

Conserve. Restore. Grow.

June 22-24, 2022

Welcome to the first 1t.org US Chapter Summit! We look forward to a dynamic and engaging summit that brings together the trillion trees community to celebrate successes, identify common challenges, and crowdsource innovations for how we can scale our impact. Informed and inspired by field leaders and engaging through interactive plenary dialogue and workshops, we will unlock the synergy of our community's diverse capacities and perspectives. Our program was designed with three themes in mind-- **convergence, cooperation, and climate hope.**

The 1t.org US Chapter has made incredible strides in the pursuit of curating ambition from everyone from government to Girl Scouts. The summit will be a **convergence** of the most inclusive, people-powered forest movement ever. We will bring together leaders from the 90 corporations, NGOs, and governments pledging more than 51 billion trees to date. This is a catalytic moment to expand ambition and action in the natural climate solutions movement in the US and abroad.

Key to a successful summit is the idea of "**cooperatition**" the necessary collaboration and healthy competition among 1t.org US Chapter members as well as the broader 1t.org community. With 1t.org China Action launching with a pledge of 70 billion trees, the US Chapter is eager to *cooperapete* to exceed that number. Another great example of that cooperative spirit in action is a [white paper recently released by our Carbon Finance Working Group](#)

and co-authored by a number of cutting edge companies who compete in the carbon finance space. The paper highlights key themes and key players working to increase efficiency and rigor in the MRV process.

Cooperatition

[kō-ä-pä- 'rā- 'ti-shən] noun

1. a fusion of cooperation and competition
2. the process of working together with competitors
3. healthy competition between collaborators

And lastly we want this to be an opportunity to reflect on **climate hope**. The global 1t.org initiative launched a little over two years ago at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos as a 10-year effort to support the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Just a mere six months later, the US Chapter of 1t.org launched in the middle of a pandemic, the fight against racial injustice and renewed climate activism. This summit will bring together cross-sectoral, cross-generational, cross-regional leaders with a common mission and inspire hope for the future of the climate movement.

Our chapter leadership team members, comprised of our dynamic stakeholder council and 1t.org secretariat staff from the World Economic Forum and American Forests, are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead.

With gratitude and enthusiasm,



Kevin O'Hara
Lead, 1t.org US Chapter
American Forests



Lindsey Prowse
Specialist, 1t.org North America
World Economic Forum

Summit Location:

HQO Events in DC Water O Street Pump Station
1385 Canal St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Directions and map for the venue can be found at the end of this packet on page 12. **Please have your ID ready to present to security.**

Point of contact for logistics:

Wendi Hoover, Director of Logistics & Special Projects
c: 336-909-7898; whoover@americanforests.org

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About the 1t.org US Chapter

[1t.org](#) is a multi-stakeholder platform which aims to connect, empower and serve the forest restoration community to **conserve, restore and grow one trillion trees by 2030**, in support of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Launched at the World Economic Forum's 2020 Annual Meeting in Davos, 1t.org brings together governments, business and civil society to raise collective ambition and translate commitments for forests into meaningful action globally and in [priority regions](#) including the China, India, Sahel, Amazon and the US.

CONSERVE.
RESTORE.
GROW.

The [1t.org US Chapter](#) is the first national chapter of the global platform, led by American Forests and the World Economic Forum. Launched in August 2020, the US Chapter was catalyzed by strong early interest from US federal government, US-based corporations and civil society. The movement has seen extensive growth in the US, with [pledged commitments](#) of over 50 billion trees from the public, private, and non-profit sectors including pledges from Salesforce, Bank of America, Microsoft, MasterCard, Amazon, REI, the State of Wisconsin, the City of Dallas, and many more.



There are four pillars that drive our work:

1

Scale and secure ambitious pledges to conserve, restore and grow from the public and private sector (50 billion trees pledged and counting)

2

Drive responsible implementation of pledges through outcomes of our working groups

3

Build the trillion trees movement through improved strategic communications

4

Leverage the power of our multi-stakeholder community in service of chapter public policy goals

1t.org US Chapter Leadership:

[US Chapter Secretariat](#)



Jad Daley
President and CEO
American Forests



Nicole Schwab
Co-Director of the Platform to
Accelerate NBS, WEF

[US Stakeholder Council](#)

The 1t.org US Stakeholder Council is made up of 23 diverse leaders from the public and private sector who inform the strategic direction of the US Chapter and assure that its operations and technical support equitably and effectively meet the needs of all 1t.org US Chapter stakeholders.

