



## **A Path Forward: Understanding and Restoring Degraded Hardwood Stands**

### *A Working Lands for Wildlife Virtual Event*

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 22 Time: 11 am – 1:30 pm

Register today: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/a-path-forward>

**Description:** This webinar will explore the complexities of forest degradation as result of poor forest management planning. We will gain a basic understanding of land-use history as it pertains to forest degradation and how misconceptions of forest ecology have led to poor land management practices. Then, we will learn how forest products markets (or lack thereof) can perpetuate the mismanagement of forest resources. Once we grasp these basic concepts, we will learn from applied research on conditions of degraded forests and what we can do to restore them. **Event hosts:** Ruffed Grouse Society & American Woodcock Society; NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife **Event partners:** USDA Forest Service, Society of American Foresters, Southern Research Station, American Bird Conservancy, The Forestland Group, (IUP?)

**Credits available:** 2 Category 1 Continuing Education Credits through the Society of American Foresters

#### **Webinar agenda – Wednesday, Sept. 22, 11 am – 1:30 pm**

**11 am:** Welcome and Introduction by Charlie Faires, Private Lands Forester, Ruffed Grouse Society

#### **11:10 am: A History of Forest Degradation**

Dr. John Lhotka, Associate Professor of Silviculture, University of Kentucky

#### **11:40 am: Is the Tail Wagging the Dog? The Effects of Timber and Carbon Markets on Forest Management in Eastern Hardwoods**

Dr. Alex Finkral, Chief Forester and Vice President of Conservation, The Forestland Group

#### **12:10 pm: Taking the Best and Leaving a Mess: Moving Beyond High-Grading**

Dr. Callie Schweitzer, Research Forester, United States Forest Service

#### **12:35 pm: A Path Forward: Fixing What's Broken**

Dr. Ralph Nyland, Distinguished Service Professor, State University of New York – College of Environmental Science and Forestry

#### **1:05 PM – 1:30 pm: Panel Discussion with lecturers and federal partners**

Bridgett Costanzo, Working Lands for Wildlife Eastern Regional Coordinator, Natural Resource Conservation Service