staff Profile



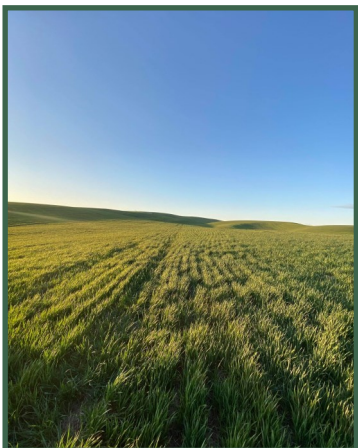
Kara Kaelber has been a part of the AgForestry team for the past two years. As Program Manager, she has guided Class 41 through their AgForestry experience and is looking forward to working with Class 43 next year. She works part-time for AgForestry from her home in Pasco. Kara is also a very proud member of **Class 37**. According to Kaelber, "AgForestry really helped me understand the value of listening to both sides to gain understanding and clarity. My AgForestry experience helped push me to be a better leader. This is something I try to work on every day."

Kara's leadership skills don't stop with AgForestry. She also works as the Education Director for the Franklin Conservation District (FCD) in Pasco. With the FCD, she coordinates three environmental education programs. Her largest program, Wheat Week, is sponsored by the Washington Grain Commission and is offered statewide. Wheat Week reaches over 20,000 students a year. According to Kaelber, "Wheat Week is a hands-on science program that teaches students in 4th and 5th grades scientific concepts using wheat as the teaching tool. It also teaches students that farmers are great and that their food is safe!" Wheat Week is in its 14th year. Kara also travels the state delivering environmentally-themed teacher workshops. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities from WSU and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Heritage University.

In her spare time, Kara enjoys college football (Go Cougs!), traveling, and spending time with her husband, Patrick, and three adult children Will, Caden and McKenna.

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Eastern Washington Harvest by Cole Smith

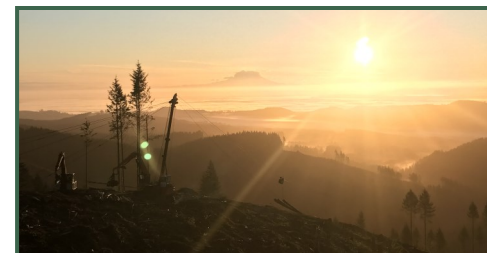
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- Michele Youngquist (17)



Western Washington timber harvest by Käärlek Jänislampi

In Memorial



Linda North, Class 12, has been a passionate supporter of AgForestry since completing the program in 1989. We were saddened to hear of Linda's passing on October 26, 2020. Linda had farmed for 35 years, raising cattle, wheat, alfalfa, native grass seed and pears on a large ranch near Yakima. Linda was an avid outdoorswoman and split her time between Alaska and Oregon.

Executive Director, Matt Kloes, interviewed Linda in April. With her passing, Linda's AgForestry story takes on new meaning. In addition to honoring her spirit of generosity, it now celebrates the

life of someone who devoted herself to working hard, playing hard, and loving family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with Linda's children and grandchildren, AgForestry Class 12, and all whose life she touched.

Did you grow up farming? I married into farming. Truthfully, I didn't know a thing about it, but I know hard work! I learned to work in my family's restaurant - another 24/7 job. On the farm, I rolled up my sleeves and went into learning mode. I wasn't afraid to challenge "old" practices and tried ways to improve them. I found success with that mindset.

Why did you enroll in AgForestry? Farming was new to me and I needed help to succeed. I needed to learn from the experiences of others and broaden my education. Challenges like the weather and fluctuating prices are the norm for farmers. Because of our ranch size, we had other unique issues, like mandated public access to state and federal lands (BLM) within our ranch perimeter, which left us with serious vandalism and crop damage. We had wildfires causing "loss of use" for two years on affected grazing and dry land crops and not enough help to fight them. Like others in the Yakima Valley, our water rights were also at risk and being adjudicated through the federal court. When Pam Durfey (Class 8) told me about AgForestry and her positive experiences, I knew I'd found a program that offered me the tools I needed for success.

What did you gain from the leadership program? Getting off the farm and learning in a different environment was critical. I came away with the network I needed, a lot of great ideas, and new perspective on where I fit. It is rare to be surrounded by enthusiastic and passionate people, and I got that with AgForestry. I valued the innovative approaches to problem solving and new perspectives shared by my classmates and seminar speakers.

What advice would you give to someone considering applying for AgForestry? The program provides a foundation of knowledge and skills, but it will be up to you how you use it. The people you meet and what you learn will help you to understand the difference you can make.