Agenda:

WEDNESDAY 6/22

5:00-7:00 **Opening Reception hosted by the US Stakeholder Council**
@ the Thompson Hotel in Washington, DC

THURSDAY 6/23

7:00-8:30 **1t.org US Summit Breakfast**
@ the Thompson Hotel in Washington, DC

8:30-9:00 Please arrive early to allow time to enter through security at HQO. Have your photo ID ready. The Thompson Hotel is a short 3-minute walk from HQO. Directions can be found on page 12.

9:00-5:00 **1t.org US Summit**
@ HQO, 1385 Canal St, SE, Washington, DC

Setting the Framework: Climate Hope

9:00-9:30
30 mins **1t.org US Secretariat Welcome and Girl Scout Remarks**
Opening remarks from Jad Daley, President & CEO, American Forests, with special guest Zoe Bredesen, Gold Award Girl Scout, Girl Scouts Nation's Capital.

Climate Leadership: Policy at Home and Abroad

9:30-9:45
15 mins **Keynote: Remarks from Secretary Vilsack**
▪ Secretary Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture

9:45-9:55
10 mins **Conserve, Restore, and Grow Abroad**
▪ Gillian Caldwell, Chief Climate Officer, USAID

9:55-10:25
30 mins **Conserve, Restore, and Grow at Home**
Mary Mitsos, President and CEO of National Forest Foundation, will facilitate a conversation between Chief Randy Moore, US Forest Service (invited) and Secretary Preston Cole, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

10:25-10:40
15 mins **Break**

All In for Earth: Scaling Public and Private Ambition

10:40-11:10
30 mins **Investing in Nature to Accelerate Net Zero**
Panel discussion with corporate leaders on private sector responsibility and engagement with the 1t.org movement.

11:10-12:00
50 mins **Carbon Finance Challenges and Promises**
Engaging discussion on the challenges and opportunities of voluntary carbon markets. Speakers: Vilas Kuchinad, Bank of America; Zack Parisa, CEO NCX; Jim Hourdequin, CEO Lyme Timber; Rita Hite, President and CEO, American Forest Foundation

12:00-1:30
90 mins **Networking Lunch**

Tree Talk: Getting to the Root of It

1:30-2:15
45 mins **Retaining and Scaling Urban and Community Forestry**
Dan Lambe, President and CEO of the Arbor Day Foundation, will convene a diverse group of experts and community voices on the criticality and intersectional needs to preserve and scale urban forests.

2:15-2:25 <i>10 mins</i>	Raising the Bar on Credible Commitments for Nature: Next-Generation Perspective Kevin Patel, Founder and Executive Director, OneUpAction, will provide remarks from his perspective as a youth leader on the front lines of the climate movement.
2:25-2:45 <i>20 mins</i>	Reflections, Perspectives, and the Uplink Challenge Special guests will provide remarks and reflections on opportunities, challenges, and outcomes of the 1t.org global work since the launch at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in 2020.
2:45-3:00 <i>15 mins</i>	Break
Branching Out: Unlocking the Global Potential	
3:00-3:15 <i>15 mins</i>	Preview: <i>The Ecopreneurs</i> – Acción Andina <i>The Ecopreneurs</i> is a docu-style series hosted by FORTUNE Brand Studio and Salesforce. Florent Kaiser, CEO of Global Forest Generation, will introduce an episode high in the Andes of Peru about Acción Andina.
3:15-4:15 <i>60 mins</i>	The World Economic Forum will host an engaging and inspirational workshop on 1t.org regional collaboration.
Onwards and Upwards	
4:15-5:00 <i>45 mins</i>	Achievements and Ambition Jad Daley, CEO of American Forests, will provide closing remarks and invite guests on the stage to announce pledges and share aspirations to scale 1t.org ambition.
5:00-7:00	Summit Rooftop Reception @ the rooftop of HQO Forest + Climate Visualization Partnership (SUNY CAFRI + MSU FCCP) - Join us for a special VR immersion experience in the forests, brought to the summit by Aidan Ackerman, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.
FRIDAY 6/24	
7:00-8:30	1t.org US Summit Breakfast <i>@ the Thompson Hotel</i>
9:00-12:00	1t.org US Workshop On Day 2, we invite you to bring your most daring ideas and critical questions to an interactive and engaging workshop. Throughout the day, we will discuss how to scale solutions and grow the trillion trees community. Suzanne DiBianca, Chief Impact Officer & EVP of Corporate Relations at Salesforce, will share reflections on movement building and inspiring action. The workshop will be facilitated by Lauren Cooper, Program Director of the Forest Carbon and Climate Program for the Forestry Department at Michigan State University.
12:00-2:00	Networking Lunch
2:00-4:00	Anacostia River Boat Tour <i>Optional -- Space is limited</i>

