



Live session at the IUFRO World Day (Webinar)

# Emerging topics on forests and water: Managing forests for water

Task Force on Forest and Water Interactions in a Changing  
Environment

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28 September 2021, 14:45 - 15:00 UTC

📍 Wake Forest, North Carolina, USA  
(on the IUFRO World Day Map)

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## ABSTRACT

Changing global demographics and climate are putting increased stress on water resources and creating more extended periods of water insecurity in many areas worldwide. Forests have long been a source of goods (e.g., timber, charcoal, food) and services (e.g., carbon sequestration, recreation, wildlife habitat). Now the value of forests as a supplier of clean, constant water flow is being recognized, especially as droughts become more prolonged and more severe. However, there is a lack of knowledge in managing forests primarily for water resources. This information gap must be filled if forests have a more prominent role in anthropogenic water supply

in the coming years and decades. Therefore, the United Nations Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) commissioned a study on managing forests for water. Of course, the specific practice depends on the forest type and other environmental variables. However, in all cases, understanding the temporal and spatial scale impacts on hydrology is critical to management. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the full FAO report released during World Water Week at the end of August.

#### KEYWORDS

- Sustainable Forest Management
  - Forest Operations
  - Forest Resources
    - Silviculture
  - Water management

#### SPEAKERS



Steven McNulty

is the Director of the USDA Southeast Climate Hub, located in Durham North Carolina. He has a Ph.D. in Natural Resources from the University of New Hampshire and has over 30 years researching environmental stress impacts and adaptive management options for forests, agriculture and rangelands. Dr. McNulty has authored over 250 papers on climate change impacts on ecosystems. He is the recipient of US Forest Service Distinguished Scientist Award, IUFRO Deputy Coordinator 8.04.06 (Nitrogen and sulfur deposition), and Editor-in-Chief of Climate.

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