Why do you support AgForestry? Better informed people make better decisions! I have always been a firm believer in education. With AgForestry, I have seen so many people learn, grow, and go on to make a positive difference. I give because I want others to have this experience. I owe much of my success in farming to the lessons I learned and the people I met in AgForestry. My parents raised me to give back to my community and to the industry that provided my living. I am proud to support this organization.

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AgForestry Board Member Profile

Chery Sullivan (2019 –2021 term)
Class 38 ~ Best Class Infinity
Olympia
Program Manager, WSDA Dairy Nutrient Management Program

Why do you serve on the AgForestry Board? “Tell your story” is a common theme in AgForestry, but there also has to be someone to hear the story and relate it to action to help agriculture thrive. Part of my path on the AgForestry Board is to be a sponge, soaking up as many stories as I can. Those stories change my perspective and help me provide guidance to help the Foundation grow and change to better meet the needs of present and future members. I also serve

on the AgForestry Board because I want to be surrounded and challenged by both like and different minded people with the common goal of growing Washington’s agricultural leaders.

In what ways do you serve your community and industry? I am an ag-vocate in both my community and industry. I rely on transparency and the ability to create time and space to have in-depth discussions, primarily about the dairy industry I work with. I’m also passionate about urban agriculture. Through sharing seeds, plants, expertise, and the food that I grow, the door opens to conversations about the soil, energy, and passion that it takes to provide food for the world.

How has AgForestry impacted your life? The AgForestry Leadership Program helped me move from a supervisory position to a management position at Department of Agriculture. And while my life is not all about work, my work is definitely all about life. What I do professionally, personally impacts me, those in the dairy community, and the citizens that live and work near dairy communities. The perspective I gained through two years of building relationships with classmates, seminars, and the national and international travel is absolutely invaluable. Perspective is essential when trying to identify shared goals in a diverse (sometimes contentious) group.

What would you tell someone who is interested in applying for AgForestry? GO FOR IT! But only if they want to put in the work. I would tell them that they may disagree with their classmates or some of the presenters, but that’s their opportunity to tell their story and gain perspective from a different point of view. I would tell them that AgForestry is a condensed, comprehensive, always changing “graduate” program for people who want to learn and give back to the agricultural community in Washington.

Why do you think leadership programs are important to the agriculture, forestry and natural resource industries and the communities they serve? Everyone (regardless of age) has the capacity to grow as a leader in their industry. Leadership programs provide a spring board for people to learn from and be challenged by others; these programs help develop critical thinkers, concise communicators and thoughtful leaders.



AgForestry Board Member Profile

Charles Laird (2018-2020 term)
Class 32
Pasco
Partner, Tippett Company



Why do you serve on the AgForestry Board? I was asked to serve on the AgForestry Board by Dave Roseleip one year after I graduated. At the time I had very limited board experience, and I had no idea what I was getting involved in. Ultimately, I want the foundation to thrive. I want people in the natural resource industries to be inspired, and to experience the same level of personal growth that I did.

In what ways do you serve your community and industry? I served on the board of a non-profit that raised money to develop small farms in Kenya. I was also part of a Realtors Ethics committee. I currently sit on the Tri-City Chamber of Commerce board.

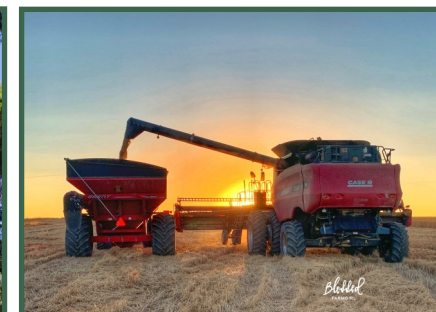
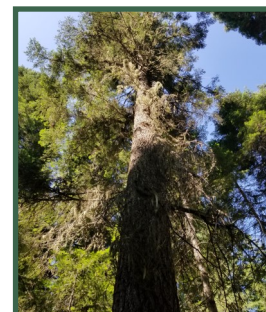
How has AgForestry impacted your life? AgForestry has challenged me to step outside of my comfort zone, to be a better listener, thinker, and doer. I’ve made lifelong friends.

Why do you think leadership programs are important to the agriculture, forestry and natural resource industries and the communities they serve? AgForestry reminds us that within the natural resource industries there are people from all different backgrounds with different ideologies. While we frequently disagree, we have a common goal to be good stewards of resources, in a respectful and professional manner. AgForestry has excelled at encouraging its leaders to get involved, have a voice, and maintain a balanced perspective.

I learned that Washington State is uniquely postured to accommodate a large variety of natural resource industries. Industries built by unwavering entrepreneurial spirits, generational knowledge, good stewardship and a desire to provide the world with first class reliable products. I think we need a constant flow of pro-active effective leaders emerging from within the industries, to serve on boards, run for office, bring expertise, and balanced perspectives to the discussions and decisions that shape how we function.