SESSIONS

THURSDAY 9:00 AM | Setting the Framework: Climate Hope

The 1t.org US Secretariat will provide opening remarks to kick off of the inaugural 1t.org US Summit. Jad Daley, CEO and President of American Forests, will share how we are scaling up the trillion trees movement from ambition to action. From the beginning, the 1t.org platform was designed to be radically inclusive with a commitment to climate hope. This is a multi-sectoral, multi-generational effort with key stakeholders from government to Girl Scouts. We will feature special guests, including Zoe Bredezen, local Gold Award Girl Scout from Reston, VA. Zoe will speak about how she has made a mark in her local community by organizing tree plantings in Fairfax County.



Jad Daley
President and CEO
American Forests



Zoe Bredezen
Gold Award Girl Scout,
Girl Scouts Nation's Capital

THURSDAY 9:30 AM | Climate Leadership: Policy at Home and Abroad

This session will bring together leaders on climate policy to discuss how the 1t.org US Community can contribute to future legislative and administrative policy developments. It will inspire attendees and build excitement around how the movement to conserve, restore, and grow is thriving both at home and abroad. We will discuss how the trillion trees community can impact state, national, and international levels.

Climate Leadership Keynote – Remarks from Secretary Vilsack



Secretary Tom Vilsack
United States Department of
Agriculture

Conserve, Restore, and Grow Abroad – Remarks from Gillian Caldwell



Gillian Caldwell
Chief Climate Officer, USAID

Conserve, Restore, and Grow at Home – Mary Mitsos, President and CEO of National Forest Foundation, will facilitate a conversation between Chief Randy Moore, US Forest Service (invited) and Secretary Preston Cole, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.



Mary Mitsos
President & CEO, National
Forest Foundation



Chief Randy Moore
US Forest Service
(invited)



Secretary Preston Cole
Wisconsin Department of
Natural Resources

THURSDAY 10:40 AM | All in for Earth: Scaling Public and Private Ambition

Investing in Nature to Accelerate Net Zero

Over one fifth of the world's largest corporates have set net-zero targets, and many are investing in nature-based solutions to neutralize emissions that cannot be avoided or reduced. Join this panel to learn how to deliver credible, results-oriented investments in natural landscapes. As corporates commit to and scale net-zero targets, they are increasingly exploring nature-based solutions as a channel for offsetting unavoidable emissions. This is a nascent and fast evolving field with much potential to improve the credibility and permanence of corporate strategies. In this session, corporate leaders will tell how their companies are navigating net-zero targets to invest in high-quality, natural climate solutions of all types and how 1t.org can offer support throughout the process.



Taldi Harrison
Head of Government Affairs,
REI Co-op

Brian Komar
Vice President, Global Impact
Innovation, Salesforce

And more to be announced!

THURSDAY 10:40 AM | All in for Earth: Scaling Public and Private Ambition *(continued)*

Carbon Finance Challenges and Promises

Nature-based carbon markets have become increasingly fundamental to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and accelerating investment in conservation and restoration efforts that would otherwise not happen. Despite the tremendous potential, carbon markets continue to be confusing and often controversial. A diverse set of voices from financial institutions, landowners, and standard setting bodies will discuss the challenges and opportunities of forest carbon projects in voluntary carbon markets.



Lauren Cooper
Program Director, Forest
Carbon & Climate Program,
MSU



Vilas Kuchinad,
Director, Global Sustainable
Finance Group, Bank of
America



Rita Hite
President and CEO,
American Forest Foundation



Zack Parisa
CEO, NCX



Jim Hourdequin
CEO, Lyme Timber Company

THURSDAY 1:30 PM | Tree Talk: Getting to the Root of It

Retaining and Scaling Urban and Community Forestry

The 1t.org US Chapter Urban and Community Forestry Working Group will host a session on the critical and intersectional needs to equitably preserve and scale urban forests. Using examples from cities across the country, this session will provide insight into the ways that government, NGOs, and corporations are engaging locally to scale up our critical urban tree canopies and the benefits our urban forests provide.



