



Northwest Innovative Forestry Summit 2026

Restoring Watersheds | Reimagining Forests

Wednesday, June 10th - Friday, June 12th

Willapa Bay, WA: Ellsworth Creek Preserve

AGENDA: Wednesday, June 10th

*Agendas are subject to change

Time	Topic
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Participant Arrival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check-in and room assignments
Welcome and Introduction to NIFS 2026	
3:00–3:45 PM	Event Framing and Purpose (10 min) Introduction Circle (30 min)
3:45–4:00 PM	Introduction to Willapa Bay and Ellsworth Creek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nature Conservancy (15 min)
4:00–5:00 PM	Grounding in Place: Chinook Indian Nation Welcome, History, and Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinook Indian Nation Introduction and History (30 min) • Chinook Cultural Resources (10 min) • Partnerships and Resource Management (10 min)
5:00–5:05 PM	Announcements
5:00–5:30	Break before Dinner
5:30 PM	Dinner
7:00–8:00 PM	Perspectives from Partner Organizations and Parallel Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia Land Trust • Oregon State University • North Coast Land Conservancy • EFM Investments and Advisory • Willapa Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association
Evening	Bonfire and snacks

AGENDA: Thursday, June 11th

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Time	Topic
7:30 AM	Breakfast Pre-packed sandwich lunches will be made by Ocean Park Staff
Field Tour	
8:45–9:00 AM	Load vans
9:00–9:45 AM	Drive to Ellsworth Creek Stop 1
9:45–10:45 AM	Discussion at Stop 1 (Pre-Commercial Thinning Site) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Guiding Theme: Designing trajectories toward future forest conditions</i>
10:30–11:00 AM	Travel to Stop 2
11:00–12:00 AM	Discussion at Stop 2 (Road Decommissioning Site) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Guiding Theme: Legacies of past management and infrastructure</i>
12:00–12:25 PM	Travel to Lunch Spot
12:30–1:30 PM	Lunch in the field
1:30–1:50 PM	Travel to Stop 3
1:30–2:15 PM	Discussion at Stop 3 (Stream Restoration and Commercial Thinning Site) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Guiding Theme: Restoration in working forests</i>
2:15–2:50 PM	Travel to Stop 4
2:50–3:20 PM	Hike down to Old-Growth grove
3:20–4:15 PM	Discussion at Stop 4 (Old-Growth) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Guiding Theme: Reference conditions and the meaning of “restoration”</i>
4:15–4:45 PM	Hike back up to vans
Return to Ocean Park Camp and Retreat	

5:30 PM	Arrive at Ocean Park
6:00 PM	Dinner
7:00–7:45 PM	Reflection and Wrap-Up

AGENDA: Friday, June 12th

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Time	Topic
7:30 AM	Light Breakfast
9:00 AM	Participants depart Ocean Park Camp and Retreat
9:00–12:00	Optional Field Tour – Willapa National Wildlife Refuge
	Note: for optional field day – participants may have the option to either drive themselves to the second field site or ride in vans.