Pops and Larry Puller, of Puller Brothers Logging sending out a load.
Picture by Sam Puller, Walla Walla



Harvest near Wilbur by Allison Viebrock



Top pictures by John Paul Driver, Usk



AgForestry Board member and Class 38 alum, Dennis Swinger, Jr., was one of the first to receive water from the Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program. Dennis and about 150 other landowners in the region have been negotiating for water from the Columbia River for decades. Read more about the program in The Dirt, our monthly newsletter.

Supporter (\$250+) continued

Mary (33) & Bruce McDonald
Dan (21) & Krista McKinley
Travis (33) & Stephanie Meacham
Michelle (32) & Erik Metcalf
Barb (35) & Brian Meyer
Jim (27) & Dionne Middleton
Matt (36) & Shelley Miller
Ken (22) & Bonnie Miller
Don (13) & Mary Beth Motanic
Tedd (1) & Patty Nealey
John (8) & Renell Nelson
Craig (27) & Connie Nelson
Andy Paterson (6)
Kevin (21) & Helen Paulson
Nancy Peckman (20)
Herold (5) & Vicki Peebles
Tammie (38) & Michael Perreault
Rianne Perry (35)
Karen Poulsen (20)
Cindy Preston (22)
Molly (31) & Chris Rasor
Gena (18) & Tom Reich
Tom (10) & Mary Robbert
Ken (5) & Sharlyn Russell
Wendy (23) & Chris Sammarco
Flo Sayre (10)
Derek (32) & Susan Schafer
Vicky Scharlau (10)
Tim Scherer (10) & Mary Kangas
Craig Shindler (34)
Sue Shotwell (37)
Ron (1) & Lisa Skagen
Roger (36) & Anita Sonnichsen
South Yakima Conservation District
Julie Stangell (35) & George Bennett
Rebecca (39) & Barry Sterner
Stihl Northwest
Doug (11) & Fae Marie Stinson
MGP Farming Struthers Farms, Inc.
Rachel (30) & Jack Sullivan
Julie Tarara (25)
The TSB Group
Bob (14) & Martha Thode
Jim Thompson (20)
Rob Thornton (30)
Dennis Tompkins (3)
Kathy (37) & Jack Troupe

Supporter (\$250+)

Adams County Assn. of Wheat Growers
Airfield Estates Winery
Mike Alexander (25)
Almota Elevator Company
Gery (7) & Sherry Amos
Kevin (22) & LaNece Arneson
Michael (35) & Jenna Babenko
Maury Balcom (7)
Balcom & Moe Inc
Nancy Barker (36)
Steve (30) & Marilyn Barnowe-Meyer
Doug (2) & Karen Bayne
Darrin (18) & Pam Belton
Brett (24) & Lisa (28) Bishop
Karen Bishop (20)
Blue Bird, Inc.
Mark (9) & Laural Bohnet
Bill (3) & Anita Boyum
Bob (19) & Jane Brink
Heather (36) & Scott Brown
Reggie Brulotte (23)
Tom (25) & Maureen Bryant
Allen (22) & Kelly (25) Bush
Barbara Carlton
Anthony (35) & Nicolette Chavez
Ty (8) & Sharon Clark
Ryan (33) & Jennifer Cloud
Phil (7) & Sharon Clouse
Scot (13) & Mary Cocking
Claudia Coles (14)
Fred (17) & Katherine Colvin
Matt (31) & Jodi Comisky
Gordon (21) & Linda Congdon, Jr.
Dianne Conway (26)
Dick (3) & Paula Coon
Kevin (40) & Mary Corliss
Catherine Daniels (22)
Bill (19) & Joyce Dewey
Jack (1) & Geri DeWitt
Bob (6) & Janet Dick
Rena (21) & Jim Doornink
Roger (9) & Jan (20) Dormaier
Douglas County Assn. of Wheat Growers
Jon Driver (37)
Rick (23) & Karen Dunning
Jochen (24) & Teresa Engelke
Maria Erdmann (28)