Dan Lambe
President, Arbor Day
Foundation



Beattra Wilson, MPA
Assistant Director for Urban &
Community Forestry, Forest
Service

Raising the Bar on Credible Commitments for Nature: Next-Generation Perspective

Some activists and youth leaders have been critical of corporate investments in nature-based solutions. This session will allow attendees to hear from a leader on the front lines of the climate movement on how the 1t.org US Chapter can better provide data, accountable and transparent reporting, and narratives that demonstrate our strengths while acknowledging our shortcomings. We will learn how leading edge communicators and influencers work to advance successful climate narratives and help to co-develop strategies and tools to build a more effective 1t.org US movement.



Kevin Patel
Founder and Executive
Director, OneUpAction

THURSDAY 3:00 PM | Branching Out: Unlocking the Global Potential

Preview: The Ecopreneurs – Acción Andina

The Ecopreneurs is a docu-style series hosted by FORTUNE Brand Studio and Salesforce. Florent Kaiser, CEO of Global Forest Generation, will introduce an episode high in the Andes of Peru about Acción Andina.



Florent Kaiser
CEO, Global Forest
Generation

THURSDAY 3:00 PM | Branching Out: Unlocking the Global Potential *(continued)*

1t.org Regional Workshop – Scaling Investment in Conservation and Restoration Abroad

1t.org supports the world's boldest initiatives for forest conservation, restoration and reforestation, and catalyzes action in priority regions. Since the 1t.org US Chapter launched in 2020 as the first regional Trillion Trees platform and pledged over 50 billion trees – the community has expanded to the Amazon, Sahel, India, and China (soon to be Mexico) where 1t.org aims to unlock private sector partnerships and targeted investment flows. At the World Economic Forum's 2022 Annual Meeting, China announced its aim to plant and conserve 70 billion trees by 2030 and will be working with 1t.org to support the fulfillment of this contribution.



Nicole Schwab
Co-Director of the Platform
to Accelerate NBS, WEF



Chen Peng
Secretary General & Vice
President, China Green
Foundation



Samar Sikka
Co-Founder, Arteree



Rekia Foudel
Managing Partner and
Founder, Barka Fund

Alicia Grimes
Natural Resources Officer, USAID

And more to be announced!

THURSDAY 5:00 PM | Rooftop Summit Reception & VR Experience

Forest + Climate Visualization Partnership

The Forest + Climate Visualization Partnership (FCVP) is a collaboration between the Climate and Applied Forest Research Institute at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (CAFRI at SUNY ESF) and Michigan State University Forest Carbon and Climate Program (MSU FCCP). FCVP serves a unique and critical role in forest climate education, producing innovative and accessible visual media that communicate the complex relationships between forests, carbon, and climate.

Put on a VR headset and step into an immersive forest experience! With this cutting-edge technology, you'll be able to walk around an ultra-real forest, exploring and learning as you go. Learn more at forestclimatevisualization.com.



Aidan Ackerman
Assistant Professor
SUNY College of Environmental
Science and Forestry

FRIDAY 9:00 AM | 1t.org US Chapter Workshop

Building on some of the key themes and topics from Day 1, we invite you to bring your most daring ideas and critical questions to an interactive and engaging workshop. Throughout Day 2, we will discuss how to scale solutions and grow the trillion trees community. This workshop will be facilitated by Lauren Cooper, Program Director of the Forest Carbon and Climate Program for the Forestry Department at Michigan State University. We will discuss knowledge transfer and movement building to scale the trillion trees movement.

After special remarks from guests, closing remarks will be provided by Suzanne DiBianca, Chief Impact Officer & EVP of Corporate Relations at Salesforce.



Suzanne DiBianca
Chief Impact Officer & EVP
of Corporate Relations,
Salesforce



Lauren Cooper
Program Director, Forest Carbon
& Climate Program, Department
of Forestry at MSU

FRIDAY 2:00 PM | Anacostia Watershed Society Boat Tour *(Optional)*

Add the perfect ending to the 1t.org US Chapter Summit by joining the **Anacostia Watershed Society** on Friday, June 24, 2-4 p.m. ET, for a boat tour of the Anacostia River. This tour will explore the ecological and historical changes that have occurred in the river and in the surrounding communities. We will have the opportunity to witness restoration of river habitats and how it has caused the rebound of wildlife in the Anacostia. Space is limited; please [sign up here](#).

