**AGENDA**

**Hubbard Brook Quarterly Project Meeting**

**January 3-4, 2024**

**Vassar College – Environmental Cooperative at the Barns**

**Day 2 - Thursday, January 4, 2024**

**Beech Leaf Disease – Preparing for the Inevitable**

8:00 - 9:00 Continental breakfast plus yogurt/non-dairy yogurt and granola (provided)

**Organizers: Nat Cleavitt and John Campbell**

9:00 - 9:05 John Campbell (US Forest Service)- Session overview

**BLD invited guest speakers** (20-minute slots with 5 mins. for questions/discussion)**:**

9:05 - 9:25 Cameron McIntire (US Forest Service)- An overview of beech leaf disease and exploring treatment strategies

9:25 - 9:45 Shannon Lynch (SUNY, ESF) - Silvicultural techniques for managing BLD

9:45 - 10:05 Carrie Fearer (Virginia Tech) **-** Early forecasting of beech leaf disease using phytochemicals and the microbiome

10:05 -10:25 Kelsey McLaughlin (NY DEC) - Delineating BLD spread in New York State

10:25 - 10:40 Break(15 mins.)

**Current studies of BLD and potential impacts** (5/10-minute slots with 2 mins. for questions)**:**

10:40 - 10:45 Mark Green (Case Western Reserve University)- Ground Zero - BLD in Cleveland, OH

10:45 - 10:55 Andy Reinmann (CUNY, Hunter College) - Assessing impacts of beech leaf disease on forest structure and composition along an urban to rural gradient

10:55 - 11:05 Patrick Lemis (University of New Hampshire) - The prognosis for beech leaf disease: Quantifying growth declines and mortality across the eastern United States

11:05 - 11:15 Nat Cleavitt (Cornell University) - The importance of beech: overview of HBEF beech

11:15 - 11:30 Further open discussion and overview of discussion groups (15 mins.)

11:30 - 12:00 Hubbard Brook Committee of Scientists and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-racism Committee discussion

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch(provided; 1 hour)

1:00 - 1:40 First group discussion (40 min) (see **Discussion Groups** next page)

1:40 - 2:20 Second group discussion (40 min)

2:25 - 2:50 Report back from discussion groups - 5 min per group

2:50 - 3:00 Wrap-up - developing a BLD plan for HB

**Discussion groups:**

* Potential treatments for BLD: experiments at Hubbard Brook (Cameron McIntire; Shannon Lynch)
* Evaluating BLD impact on water quantity and quality (Mark Green; Kevin McGuire)
* Early detection of BLD and methods for assessing the decline of beech (Carrie Fearer; Andy Reinmann)
* Potential for impacts of beech loss to other facets of HB - biomass loss, biogeochemistry, birds & bugs, salamanders, etc. (Mike Hallworth; Sara Kaiser)
* New ash-beech manipulation proposal (Matt Ayres; Matt Vadeboncoeur)