



## WESTERN URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY (WUCF) NETWORK 2021 – 2022 Report

### LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW

#### WUCF NETWORK LEADERSHIP

*The WUCF leadership team for 2022 includes:*

- *Tara Costanzo (Wyoming), Chair*
- *Cayenne Engel (Nevada), Vice Chair*
- *Michael Beaudoin (Idaho), Past Chair*
- *Thomas Claeys (North Dakota), State Forester Advisor*
- *Laura Wagner, CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison*

*The WUCF team for 2021 included:*

- *Michael Beaudoin (Idaho), Chair*
- *Tara Costanzo (Wyoming), Vice Chair*
- *Heather McMillen (Hawaii), Past Chair*
- *Thomas Claeys (North Dakota), State Forester Advisor*
- *Laura Wagner, CWSF/WFLC Staff Liaison*

#### Committee/Network Mission Statement and Purpose:

**Mission:** The WUCF Network provides a channel for ongoing communication and collaboration between western states, the USDA Forest Service, and forestry partners. The WUCF Network creates opportunities to leverage and share resources, expand the transfer of technology, and cooperate on shared goals and initiatives, including multi-state competitive grant applications.

**Purpose:** The Network formed with the permission and support of the Council of Western State Foresters to serve as a forum to share information, cooperate on program delivery, and advance urban and community forestry in the West. It provides a structure for ongoing communication between western states and between states and partners. The Network creates opportunities to leverage and share resources, expand technical transfer, and cooperate on common goals and other efforts such as multi-state competitive grant applications.

A well-informed network is prepared to address emerging and ongoing UCF issues at the state and national levels and to serve as a source of information and support for the CWSF and NASF. Bringing together the skills, talents, experience, and passion of Western UCF professionals strengthens every state and helps them better serve the public.

# 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 2021

- Convene annual coordinator meeting and formalize workplan and work groups.
- Convene four quarterly conference calls focused on staying connected on activities and updating the workplan and work group tasks.
- WUCF representative attended the virtual SGSF, NAASF, NASF UCF committee meetings and in-person CWSF fall meeting.
- Annual UCF publication in cooperation with CWSF on “Advancing Equity in Urban and Community Forestry.”
- Sub committee outcomes:
  - WUCF Leadership/Organization
    - Continued organization and coordination during transition of leadership roles.
    - Represented WUCF at appropriate events to provide a more coordinated approach across the country
    - Organized and secured Equity speakers for the annual WUCF coordinator’s learning meeting.
  - Resource, Information, and Technology Transfer Work Group
    - Revamped committee with new members and organized archives of working group folders.
    - Coordinate new mentoring program for new coordinators and assign mentors.
    - Welcome new coordinators to the Network, use of coordinator’s manual, and identify opportunities for mentoring.
    - Awareness and information sharing of appropriate technical resources for promoting equity/inclusion in UCF.
  - Tree City USA/ Growth Award Work Group
    - Continue advisory partnership with Arbor Day Foundation (ADF) in support of the ADF programs.
  - Marketing and Communications Work Group
    - Continued sharing and use of “Advances in Equity in Urban and Community Forestry” published with the CWSF in Fall 2021 and highlighted equity-based western projects.
    - Continued participation in the monthly #HealtyTreesHealthyLives social media campaign.