SPEAKERS



Jad Daley
President and CEO, American Forests

Jad Daley has been the president and Chief Executive Officer of American Forests, the nation's first and oldest forest conservation organization, since 2018. He leads the organization forward on climate change, social equity, and other issues related to forests. He moved into that role after a year of serving as the organization's vice president of conservation programs. He also is co-chair of the Forest-Climate Working Group, which he helped launch in 2007, and a member of the Forest Proud Board of Directors.



Nicole Schwab
Co-Director of the Platform to Accelerate Nature-Based Solutions, World Economic Forum

Nicole Schwab is co-director of the Platform to Accelerate Nature-Based Solutions and director of 1t.org at the World Economic Forum. With a scientific and public policy background, she started her career working on health policy in the Andes for the Government of Bolivia and the World Bank, before returning to Europe to become founding director of the Forum of Young Global Leaders, which she currently chairs.



Zoe Bredezen
Gold Award Girl Scout, Girl Scouts Nation's Capital

Zoe is from Reston, Virginia. Zoe earned the Gold Award in 2021 with her Combatting Deforestation project. Zoe organized and led a climate change initiative in which she planted 420 trees.



Secretary Tom Vilsack
United States Department of Agriculture

Thomas J. Vilsack was confirmed as the 32nd United States Secretary of Agriculture on February 23, 2021, by the U.S. Senate. He was nominated by President Joe Biden to return to a role he served for eight years under President Barack Obama.

Under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is building back better by restoring the American economy, strengthening rural and historically underserved communities, responding to threats of climate change, creating good-paying jobs for American workers and the next generation of agricultural leaders, and investing in our kids and our families.



Gillian Caldwell
Chief Climate Officer and Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID

Gillian serves as the Chief Climate Officer and is responsible for directing and overseeing all climate and environment work across the agency. She also serves as Deputy Assistant Administrator, overseeing DDI's Center for Environment, Energy, and Infrastructure and the Office of Environmental and Social Risk Management. Ms. Caldwell has worked to protect human rights and the environment throughout her career. Prior to joining USAID, she served as the CEO of Global Witness, which has a focus on tackling climate change and deploys investigations into corruption and natural resource extraction to drive systems change worldwide. From 2007-2010, she launched and led 1Sky, a highly collaborative cross-sector campaign with over 600 allied organizations to pass legislation in the U.S. to address the climate crisis. Gillian also has extensive experience consulting in the areas of strategic planning and organizational development with over 70 non-profits, foundations, and universities.



Chief Randy Moore
United States Forest Service

Randy Moore is Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, leading a workforce of more than 25,000 permanent employees who sustainably manage 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands; support the world's largest forestry research organization; and work with states, tribes, and others to sustain all of America's forests for the benefit of all citizens, today and in the future. Under his leadership, the Forest Service cares for shared natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological, and social vitality for all communities nationwide.

**Secretary Preston Cole****Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

Appointed by Governor Tony Evers in 2019, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary Preston Cole directs statewide programs for environmental protection, natural resource management, outdoor recreation, and law enforcement with an emphasis on diversity and service excellence.

Secretary Cole supports traditional conservation activities and environmental protection as well as connecting nontraditional audiences with opportunities to get outdoors. As a member of Governor Tony Evers' Climate Change Taskforce, Secretary Cole helped develop multi-faceted recommendations that combat climate change's adverse effects in Wisconsin. In 2019, Secretary Cole was inducted into the Milwaukee Business Journal Hall of Fame and recently named one of "Wisconsin's 51 most Influential Black Leaders" by the news outlet Madison365.

**Taldi Harrison****Head of Government Affairs, REI Co-op**

Taldi Harrison is head of government affairs at REI Co-op. In this capacity she oversees REI's government affairs and advocacy related community investment work. Her work focuses on fostering collaborative partnerships with outdoor industry brands, national non-profits, and decision makers to ensure equitable access to and infrastructure for inspiring outdoor recreation opportunities. Taldi serves on the Board of Directors of The Eastrail Partners, The Conservation Alliance, Recreate Responsibly Steering Committee, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway Technical Advisory Committee. Raised in the Flathead Valley in Montana, Taldi is an avid outdoors woman who enjoys mountain biking, climbing, mountaineering, skiing, and car camping with her two daughters.