Greg (27) & Terri Ferrel
Don (3) & Dori Ferrel
Leif (37) & Kate Fixen
Tom Fox (19)
Debbie (17) & Joe Frazier
Mandy (32) & Scott Galbreath
Ann (6) & Steve George
Glen (14) & Carolyn Goodman
Mark (13) & Miriam Grant
Mark (16) & Donna Grassel
Linda Greggs
Larry (2) & Lois Gueck
Melvin Hall (31)
Scott (3) & Lori Hamilton
Ashley (41) & Charlie Hatfield
Denny (8) & Kathy Hayden
Hemphill-O'Neill Company
Frank (19) & Kathi Hendrix
Jake (31) & Suzanne Holling
Hop Growers of Washington
Mike (15) & Sharon Ingham
John (32) & Diana Ison
Sonja (38) & Chris Jensen
Mike (34) & Gena Johnson
Dave (25) & April Johnson
Jeff (20) & Diane Jones
Greg (10) & Colleen Jones
Kevin (33) & Andrea Judkins
Gary (16) & Barbara Karnofski
Julie (24) & Bruce Keough
Steve (17) & Kathy Kniveton
Jim (17) & Cheryl (29) Koenig
Labbeemint, Inc.
John (7) & Laura Lawrence
Gretchen Lech (36) & Gary Brookshire
Leffel, Otis & Warwick, P.S.
Larry (10) & Heidi Lestelle
Maura (19) & Jon Lindbergh
Troy (33) & Holly Little
Brian (39) & Julia Looper
Sue Lani (29) & Craig Madsen
Donelle Mahan (29)
Andrea Mann (15)
Sandra Marcusen (31)
Bob (12) & Clela Mathison
Pat (18) & Teresa McConnell
Konnie (31) & Mike McCutchin
Jordan (38) & Olivia McDevitt

AgForestry Year in Review: July 2019-June 2020

15th Annual AgForestry Golf Tournament

July 2019



AgForestry moves to West Spokane, sharing space with Washington Grain Commission

October 2019



Hannah Poush named Program Director

December 2019



Class 41 postpones graduation to April 2021

March 2020



AgForestry's monthly newsletter, The Dirt, debuts

May 2020



AgForestry pauses the traditional program for one year

June 2020



September 2019

Matt Kloes named Executive Director



November 2019

New Board members are elected and Mark Wieseler is named Board Chair



January 2020

Class 41 visits Vietnam and Cambodia



February 2020

Class 42 travels to Washington D.C. for the National Government Seminar



April 2020

AgForestry's first webinar is held, focusing on staying strong during uncertain times



June 2020

Class 43 candidates are interviewed online by selection panels across the state

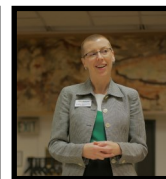
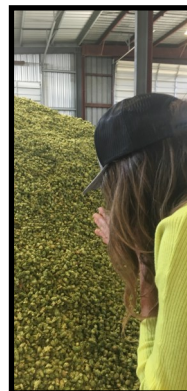
Employer Contributions and Sponsorship Make AgForestry Possible

Class 41 Participant

Justin Becker
Ben Cochrane
Caitlyn Evans
Glynis Gordon
Daniel Gore
Craig Gyselink
Ashley Hatfield
Joshua Heinicke
Kai Itämeri
Käerlek Jänislampi
Jenny Knoth
Justin Lanman
Kelly Lawrence
Brock Leonard
Heidi Morris
Courtney Naumann
Wes Tracy
Hailey Wertenberg
Emmett Wild
Will Wiles
Margaret Homering

Sponsored by:

Northwest Farm Credit Services
Washington Wheat Foundation/Self
Crossland & Evans, PLLC
Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources
Ste. Michelle Wine Estates
Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District/Self sponsored
Lamb Weston
Columbia Fruit Packers
Self sponsored
Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources
Green Crow Timber
Taylor Shellfish
USDA Forest Service
Sunheaven Farms, LLC
Washington Fruit and Produce
American Farmland Trust
Weyerhaeuser
Self sponsored
Self sponsored
Ste. Michelle Wine Estates
Nisqually Indian Tribe



Class 42 Participant

David Beard
Colton Cooley
Kyle Curtis
Kate Delavan
Kelly Dougherty
Chris Eckman
Andrew Engell
Cameron Eskeberg
Sara Higgins
Andrew Johnson
Jay Krienitz
Lauren Magalska
Brett Monson
Jerod Morris
Chris Rasmussen
Sarah Rasmussen
Amanda Sandhop
Michelle Schilter
Katherine Tackman
Faith Van De Putte
Jason Walter
Bill Waterfield

Sponsored by:

Wash. Dept. of Agriculture
Olympic Resource Management
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Washington Farmland Trust
Weyerhaeuser
CoBank
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Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources
501 Consultants
Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources
Wash. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Port Blakely U.S. Forestry
Monson Fruit Company
Northwest Farm Credit Services
Port of Port Angeles
Gilbert Orchards
Weyerhaeuser
Northwest Dairy Assoc./Darigold
Self sponsored
Self sponsored
Weyerhaeuser
Boise Cascade Wood Products