



2

The following is a reorganization of speakers, which is based on their respective direct experience with WWNC as well as their areas of expertise. Specifically, they include: local experts with experience in WWNC; experts who have conducted assessments of WWNC; experts in plan development; individuals with expertise in other content areas. All of these consultants either would not charge for their services or have been paid for their assessment and would therefore be presenting what they have already determined.

I. Consultants who are very familiar with White's Woods, have considerable expertise, are part of our community, interested in White's Woods, and are willing to consult without charge:

-  a. **Dr. Mike Tyree**, Associate Professor, Biology (plant biology), IUP. Dr. Tyree's experience includes teaching and research in the forestry departments at Virginia Tech and Louisiana Tech prior to coming to IUP, where he teaches Forest Ecosystems Restoration (Biol 481/681), using WWNC for field experience. He and his students have devoted considerable hours to assessing the health of WWNC.
-  b. **Dr. Ellen Yerger**, Associate Professor, Biology (entomology), IUP – site visit to her White Township residence (near the Borough) for discussion on Insect pests, Invasive Species Management, and see her deer enclosure fencing.
- c. **Todd Sherbondy**, Arborist, Davey Tree Experts - i-Tree Analysis of White's Woods, and Health of White's Woods. Mr. Sherbondy used i-tree analysis software to assess the value of WWNC to the surrounding community. In the process he evaluated the health of the forest

II. Consultants who have already completed **evaluations** of White's Woods and are ready to meet with the committee:

- a. Overall health of White's Woods
Mike Wolf, Appalachian Forest Consultants
Health of White's Woods Mr. Wolf was contracted to assess WWNC and present his findings to the Township and in a webinar. Here is a link to the FWW webinar recording he presented <https://www.friendsofwhiteswoods.org/events>. Has worked with both DCNR and PSU Extension.
- b. Tree Species/Old Growth Inventory (2022)
Dr. Marion Holmes, the University of Pittsburgh Invasion Ecology Research Lab. - Tree Species Inventory of WWNC. Dr. Holmes has been contracted by FWW to perform an on-the-ground, sector-by-sector tree inventory for WWNC, which will be ready for presentation in the fall. Here is a link to the FWW webinar recording she presented <https://www.friendsofwhiteswoods.org/events>

- c. Invasive Plants/Invasive Plant Inventory (2021, Oct, 47 pages)
Dr. Sara Keubbing, the University of Pittsburgh Invasion Ecology Research Lab (currently at the Bradford Lab, Yale School of the Environment). Invasive Plant Inventory and Management Report for White's Woods Drs. Keubbing and Holmes surveyed growth in WWNC and prepared a detailed assessment of native and invasive plants. Here is a link to the FWW webinar recording she presented <https://www.friendsofwhiteswoods.org/events>

III. Consultants who can assist with establishing long-term goals:

- a. **Dr. Alyson Fearon**, Senior Director of Community Conservation and Resiliency, Allegheny Land Trust - Carbon Offsets: Producing Income from Valuable Greenspace. Dr. Fearon assessed WWNC for carbon sequestration, and developed a preliminary proposal for a 40-year carbon sequestration contract. Here is a link to the FWW webinar recording she presented:
<https://www.friendsofwhiteswoods.org/events>
- b. **Dr. Joan Maloof**, author and Executive Director of Old-Growth Forest Network - Preserving Town-Owned Forests (Duff Park is a member of the Old-Growth Forest Network). It is important to understand the significance of an old growth forest and the process by which it is achieved. Here is a link to the FWW webinar recording she presented <https://www.friendsofwhiteswoods.org/events>
- c. **Dr. Margot Wilkinson Kaye**, Department of Ecosystem Science & Management, PSU A Forest Ecologist's Approach to Managing WWNC. Expertise is examining entire ecosystem from a wholistic approach, and evaluate a systemic approach.