**Lauren Cooper****Program Director, Forest Carbon & Climate Program, Department of Forestry at MSU**

Lauren Cooper leads the Forest Carbon and Climate Program for the Forestry Department and has experience in forest carbon project development and wood utilization linkages to sustainability. She has projects looking at socio-ecological carbon cycling, conservation incentives, and carbon storage in wood utilization. She has international experience in Peru, Mexico, and Ecuador, and previously worked in Washington, D.C. at the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES). Her expertise is in policy implementation, impact assessment, stakeholder engagement, knowledge transfer, and sustainable land management.

**Vilas Kuchinad****Director, Global Sustainable Finance Group, Bank of America**

Vilas Kuchinad is a director in Bank of America's Global Sustainable Finance Group (GSFG). He leads the Innovative Structuring pillar of the GSFG business. Innovative Structuring guides Bank of America's capital deployment into new clean energy and sustainable infrastructure asset classes including carbon markets, hydrogen, sustainable aviation fuels, waste-to-energy, water infrastructure, sustainable agriculture/aquaculture, and mobility. Prior to Bank of America, Vilas worked at Deutsche Bank in its structured finance business focused on private credit for sustainable finance, infrastructure, energy, and middle market credit.

**Zack Parisa****Chief Executive Officer, NCX**

Zack Parisa is the co-founder and CEO of the Natural Capital Exchange (NCX), a data-driven forest carbon market. In 2021, NCX created the largest forest carbon project in the contiguous US. A forester and biometrician by training, Zack has spent the last decade developing cutting-edge tools for precision forest management and putting them to work for some of America's largest landowners. NCX (formerly SilviaTerra) collaborated with Microsoft to create Basemap, the first high-resolution forest inventory of the United States, creating a map of over 92 billion trees that now underpins the NCX market. Zack earned an M.F.S. from Yale University, where he developed NCX's core technology, and a B.S. in Forestry from Mississippi State University.

**Jim Hourdequin****Chief Executive Officer, Lyme Timber Company**

Jim joined Lyme in 2005 and leads the company's investment and business strategies. Over the past 15 years, he has managed the acquisition of over 1.5 million acres of timberland throughout the US and Canada. Jim has expertise in structuring transactions that combine conservation outcomes with attractive recurring income from sustainable timber harvesting. With a background that combines forest ecology and small business, he has led Lyme's focus on adding value to timberlands through log marketing, harvest operations, and management restructurings. Prior to Lyme, Jim co-founded Long View Forest Inc., a logging and forestry services business based in Vermont, where he remains involved as an owner and member of the management team. He serves on the Board of the National Alliance of Forest Owners and the Finance Committee for the Montshire Museum of Science. He was a founding board member of the Center for Woodlands Education, publisher of *Northern Woodlands*. Jim earned an M.B.A. with distinction from the Harvard Business School and a B.A. cum laude in Biology from Dartmouth College.



Rita Hite
President and CEO, American Forest Foundation

As president and CEO of the American Forest Foundation, Rita Hite leads our ambitious conservation agenda. Her work centers on scaling AFF's efforts to empower family forest owners from all walks of life to address the most pressing conservation challenges facing our nation today: namely, increasing carbon storage, mitigating catastrophic wildfires, and improving wildlife habitat. In her more than 20-year career in forest conservation, Rita has staffed congressional leaders on the House Committee on Agriculture, built and curated coalitions and partnerships including the Forest Climate Working Group, the Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition, and the Women's Forest Congress, and served as a nonprofit leader.



Dan Lambe
President, Arbor Day Foundation

Dan Lambe is the president of the Arbor Day Foundation, an organization founded in 1972 that has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees. During his 15 years with the Foundation, he has led the development of innovative programs that expand the organization's global reach, including international forest restoration efforts and, most recently, the Tree Cities of the World program. In addition, Lambe spearheads the Arbor Day Foundation's Evergreen Alliance, a strategic group of corporate leaders dedicated to helping the organization meet its recently announced Time for Trees initiative to plant 100 million trees and inspire 5 million tree planters by 2022.



Beatra Wilson, MPA
Assistant Director for Urban & Community Forestry, Forest Service

Beatra Wilson is Assistant Director for Cooperative Forestry within the U.S. Forest Service. As national lead for the agency's Urban and Community Forestry Program, Wilson oversees program policy, budget, partnership development and strategic and equitable delivery of federal and state urban forestry programs. She has built a career administering conservation cooperative assistance programs at regional and national offices and has served on boards and committees to advance environmental justice, conservation workforce diversity and customer experience. Wilson has completed White House detail assignments to the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Management and Budget and co-chaired the Secretary of Agriculture's Executive Committee for 1890 Land Grant Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Wilson has a bachelor's degree in urban forestry and a master's degree in public administration.



