# Pennsylvania Vision for Climate-smart Forestry

South Contraction

#### Matt Keefer, Assistant Director



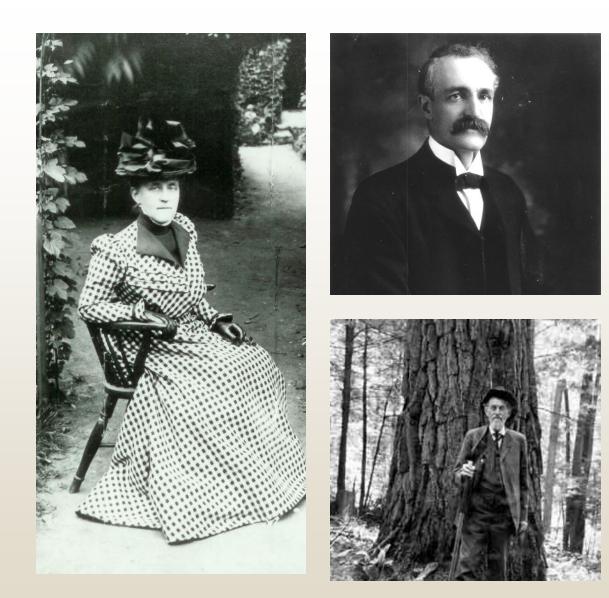


# Outline

- An historical perspective
- BOF Vision (for forests)
- Planning and Climate Smart BMPs
- Moving forward

## They had vision...

- Expanses of degraded forests
- Wildfires and soil erosion
- Raw sewage in Hbg
- Watershed protection
- Forest conservation and eventual formation of PA Bureau of Forestry



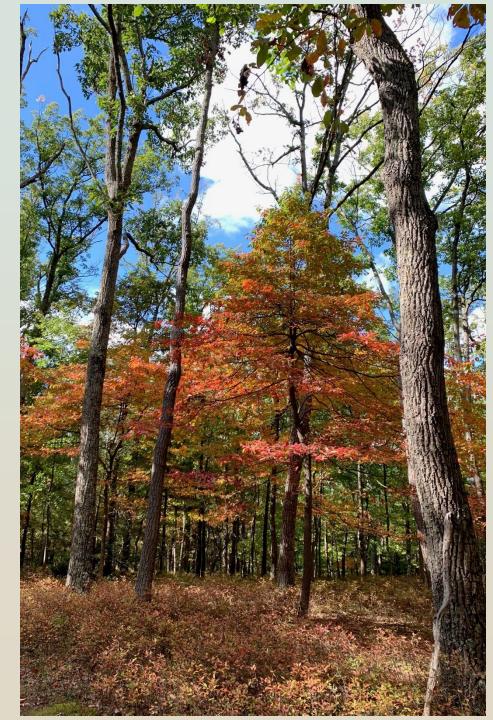
Land and people were both part of the challenge and solution

#### **Draft Strategic Plan**

#### Forests for All: A Plan for Pennsylvania's Forests and People

#### Vision

- A Pennsylvania of abundant, healthy, and resilient trees, forests, and native wild plants;
- An engaged populace that values and equitably receives the benefits these resources provide; and
- People and communities across
  Pennsylvania that are inspired and empowered to steward these resources.





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## Strategic Plan Priorities

- STRENGTHENING OUR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOUNDATIONS
- GROWING OUR WORK AROUND PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
- INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE AND TEAMS



# DCNR Climate Action Plan

- PA climate change impacts & projections
- Bureau-specific action plans to address threats
- Carbon sequestration and mitigation efforts
- Environmental justice considerations
- Emerging technologies
- Finalize in 2025

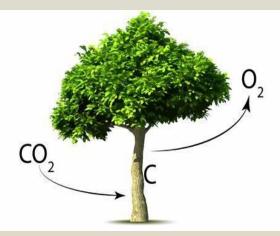


## Bureau of Forestry Climate Actions

- 2018 actions as standard operating procedures
- Manage forests for regeneration of healthy and diverse stands
- Assist in private lands resilience, carbon sequestration and storage
- Conserve connected landscapes and carbon sinks
- Flood resilient infrastructure, stream and floodplain conservation
- Pest, pathogen, and invasive plant monitoring and management
- RTE species conservation
- Natural disaster and wildfire preparedness and response
- Increase carbon sequestration through Forest Carbon Management Principles

## **BOF Forest Carbon Management Principles**

- Keep Forests As Forests
- Healthy Forests Sequester and Store More Carbon
- Plant Trees
- Conserve and Enhance Wetlands
- Regenerate and Restore Vigorous Young Forests
- Conserve and Enhance Old Growth and Late-Successional Forests
- Support the Use of Durable Wood Products
- Practice Sustainable Forest Management
- Protect Soil Health
- Learn, Plan, Monitor, and Adapt



### BOF Climate-smart Forestry Implementation

- Goals
- Practices
- Projects
- Genetics, seed sources, planting, silviculture, watershed and UTC restoration, EDRR





# Intentionality of Climate Smart Forestry

- Understanding the science and complexity
- Equity
- Investing (staffing, research, restoration)
  - Riparian areas, urban tree canopy, degraded woodlands
- "policies" and programs to support working forests
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Communications, connections, and trust building