IV. Consultants who specialize in deer management:

- a. **Jeannine Fleegle**, Game Commissioner and Wildlife Biologist. The PA Game Commission monitors the deer population in the state. She is responsible for public outreach and communication for the Deer and Elk Section.
- b. **Dr. Ellen Yerger**, Associate Professor, Biology (entomology), IUP site visit to her White Township residence (near the Borough) for discussion on Insect pests, Invasive Species Management, and see her deer exclosure fencing.

Foresters/generalists who, by virtue of their training and experience, has previously used timbering as a management practice.

V. . Their backgrounds and experiences are similar.

- a. **Dave Cole**, Service Forester DCNR Bureau of Forestry
On succession challenges in forests and the resilience of the woods. Here is a link to a recording of a webinar featuring Dave on Proactive Steps to Improve the Health and

Resilience of Your Woods...https://psu.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/t/1_usucf7bu.
He has not assessed WWNC.

- b. **Chris Fatzinger**, Service Forester with DCNR Bureau of Forestry for Indiana County. His area of concern includes Yellow Creek State Park that he helps to manage.
- c. **Calvin Norman**, Penn State Extension Forester for the area which includes Indiana County with a background in Forestry, Wildlife Management and Carbon Sequestration.

VI. Other

- a. **Dr. Margaret Brittingham**, Penn State University - Forest songbirds
- b. **Margaret Higbee**, President, Todd Bird Club (migrating and resident birds in White's Woods)

Steps for Stewardship Planning

Dr. Margaret Brittingham, Professor of Wildlife Resources
Penn State Extension Wildlife Specialist*

1. Begin with public input, including input from all WWNC stakeholders.
2. Determine goals and objectives.
3. Hold public meetings so that the public can review these goals and objectives.
4. Gather information about the WWNC, conduct surveys as needed.
5. Seek professional assistance from multiple resource professionals.
6. Re-evaluate options, goals and objectives.
7. Draft a management plan.
8. Hold another round of public meetings for management plan review.
9. Revise as needed.
10. Seek DCNR review.
11. With approval, implement long-term plan.

*Presented January 14, 2021, Community Forests: Benefits for Birds and People—Options and Challenges” (FWW webinar, passcode: Webinar#4)

DAVE 7/21/22

White Township Public Input: 2014-2022

NOTE: A significant number of letters were sent to White Township expressing support for various projects. The list below is an attempt to summarize the public comment formally solicited from citizens by White Township in regard to recreation-related projects via surveys, emails, or outreach sessions--other than White's Woods (see separate page for sum of input regarding White's Woods).

I. White Township 2014-2022 Public Outreach

2.22. 2022 Outreach Session: Comments about WWNC: N = 42; 28 addressed WW

II. White Township Planning for the Future Survey: N = 39 (Aug 6, 2019)

II. ICUD Pubic Input: N = 14 (?? - No summary number of participants included. Just a list of responses).

III. S & T Bank Arena Report, Fall 2017

Sampling method: Qualtrix; link to survey posted on Arena website

Emails sent (Qualtrix): 487

Survey participants (respondents): 124

Usable survey respondents: N = 120

IV. Small Business Institute - S & T Arena (undated?)

Sample: Sent to parents of children in the school district (online survey only)

N = 303

PUBLIC INPUT DATA RE WHITE'S WOOD: 1995-2022

1. June, 2022 - White's Woods Community Interest Study, IUP Department of Sociology, LDRS 855, *Advanced Qualitative and Mixed Research Methods*. (N = 289)
2. February 22, 2022 - Citizen comments regarding White's Woods emailed or provided in response to White Township Public Input meeting request (N = 28)
3. July, 2020 - FWW Community Survey regarding White's Woods (N = 229)
4. July, 2020 - FWW Petition Regarding White's Woods (N = 1,240 from zip codes 15000-16999, or Western Pennsylvania; N = 600 for zip codes 15701 or 15705)
5. July 2020 - White Township Request for emails or letters regarding the Millstone Plan: (N = 80)
6. 2007 - Indiana Gazette Survey Regarding White's Woods (N = 747)
7. 2007 - FWW Petition Regarding White's Woods (N = >1,000)
8. 1995 - Township Referendum Regarding White's Woods (N = 2,463)