Kevin Patel
Founder and Executive Director, OneUpAction

Kevin J. Patel has fought as an intersectional climate justice activist from Los Angeles, California, for the past eleven years. Growing up with severe heart issues due to Los Angeles' poor air quality, he is one of the millions of people across the world who are already victims of the climate crisis. In 2019, Kevin founded OneUpAction International, an organization that supports and empowers marginalized youth by providing them with the resources they need to be changemakers. Through his work with OneUpAction, Kevin collaborated with the community to create the first-of-its-kind Youth Climate Commission in LA County to amplify youth voices on the climate crisis. Kevin is a UN Togetherband Ambassador for Goals 7, 13, and 14, and he currently serves as a 2020 National Geographic Young Explorer. He also serves on the Youthtopia_World: Circle of Youth Council, the Climate Power Council, and the Intersectional Environmentalist Council. Kevin is currently pursuing his undergraduate degree in Political Science at Loyola Marymount University.



Florent Kaiser
CEO, Global Forest Generation

Florent is a passionate conservation entrepreneur on a mission to implement effective solutions to scale up restoration and protection of the world's forest ecosystems. He is on the Advisory Board of the World Economic Forum's 1t.org Trillion Tree Campaign. As a member of the Board of the Global Partnership for Landscape Restoration, Florent represents GFG's work with catalytic on-the-ground implementers.



Rekia Foudel
Managing Partner and Founder, Barka Fund

Rekia is managing partner and founder at Barka Fund. Barka is an early-stage impact investor in African startups taking measures to address urgent climate and environmental challenges in their communities. Barka offers founders an investment-readiness program and a capital investment solution. Prior to founding Barka, Rekia spent 15 years in the financial services sector in the US, Europe, and Africa. Rekia then moved to Niger, where as Head of Project Development for the Millenium Challenge Account-Niger, she helped raise \$437 million for two growth-focused and climate-resilient projects. Rekia is a graduate of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania with an MBA in finance.



Samar Sikka
Co-Founder, Arteree

Samar graduated from Harvard Business School's MBA program with Honors. He is the Founding Curator of the Navi Mumbai hub of the World Economic Forum's Global Shaper Community in India. He is leading the hub's initiative to grow One Billion trees in India, in partnership with the Government, as part of 1t.org. Samar is the Co-founder of Arteree, a collaborative platform for independent performing artists. Prior to Arteree, he produced Nanak Shah Fakir, a multiple National Award-winning feature film on the life of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh faith. He has a vision to pioneer community-driven learning models spanning the arts, education, and technology.



Chen Peng
Secretary General and Vice President, China Green Foundation

Chen Peng, born in August 1963, is from Taihe County of Anhui Province. His working experience dates back to 1987 with an education background of silviculture and ecological economy, Mr. Chen also holds a doctor degree in management and a senior engineer certificate at the professor level. He used to work for the Chinese Academy of Forestry, China National Greening Commission, National Forestry and Grassland Administration. Mr. Chen currently serves as the secretary general and vice president of the China Green Foundation.



Aidan Ackerman
Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Aidan Ackerman is an assistant professor of Landscape Architecture at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where he creates large-scale digital forests using immersive virtual reality technology. He develops innovative workflows to simulate growth of 3D tree models based on characteristics, environmental conditions, and community interaction. He has a background in information technology and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Alfred University and a Master of Landscape Architecture from Harvard Graduate School of Design.



