**Goddard Forum: Visioning Climate-Smart Forestry in the Mid-Atlantic Region**

*Wednesday, October 16, 2024*

*Breakout group discussion summaries*

Carbon management challenges on private forest lands

Kenny Kane, Allyson Muth, [list others]

Hardwoods tracking for long-term carbon sequestration

Amy Shields, Melissa Kreye, [list others]

Non-timber carbon storage

Ryan Lee, Margarita Fernández, [list others]

Stakeholder participation including non-forest owners

Susan Stout, Abriti Moktan, [list others]

State and federal policy for forest carbon

Tom Gilbert, Chris Peters, Kendall DeLyser, Matt Gabler, Chris Scott

* Both industry and government need ways to overcome bottlenecks
  + Industry – mills supply chain, loggers, equipment
  + Government
    - processing applications for landowners, complexity of federal grants (applicants need legal/admin service providers, e.g., via PSU ‘legal clinics’)
    - States that are members of U.S. Climate Alliance (https://usclimatealliance.org/members/) need greater attention to the land sector including forest and ag. Note, Governors’ mandates in this area are often unfunded
    - Public input to (DCNR) state climate action plan
* Workforce issues – government policy changes needed, e.g.
  + workers comp, compliance challenges and costs
  + lift restrictions on cost-share/ subsidy for ‘mobile equipment’
* Terminology important for public and political palatability
  + “carbon stewardship” more neutral than “climate action”; “resilience” is a catch-all (though often with multiple, potentially contrasting definitions
  + Climate as “threat multiplier”