FIGHTING FIRES: INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT

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Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

SPEAKER/COMPANY BIOS



TRAVIS JOSEPH
PRESIDENT/CEO
AMERICAN FOREST RESOURCE COUNCIL

Travis was born and raised in Springfield, Oregon but spent eight years in Washington D.C. working for the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a senior legislative aide to an Oregon congressman, a senior policy advisor on the House Natural Resources Committee, and the Director of Northwest Policy for the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Travis returned to Oregon to pursue his passion for healthy public forestlands and creating economic opportunities in rural communities. As President and CEO, Travis manages the budget, staff, communications, government relations, and overall strategy of the Association. Travis earned his bachelor degree in history and international studies from the University of Oregon and a master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science in environment and development.



ROBERT ATWOOD
CEO & CO-FOUNDER
HUMMINGBIRD DRONES

Robert Atwood is the Co-Founder and CEO of Hummingbird Drones, Hummingbird Network and fire AI. For 8 years he has been involved in the wildfire suppression space, first as a firefighter and since finding new and innovative ways to help improve the ways wildfires are managed. His background in wildfire has helped him understand the problems faced by wildfire agencies while focusing his ability to help develop purpose built solutions to these problems. Today, his companies work across Canada, working in suppression, detection, and remote data analytics.

HUMMINGBIRD DRONES

Founded in 2014, Hummingbird Drones has pioneered the application of UAS on wildfire landscapes in Canada. Specializing in the development and deployment of purpose built technology solutions, Hummingbird Drones has more operational fireline days flying drones over wildfires than all other companies and government agencies combined. Hummingbird's strong wildfire backgroundhas helped them build software programs that directly address the shortcomings of UAS technology when applied to wildfire landscapes.



DAN SNYDER SR. VICE PRESIDENT NEPTUNE AVIATION

Dan Snyder is the Sr Vice President of Neptune Aviation overseeing all company operations. He has over 25 years of aviation experience in many different segments of the industry including; management and leadership, aircraft mechanic to a pilot of many different aircraft types and operations.

NEPTUNE AVIATION

Neptune Aviation Services is a Large Air Tanker operator supporting wildfire fighting efforts of the US Forest Service, US Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Cal Fire, State of Montana, and State of Minnesota and Chile. Providing air tanker services for both federal, state, and international land management agencies for 27 continuous years. Neptune is based in Missoula Montana with over 200 employees supporting company operations.



ANN WALKER
PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT
ANN WALKER CONSULTING

Ann Walker started her private consulting business in 2013 and has over 10 years experience working with Western Governors and congressional representatives on forestry issues. She is successful in reaching shared goals and outcomes through planning, management, and communications. Ann is a dedicated, respected leader among the wildfire community, experienced with educating congressional delegations on Capitol Hill and working with state officials, counties, and local communities to promote common sense forest management and fire-related laws and processes.

ANN WALKER CONSULTING

Ann Walker Consulting offers a multitude of services to assist your community, organization, and/or agency. Ann specializes in providing education about our nation's wildfire response structure and natural resource management policies. She assists several clients and non-profit organizations to respond to the increasing need for wildfire prevention, detection, and response. Her expertise is often utilized by companies that offer cutting edge technology for aerial fire detection, including aircraft for fire suppression, and eco-friendly fire retardants. Ann brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to every fire, forestry, and aviation project she takes on providing leadership and convening interested stakeholders to resolve conflict by identifying shared solutions. She has worked with many levels of government and non-profit organizations to develop and implement reformed policies and improved procedures.