Suzanne DiBianca
Chief Impact Officer & EVP of Corporate Relations, Salesforce

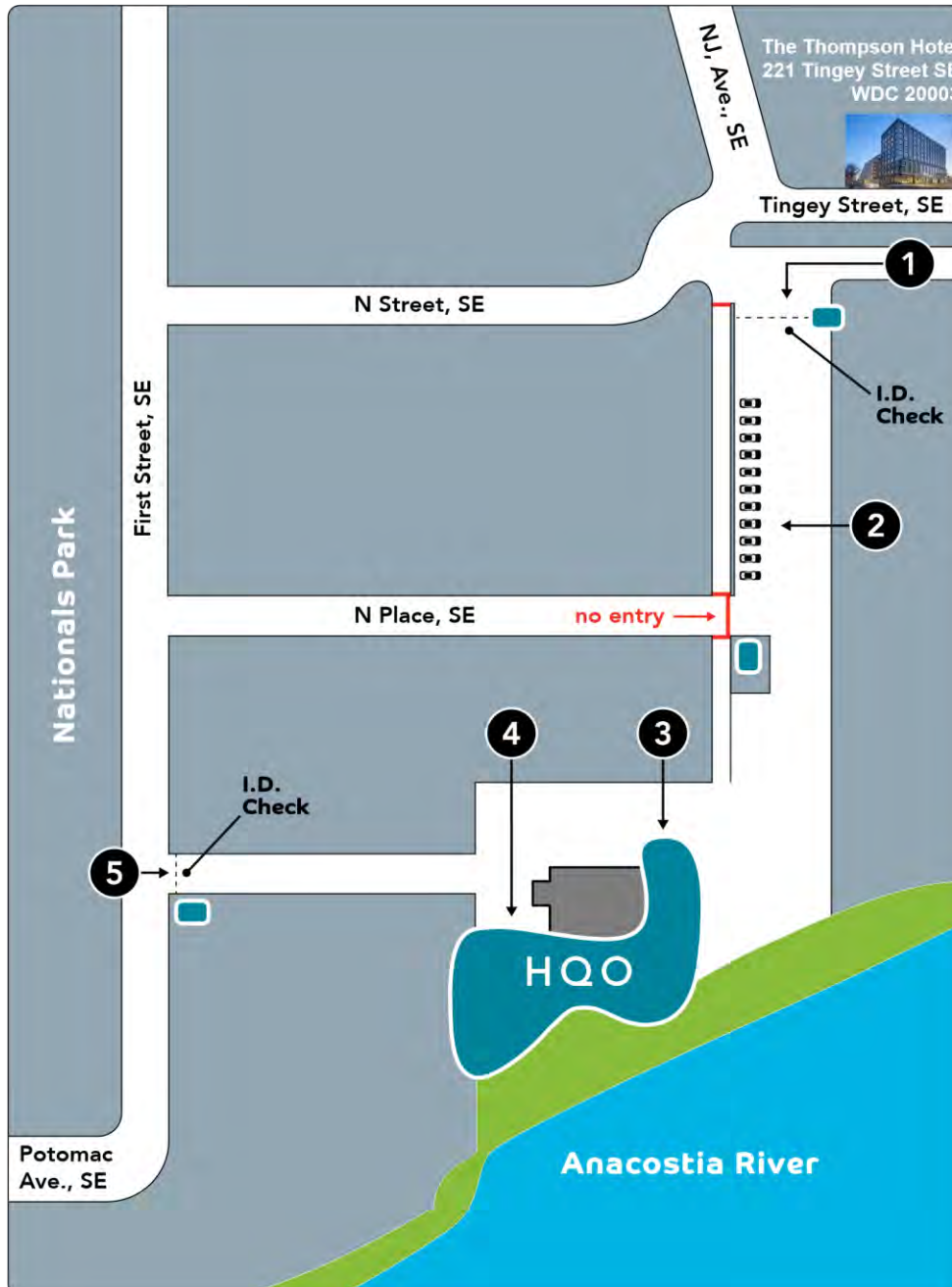
Suzanne DiBianca leads Salesforce's stakeholder strategy, driving positive social and environmental impact across the company, customer's partners, and community. She spearheads Salesforce's sustainability efforts to address the urgency of climate change with bold leadership, champions workforce innovation to accelerate training and hiring of the military community, and closely collaborates with Salesforce Ventures to invest in diverse, world-class entrepreneurs who are solving some of the world's greatest challenges across education and workforce development, equality, sustainability, and the social sector through Salesforce's Impact Fund. DiBianca has worked at Salesforce for close to 20 years and leads through encouraging collaboration at all levels of the organization and across the community through innovative programs and dynamic partnerships.

Getting to



Please use **1385 Canal St SE, Washington, DC 20003** as the destination for GPS. However, due to construction, the entrance to HQO is at the intersection of New Jersey Avenue, N Street, and Tingey Street (#1 on the map).

There is very limited parking onsite. Unless you have confirmed with the organizer that you have reserved parking, you will not be able to park onsite. Please have your ID ready to show the security team to enter the HQO campus.



1. Pedestrian and Vehicle Entry
2. Reserved Visitor Parking
3. HQO Entrance
4. Caterer Loading Dock
5. Caterer Entry

1385 Canal St., SE

hqoevents.com

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